



For Immediate Release

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## City Celebrates its 50th Certified Green Business



The City of Plano is celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> Certified Green Business. The program, developed by the City's Commercial Recycling Division recognizes companies committed to environmental stewardship. To date, over 50 small to medium-sized brick and mortar businesses have received Green Business Certification since the program's inception in 2013.

Commercial Recycling team members verify businesses are upholding a commitment to conduct their daily practices to reduce their environmental impact. The program focuses on a checklist of green operational practices which assist the companies in operating at peak efficiency. Not only do green business practices benefit the environment, they make good economic sense—saving businesses money. Candidates must provide evidence of completion of specific green initiatives in the following areas:

- general education
- waste reduction
- energy efficiency
- water efficiency
- pollution prevention
- and sustainable purchasing

The celebration theme was *Leading Today for a Greener Tomorrow* and was held in historic downtown Plano at event13— ironically, the 50<sup>th</sup> business to be certified! A special presentation “Community Innovation by Design” was presented by Ana Meade, Senior Manager, Social innovation – Community Connections, Toyota Motor North America and Christina Day, Director, Planning, City of Plano.

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**Editor's Note:** For more information on the GBC program go to [plano.gov/greenbusiness](http://plano.gov/greenbusiness).

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## **About Plano**

Plano, Texas, is the largest city in Collin County with a population of 283,700 as of January 2019. Incorporated in 1873, the city is located 20 miles north of Dallas. Niche and AreaVibes recently named Plano as one of the Best Cities to Live in America. Forbes designated Plano one of America's safest cities. The City offers a high quality of life that includes nationally recognized schools, award-winning parks, and sustainability initiatives and a wide variety of multi-cultural neighborhoods appealing to families, young singles and retirees. Plano is home to the headquarters or regional operations of major corporations such as Toyota, Liberty Mutual, JPMorgan Chase Boeing Global Services, Fannie Mae, FedEx Office, JC Penney, Rent-A-Center, Cinemark Holdings, Denbury Resources and Alliance Data Systems. Our dynamic community features excellent restaurants, vibrant shopping and entertainment venues, a lively historic downtown district and active local arts scene. Easy access to DART light rail and major highways makes Plano a convenient place to live, work and visit. To learn more about Plano, go to our website at [plano.gov](http://plano.gov).