

121 W. Broadway St.
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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Demonstration, restored gardens win state recognition *Texas Municipal League bestows its highest award*

PROSPER (November 1, 2016) Prosper has been awarded the Texas Municipal League's Award of Excellence in the Public Works category for cities under 25,000 in population.

The award was presented at the TML conference in Austin in early October. Specifically, the statewide group cited the two gardens, one demonstration and one research, conceived and maintained by a consortium of interested parties, and the restoration of a decaying school garden. The consortium included the Town of Prosper, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service and the Collin County Master Gardeners Association.

One of the two gardens sits in the shadows of the water tower at Craig Street and First Street, and is designed to test the suitability of various types of dwarf shrubs for the local area. It is the first of its type in the country, conducting long-term research of these plants under conditions that can be found in the local area.

The other garden is also on the grounds of the water tower and is designed to hold other types and species of plants. It is also designed to provide information on the plants' livability and viability for use in the area.

The group also restored a neglected garden at nearby Rucker Elementary School, taking a large patch of the school's property from a weedy, untended garden that had fallen into serious decline and bringing it back to its original state.

All three gardens fully utilize the Earth-Kind Landscape Management System which is focused on preserving and protecting the environment.

"These gardens are subject to the same sunlight, wind, temperature and rain conditions as every residence in Prosper," said Project Manager Tristan Cisco. "The difference will be in the use of the Earth-Kind system. The project will be monitored by the AgriLife and the Master Gardeners. Their findings will be extremely helpful in water conservation and pesticide elimination."

The Award of Excellence is the second for the Town of Prosper, having won a similar award for its communication program in 2011.

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Note: A photo file and cutline accompany this release.

ABOUT THE TOWN OF PROSPER – The Town of Prosper is a fast-growing suburb with small town charm, located 30 miles north of Dallas at the crossroads of U.S. 380, Preston Road and the Dallas North Tollway in Collin and Denton Counties. Prosper sits on 27 square miles and is home to more than 17,800 people. A home-rule municipality, governed by a council-manager form of government, the town has full-time fire and police departments, including its own dispatch service. As the Town grows to its projected build-out population of 70,000 residents, Prosper's vision is to remain a "Place Where Everyone Matters."

PHOTO AND CUTLINE



PROSPER WINS STATEWIDE AWARD – Recognized at the annual Texas Municipal League conference in Austin recently, the Town of Prosper was presented with the Award of Excellence in the Public Works category for cities with less than 25,000 population. The award highlights the two demonstration gardens conceived and maintained on Town property using Earth-Kind methods as well as a restored garden at an elementary school. Project Manager Tristan Cisco (center) hold the award. Also attending the conference and present at the awards ceremony were (left to right) Town Secretary Robyn Battle, Town Manager Harlan Jefferson, Council member Kenneth Dugger, Mayor Ray Smith, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Jason Dixon, Public Works Director Frank Jaromin, and Executive Director of Development and Community Services Hulon Webb.