



HAMILTON COUNTY
LOCAL ALLIANCE FOR NATURE AND DEVELOPMENT (LAND)

COMMITTEE ON GREEN BUILDING

Strategic Plan

(revised draft 8-11-05)

Committee Members:

Joanne Gerson: Chair, Holly Christmann, Justyn Anderson, Gerry Kraus, Marvin Kraus, Eric Russo, John Hester, Virginia L. Russell, Michelle Andersen, Christopher Manning, Chris Lorentz, Jayne Gall, Chad Edwards, John Bruns

Issue Statements

(What is our greatest concern? How is the problem or opportunity unique to our mission? Why is this important? What is the existing situation or trend?)

This committee will be most concerned about—balancing development and environment through innovative practices that both improve the quality of the built environment and also preserve and sustain our natural resources.

The unique problem for this committee is the need to help introduce and familiarize both the development community and the regulatory agencies about the genuine effectiveness, documented economic benefits and overall appropriateness of innovative Green Building practices. To that end, the subcommittee will educate about and advocate for the voluntary use of the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED™) Standards.

The subcommittee should also use the City of Chicago's Green Initiatives (Green Building, Brownfields Initiative, City Hall Rooftop Gardens, Energy Grants and Loans, Green Bungalow Initiative, etc.) as a real-world model for the green building initiatives in the county. The subcommittee will target the 49 Hamilton County jurisdictions promoting the multiple benefits of Green Building and sustainable design.

Green Building practices offer opportunities for both new and redeveloped sites to be built with innovative design principles that enable developments to seamlessly integrate with natural systems while offering economic paybacks absent from conventional development practices. Green Building practices will be the optimal way to redevelop brownfield sites and offer the best way to balance development and environment for new development.

At the present time, green building practices are not widely known or accepted but are quickly gaining interest and appreciation in the development community and the public sector. The Committee on Green Building will further expand the knowledge and understanding of green building principals by promoting to our region the best green building practices and developing the most appropriate green building initiatives for our area.

Committee Desired Results

(What desired result or outcome are we trying to accomplish? What will stakeholders see or observe when completed?)

1. Comprehensive Inventory and analyze area Green Build organizations, networks and initiatives
 - a. *Action Item: Survey and record U.S. Green Building Cincinnati Area Chapter projects; UC-DAAP Planning and Architecture Projects/Studios; Northern Kentucky Sanitary District Offices; IMAGO projects, etc.*
 - b. *Action Item: Develop comprehensive analysis of area Green Build projects, organizations, initiatives.*
2. Development of significant green build demonstration projects (e.g. green urban redevelopment—OTR)
 - a. *Action Item: Develop Green Urban Redevelopment Project in OTR—implement Niehoff Studio Project.*
 - b. *Action Item: Develop green roof project as BMP.*
 - c. *Action Item: Develop a Green Homearama.*
3. Identify and promote economic and other (e.g. improved health) benefits of Green Building practices
 - a. *Action Item: Develop integrated Public Relations Program for the promotion of Green Building included print, WEB site, CDs/DVDs, identification of viable funding programs.*
4. Increased awareness of voluntary green building best practices and sustainable design by: 1) the development community ; 2) the regulatory agencies and 3) the public.
 - a. *Action Item: Develop Green Building Presentation for area planning commissions utilizing PowerPoint, BMPs, print, model Green Building plan/policy, etc.*
 - b. *Action Item: Schedule and present Green Building Presentation to the development community, the regulatory agencies and the public.*
5. Increased adoption by local communities of innovative green building and sustainability zoning ordinances and incentives
 - a. *Action Item: Schedule and present Green Building Presentation (Powerpoint – flyers, etc.) to all 49 area planning commissions.*
 - b. *Action Item: Review and critique proposed green building zoning ordinances from area planning commissions*
6. Development of a County Office of Sustainable Development
 - a. *Action Item: Develop an Analysis that presents how a Sustainable Development Office would offer innovative and cost-saving practices as well as how it would better integrate the work of the Planning, Building Department and the Engineer's Office.*
7. Increased application of Green Building Best Practices (e.g., green roofs, water-conserving landscaping for parking areas, bioretention basins (rain gardens), pervious pavement)

- a. *Action Item: Develop Green Building Best Practices Manual, specific for the area, to include redevelopment, as well as new construction and commercial, residential, industrial and public developments.*
- b. *Action Item: Develop an annual review of implemented Green Building Practices that analyzes the progression of increasing application of Green Building Best Practices.*
- c. *Action Item: Physical Model of a Green Development—with Green Roofs, rain gardens, etc.*
- d. *Action Item: Redevelopment of the County Administration Building utilizing Green Building Methods.*

Committee Performance Indicators

(How would stakeholders recognize the results in measurable terms?)

1. Analysis and Inventory of Area Greenbuild Programs
 - Number of Greenbuild research documents (analyzing area organizations, networks and initiatives) distributed.
2. Development of Greenbuild Demonstration Projects
 - Number of Green urban redevelopment projects developed---e.g. Implement OTR Niehoff Studio Project
 - Number and acres of green roofs developed
 - Number of attendees at the Green Homerama
3. Promotion of Greenbuilding Benefits
 - Number of Green Building CDs or DVDs of area Greenbuild Demonstration projects distributed
 - Number of attendees at Green Building workshops/symposiums—e.g. Green Roof Symposium
 - Number of applicants for Funding programs utilized for green retrofitting-e.g. County HIP, Fannie Mae Green Mortgages, etc.
4. Awareness and Support
 - Number of local planning commissions informed about Green Building Best Practices
 - Number of local planning commissions with adopted resolutions in support of Green Building Best Practices
5. Adoption
 - Percent completion of process to adopt the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED™) in Hamilton County. (in order to measure energy and environmental performance of proposed developments)
 - Number of Hamilton County communities that have adopted Green Building Zoning Ordinances
6. Creation of the County Office of Sustainable Development
7. Application and Implementation
 - Number of local governments demonstrating annual use of Green Building Best Practice