

**Intergovernmental Green Building Group (IGBG) Meeting**  
Washington Metropolitan Council of Governments  
777 North Capitol Street, NE, Washington, DC

August 2, 2007

10:00 noon to 12:00 Noon

**Final Meeting Highlights**

***“Promoting cooperation on green building issues in the Metropolitan Washington region”***

**Attendees:**

Joan Kelsch, Arlington County  
John Morrill, Arlington County  
Stella Tarnay, Arlington County  
George Nichols, MWCOG  
Leah Boggs, MWCOG  
Stuart Freudberg, MWCOG  
Sandy Hunter, Loudoun County  
Najib Satehi, Loudoun County  
Erica Bannerman, City of Alexandria  
Eli Golfer, City of Gaithersburg  
Noel Kaplan, Fairfax County  
Anja Caldwell, Montgomery County  
John Mitchell, Prince William County  
Sean Shrestha, Prince William County  
Susan Riley, District of Columbia  
Tom Mawson, USGBC-NCR  
Megan Condon, MWCOG  
Jason Hartke, USGBC

**1. Review and Discussion of Comments Received on Green Building Report**

Stella and COG staff are tracking comments received on the Green Building Report. The group discussed the following:

- The report should include more emphasis on education and training. This would include training for all sectors including local government staff, Schools staff, and private developers and contractors. This could include providing a list of existing learning opportunities (USGBC trainings, etc). Training needs should be assessed (how to manage project budgets, capital vs. operating costs, etc)
- Climate Change – IGBG must work closely with COG’s climate committee to ensure that the role of buildings is appropriately addressed. Guidance on the implications of climate change are of interest (tidal Potomac could see increased flooding or permanent water level rise). How will green buildings help reduce the threats resulting from global warming?

- Stormwater – local ordinances address stormwater, but this may not be enough. LEED stormwater credits may not be enough either. Report should encourage holistic and whole-site approaches to stormwater management.
- Clarify that this report is for New Construction. Issues relating to single-family and low-rise residential, schools, and existing buildings will be addressed in subsequent reports. (see suggestions in subsequent section)
- Energy Star should be noted as a viable option for benchmarking and improving energy efficiency for existing buildings.
- Location efficiency is important and should be mentioned.
- Provide information on calculating carbon footprint (Energy Star)
- Report should list IGBG members (by jurisdiction, if not name), Ad Hoc elected official committee members and meeting dates, private developers consulted and meeting date, and information indicating that there was significant outreach on the report content. Comments should be anonymously summarized and available upon request.

## **2. Work Program Implementation**

- Need to write reports on homes, existing buildings, and schools. IGBG/COG could host a half-day seminar on each topic with experts presenting information to interested regional staff. The information from these workshops could be used to develop a report on each topic, with specific recommendations for the region.
- Other topics for workshops: green roofs (in conjunction with Casey Trees), how to run a green building program, green building codes,

## **3. Peer Exchange**

- Anja Caldwell – Montgomery County is preparing case studies on green schools. They are also working on Green Specifications for Schools. Both items will be shared.
- Noel Kaplan – Fairfax is working on incentives for private development.
- Sandy Hunter and Najib Satehi – Loudoun County elected officials and staff are concerned about the cost of building green. This is a significant obstacle.
- Naomi Friedman offered a tour of her green condo in Silver Spring.
- John Mitchell and Sean Shrestha– Prince William is quantifying the programs they already have related to sustainability.
- Eli Golfer – Gaithersburg is working to require municipal projects to be green. They are working on a LEED certified indoor aquatic center. They have a LEED-ND pilot project in the city.
- Susan Riley – DC is installing green roofs on public projects

## **4. USGBC presentation: Green Building and Climate Change by Jason Hartke**

Jason Hartke's Powerpoint presentation will be posted on the COG webpage. Go to: <http://www.mwcog.org/uploads/committee-documents/vVZfWVw20070802143605.pdf>

**Next meeting is September 6 from 10am to noon in the COG Board Room.**