

## Denton Plan Ambassador Program Description



Thank you for your interest in Denton Plan Ambassadors! Denton Plan Ambassadors (DPA) is for interested community members who want to take a leadership/service role in the Denton Plan update process. It is an open group, there is no maximum number of DPA's, and there is no minimum age requirement. The role of DPA's is to discuss the current status of the comprehensive plan update, bring feedback to the group and staff for discussion, and take information to the community to keep them engaged and informed. Keep reading to find out the background on DPA, about signing up, and about the DPA objectives.

**Background behind the Creation of DPA:** By communicating with community members and through the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) application process, it became clear that the volume of Denton stakeholders and residents who want to take a leadership role in the Denton Plan update could not be accommodated by the CAC. Although the CAC will still provide policy feedback for the update at key decision points, the City created an additional venue for citizens to engage in a leadership role in Denton Plan 2030 through becoming a Denton Plan Ambassador (DPA). DPA's will mesh seamlessly with the CAC as engagement messengers and representatives to and from the community. Encouraging Denton's youth to participate in Denton Plan 2030 is also at the heart of the creation of DPA.

**Young DPA's:** The City of Denton and the Denton Plan 2030 Team recognize the importance of involving youth in the update process to harness their creativity and ideas and to provide civic engagement opportunities for them to exhibit leadership and service roles in. Denton Plan Ambassadors allows Denton's youth to take ownership in the process by organizing working groups and/or special projects with staff and DPA Mentor assistance.

For example, if a group of DPA's from local high schools wants to organize an art contest for who can best represent Denton's "small town character," City staff and DPA Mentors are available to help implement aspects of their project idea, such as posting the contest on EngageDenton.com for submissions. The working group would meet during the special projects/working group discussion section of the regular DPA meetings and could also schedule additional times to discuss their ideas if desired. The goal is to provide as much flexibility and creativity room in the DPA program to allow for creative ideas to flow from the community and be included in the update process on a regular basis.

**DPA Role:** The role of DPA's is to discuss the current status of the comprehensive plan update, bring feedback to the group and staff for discussion, and take information to the community to keep them engaged and informed. The DPA opportunity can be as much as a young or adult community member wants to contribute as long as the minimum requirements are met. City staff is available to help encourage leadership and participation in DPA through a structured yet open channel of conversation and regular meetings. DPA's will have meetings on a bi-monthly basis (on opposite months of the CAC) and attend community festivals and events to carry out the DPA functions. At the younger youth levels, DPA's can assist staff in reaching out through fun activities like Denton Plan scavenger hunts and art contests at the Community Forums to capitalize on the unfettered creativity of the younger generations while teaching them the importance of participating in civics. DPA's can also assist with the upcoming Community Forums during the exercises to provide informed perspectives on the Plan content and update process to their peers in the community.

The review of certain documents relevant to the update process will also be an optional role of DPA. The Citizens Advisory Committee will be providing policy feedback for the update at key decision points, but Denton Plan Ambassadors will be kept in the loop by a short presentation from a CAC member at each DPA meeting. DPA's will have the opportunity to share feedback on pending discussions of the CAC to serve as engagement messengers and representatives to and from the community. A DPA member will also volunteer at

each meeting to attend the next CAC meeting to provide the seamless communication of DPA activities to the CAC.

The Denton Plan Ambassadors is a community member-led group that will have City staff guidance and facilitation. We encourage anyone who is interested to sign-up and take the challenge to serve and lead Denton on *our path to the future*.

**Attached:**

DPA Hard Copy Sign-Up

DPA Schedule

*Coming soon:* List of DPA's

**Denton Plan Ambassador Sign-Up**  
*Online Sign-Up Available at DentonPlan2030.com*



**Basic Information:**

*Only one person per application.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Street City State Zip Code*

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Requirements:**

1. Attend a brief orientation meeting;
2. Attend all DPA meetings thereafter (a maximum of two can be missed) <<DPA Schedule Next Page>>; and
3. Pledge to carry out the DPA objectives as listed below to the best of your abilities.

**DPA Objectives:**

- To engage the Denton community in the Denton Plan 2030 update process;
- To communicate with Denton community members when possible/applicable regarding the Denton Plan 2030 update;
- To solicit input from Denton community members when possible/applicable to bring back to the group;
- To contribute to the Denton Plan 2030 update process with your fellow DPA members in a positive, constructive, supportive, and respectful manner;
- To assist in the formation of the draft Denton Plan update by taking ownership in the update process; and
- To assist the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC), City staff, and the consultant team in public outreach efforts.

By signing up, you are agreeing to meet the requirements as listed above and are pledging to carry out the DPA objectives as stated herein to the best of your abilities.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

**PLEASE TURN IN COMPLETED FORM TO 221 N. ELM ST. (ATTN: ABRA NUSSER) OR EMAIL SCANNED, SIGNED FORM TO INFORMATION@DENTONPLAN2030.COM.**

*Staff use:*

*Date Received:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Meeting Received:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Next Orientation Meeting:* \_\_\_\_\_

## Denton Plan Ambassador Schedule



- DPA meetings will be every other month, opposite the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC);
- The time of each meeting will be from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.;
- The venue for DPA meetings will be established depending on the size of the group and will be centrally located;
- Special meetings may be scheduled based on work group or DPA projects by DPA's, but will not be required for DPA designation;
- Attendance will be taken at each DPA meeting, and DPA's will be expected to be at each meeting for the entire posted duration (6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.) for credit;
- DPA's can miss a maximum of two meetings after attending the brief orientation meeting for DPA designation;
- DPA's must attend a minimum of five meetings for DPA designation (new DPA members accepted until July 31, 2013); and
- Orientation meetings will be scheduled as needed; DPA's must attend an orientation meeting prior to attending their first DPA meeting.

**First DPA Meeting:** April 4, 2013

*DPA will continue throughout 2014, meeting every other month. Additional information about meetings will be provided to DPA's once signed up.*