Vertical Gardens Grant Initiative
2008
Inspiration? Blank Walls
Inspiration? Parking Structures
The Whole Environment

The Whole is Greater than the Sum of its Parts

All Façades, good or bad, effect their surroundings
Houston Climate & Plant Species

Houston’s Hot & Humid Climate supports a variety of plant life

Best Climbers:

- Fig Ivy
- Carolina Jessamine
- Star Jasmine
- Evergreen Wisteria
- Mermaid Rose
"A doctor can bury his mistakes but an architect can only advise his clients to plant vines."

- Frank Lloyd Wright
Parking Garages
Parking Garages
Direct Growth

• Simply Planting a Climbing Species at the base of a structure

• Fear of damage due to root penetration
Structure/ Trellis/ Panel System

• Rigid Panels attached to Structure

• Structural concerns at greater heights

• Greater Expense
Plants grow on tensioned cables

Attractive before plant growth
Potted Irrigated Structures/ Trellis

www.eltlivingwalls.com
Potted Irrigated Structures
Living Wall Structures

Planted Gabion Walls - Asakura Robinson Co.  www.asakurarobinson.com
Living Walls / Vertical Gardens

Patrick Blanc

www.verticalgardenpatrickblanc.com
Living Walls / Vertical Gardens

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The Houston Downtown Management District (HDMD) Vertical Gardens Matching Grant Initiative is intended to assist in the facilitation of wall cover plantings and exceptional landscaping on blank walls, parking garages, and sidewalks in Downtown. Improving overall aesthetics, pedestrian comfort, air quality and reducing heat island effect.
Vertical Gardens Grant Applicants

HDMD Grants are available to downtown based companies or organizations which fit the following descriptions:

- Property Owner
- Tenant
- Registered Non-Profit Organization
Vertical Gardens Grant Size

No Grant may exceed 50% of the total project cost up to $20,000.

The Match may include in-kind contributions such as:

- Professional Services
- Materials
- Labor Costs
Vertical Gardens Grant Timeline

- Optimal Growing season begins in mid-February and ends mid-October.
- Optimal Planting (Dormant) Season is from mid October to mid February
- Applications should be submitted before the end of growing season to take advantage of the optimal planting season
Projects in Houston
Projects in Houston

Greenscreen Panels w/ Star Jasmine on Garage Facade
Projects in Houston

Walker Street - Option B

Walker Street - Option A
Projects in Houston

Tree Planting and exceptional landscaping on sidewalk & building Facade
Projects in Houston

Christ Church Cathedral Outreach Center
Public Right of Way Design
Public Right of Way Design
Public Right of Way Design
Public Right of Way Design
Central Houston Environmental Stewardship Initiative

• Heat Island Task Force
• Energy Task Force
• Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT)
• VMT Bikes
• Recycling Task Force
• Education/ Marketing Task Force

http://centralhouston.org/Home/Programs/EnvironmentalStewardship/
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