

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

**June 9, 2011 IGBG Meeting Highlights- DRAFT**

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

**Attendees:**

Joan Kelsch, Chair, Arlington County  
Noel Kaplan, Fairfax County  
Luisa Robles, Greenbelt  
Perrilyn Fanfulik, WMATA  
MonaCheri Pollard, District Office of Planning  
Erica Bannerman, City of Alexandria  
Caroline Keicher, IMT  
Joan Rohlf, MWCOG  
Leah Boggs, MWCOG  
Maia Davis, MWCOG  
Jeannine Altavilla, MWCOG  
Amanda Campbell, MWCOG  
Lisa Orr, Frederick County  
Ellen Eggerton, Fairfax County  
Marie Genovese, Loudoun County

- **Call to Order, Welcome, and Introductions (Joan Kelsch)**
  - o Chair Kelsch called the meeting to order.
- **Approval of May 12, 2011 Meeting Summary**
  - o The minutes were approved with two changes:
    - The first 2 bullets on page three are focusing on solar energy systems, which is not stressed in the comments
    - Joan Kelsch indicated that the notes on her section from the green building workshop do not need to be amended.
- **Living Systems for Improving Energy & Water Balance of Buildings (Dr. David Tilley)**
  - o See presentation slides: <http://www.mwcog.org/uploads/committee-documents/a15WWV5d20110609122146.pdf>
  - o Dr. Tilley from the University of Maryland (UMD) presented at the Research and Innovations session of the Green Buildings Climate workshop. Members who

attended the presentation thought it should be brought to the full IGBG committee.

- Green roofs have different types of systems that mitigate a number of water and health problems. Due to their similarity to desert environments, green roofs often use species that thrive in desert conditions. One company in Jessup, MD is a leading supplier for green roof materials.
- Green walls can take several forms.
  - They can be modular panels that contain soil and are mounted on a vertical wall surface. These are typically tropical plants that are irrigated and fertilized. Some systems are connected to ventilation to improve indoor air quality.
  - Another type is a trellis system. Vine or climbing plants are rooted in the ground and encouraged to grow on a trellis systems. These plants are often native and can be deciduous. This allows for solar gain in winter.
- UMD is undergoing a greenwall experiment. Four houses have been built, two with and two without greenwalls. The greenwalls are grapes and native Maryland vines, placed on one side of the house.
- Data collected so far indicates:
  - Benefits include mitigating flow rates during storm events, suppressing the peak flow by 40%
  - Half of the solar energy was transformed into latent energy and blocked from the interior by the greenwalls
  - Greater results were achieved when the greenwall was on the west rather than the south face
- The UMD Solar Decathlon team is creating WaterShed for this year's competition. The house will be on display in downtown DC during the judging. The house is using a butterfly roof to capture water for gardens, where one half of the roof is photovoltaic and the other half is a green roof. Surrounding the house is a constructed wetland, a green wall and a vegetable garden.
- **IGBG 2012 Work Plan Review**
  - See slides: <http://www.mwcog.org/uploads/committee-documents/a15WWV9b20110608144759.pdf>
  - The presented slides include elements from the workshop and the May 12<sup>th</sup> discussion.
  - Green Affordable Housing
    - There is no funding in the Housing department for the previously planned workshop so it will not occur early fall as planned, but maybe 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2012. DEP staff will continue to work with Housing staff on this workshop

- Schools Forum
  - It may be good to do a less formal discussion with schools before a public forum. It is hard to get recommendations without talking to them. A conference may lead to criticism if there is no other discussion. Roundtable discussions may also be a more efficient use of time and money.
  - Maia Davis, COG staff, has her list of contacts from the annual survey.
  - Dave Conrad at Alexandria Schools leads their green innovation team.
  - Calvin Coolidge Senior High School in the District is using their southern lawn as an outdoor environmental education class. Professionals from the American Society of Landscape Architecture donated materials. It would be interesting to see how it is transferring into their curriculum.
- Green leasing
  - This is a recommendation from the 2007 report. Look at best practices and compile into a report.
  - Private sector input will be valuable in this issue.
  - IMT is starting to do more work in this area and could arrange for an introduction to green leasing, possibly with Steven Teitelbaum
  - Bonding and financial security are two issues that Arlington is seeing with green projects. What will these bonds look like?
- Grant/sponsorship
  - Examine funding opportunities: schools forum, affordable housing conference
- EAC Coordination
  - Including joint meetings and conferences of mutual interest
  - There is some overlap with EAC on the district energy project. There will be opportunities for feedback, establishing a plan and standards similar to how the region adopted LEED.
- Suggested 6 meetings for FY2012
  - There will be a meeting at the end of July to review the draft report. A consultant may complete portions of the work. The committee needs to have some time to read it before the meetings.
  - Interim months should be kept in mind for subcommittees or organizational meetings.
- It would be good to continue to capitalize on the ICC hearings and work that local government put into the updated code recommendations. The battle isn't over in Virginia. Maybe a workplan goal could be to track this. IGBG could draft a letter that the Advocacy Group from CEEPC could send. There are opportunities

to be part of the discussion while Virginia considers whether or not it will adopt all or part of the code.

- Patty Rose is launching Greenspace at the end of the month. She has a space at Nationals Park. She could be a good resource for the region and local jurisdictions.
- CEEPC workplan elements for IGBG
  - Green building policy adopted/implemented by 100% jurisdictions by 1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2011
  - Propose policy for schools and residential sectors
  - Evaluate and develop enhancements to codes
  - Green affordable housing
  - Evaluate an approach to LEED-ND concepts

- **Jurisdiction Roundtable Updates**

- Fairfax County:
  - The RFP for the residential energy efficiency outreach program has been released, the deadline is June 28. The preproposal conference had over a dozen people in attendance.
  - Working with the planning commission to put together a green building policy. We have a strawman draft amendment. There are two meetings in July and there will be a more formalized workshop in the fall. Hopefully there will be a plan amendment process.
- City of Alexandria:
  - The Green Building Outreach Program started in September 2010. It is a virtual green building resource center because we could not find a physical space. The City is hosting 12 workshops that deal with energy conservation and green building and is trying to develop an incentive program. Staff has received LEED and green building techniques trainings.
  - The Council approved the energy and climate change action plan on May 14. The draft will be finalized in the next couple of weeks. Implementation will start in September.
- District of Columbia:
  - It is the planting and harvesting season for the high school garden. The District is currently reviewing the guide so that there is year-round maintenance from students and friends of the garden.
- IMT:
  - IMT is gearing up to work on its small role in the DC SEU. Cliff Majersik is working on market transformation under the contract for the SEU.

- Frederick County:
  - The County is hosting a four-hour training on IGCC on June 20<sup>th</sup>. Over 20 people have signed up so far.
- **Meeting Adjournment and Next Meeting Date**
  - Next meeting will be to review the draft report update: July 21<sup>st</sup> or the 27<sup>th</sup>.