

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

District Department of the Environment



Green Building Advisory Council

Meeting Date: 2/6/2013

Meeting Location: DDOE, 1200 1st Street NW

Attendees: Bill Updike (DDOE), Patty Rose (Greenspace NCR), Ethan Landis (Landis Construction), Rabbiah Sabbakhan (DCRA), Anica Landreneau (HOK), Marshall Duer-Balkind (DDOE), MaryLynn Wilhere (DDOE), Cliff Majersik (IMT), Laine Cidlowski (OP), Maribeth DeLorenzo (DHCD), Dave Epley (DCRA), Jess Zimbabwe (ULI), Sam Brooks (DGS)

Main Points/Discussion:

Introductions & Green Code Discussion

- ❖ General introductions and welcoming of Dave Epley, the new manager of DCRA's green building program—welcome Dave!

2013-2015 Work Plan Discussion (also see Work Plan Spreadsheet)

- ❖ **Green construction code discussion**
 - Patty discussed the idea of setting up a strategic planning session (co-hosted by DCRA and DDOE) about incorporation of green codes in regards to training, outreach, marketing, public relations, etc. (ACTION: Schedule meeting)
 - The GBAC letter to the Construction Codes Coordinating Board was discussed and it was agreed to call for the removal of the reference to the Green Building Act as part of the alternative compliance section, and to recommend a higher threshold for the LEED and ICC 700 alternative compliance paths.
- ❖ **Sustainable DC**
 - It was agreed that the GBAC would like to help DDOE and other agencies prioritize the actions listed in the Sustainable DC Implementation Plan as they relate to the built environment.
- ❖ **Green Building Innovation**
 - It was agreed that GBAC would like to work on incentives for deeper green building solutions, potentially related to zero energy buildings, Living Building Challenge and other solutions.
 - GBAC felt that we should also consider incentivizing deep green single family home construction, and then consider putting into codes in next cycle.

❖ **Green Building Process & Regulation**

- It was discussed that GBAC would potentially serve a role in development RFPs—reviewing the documents and providing outreach. Also discussed increasing the connection between GBAC and the Deputy Mayor’s Office for Planning and Economic Development.
- GBAC decided that they would not be directly involved in Green Preliminary Design Review Meetings (PDRMs) as it would be too burdensome of people’s time.
- It was decided that the GBAC would play a lead role in decisions around the interaction between the Green Building Act and the Green Construction Code—but that the GBAC wanted to see the infrastructure for green code compliance put in place prior to making recommendations related to the GBA (looking to 2014 to make decisions regarding GBA).
- Discussed having a meeting with the utilities (including the Sustainable Energy Utility) to discuss what they are doing in regards to green building and if the GBAC has recommendations on how we can work together to further green building efforts in the city. (ACTION: Schedule meeting for June)

❖ **Green Building Fund**

- The GBAC wants to continue to play a key role in advising how the green building fund gets used.

❖ **Public Outreach**

- Idea of creating an ambassador program or speakers bureau came up—more discussion needed on this concept.
- GBAC will continue to play a role in publishing the Green Building Report. It was decided that we would aim to publish the report in May even though the private sector benchmarking data would not yet be available. We would then issue an addendum with private sector data later in the year. It was also discussed that we need to limit the executive summary to 1-2 pages this year, but that the outline from the last report was acceptable to follow.

Update on Public Buildings

- ❖ Sam Brooks provided an update on DGS energy efficiency efforts for our public buildings. We now have benchmarking data for 247 of our buildings, with cleaner data than we have had in the past. DGS is also getting 15-minute interval data from Pepco now for the first time and has created dashboards to help increase awareness and behavioral change for energy efficiency. People will now be able to see load curves for each building. Goal is to push this ability out to the private sector as well.

GBA Applicability Question

- ❖ DDOE was contacted by East Banc regarding a project—they are requesting that we allow LEED as an alternative to Green Communities for a mixed use residential project. GBAC feels that is in keeping with the intent of the Green Building Act.

New/Continued Action Items:

- ❖ Schedule strategic planning session to discuss green code training and outreach
- ❖ Schedule June meeting with PSC, Pepco, Washington Gas, DC SEU, others?
- ❖ Draft green building report by end of April.
- ❖ Do strawman proposal regarding change to Green Building Act.
- ❖ Analyze Sustainable DC action items and draft prioritization list.
- ❖ Broker conversation related to integrating Sustainable DC, Green Building Act, and the new Green Construction Codes

Date for next meeting: April 3, 2013

Location for next meeting: DDOE, 1200 1st Street NW, 5th Floor

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