

**GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE SUMMIT AND URBAN TREES FORUM
> PROGRAM BOOKLET 2009**

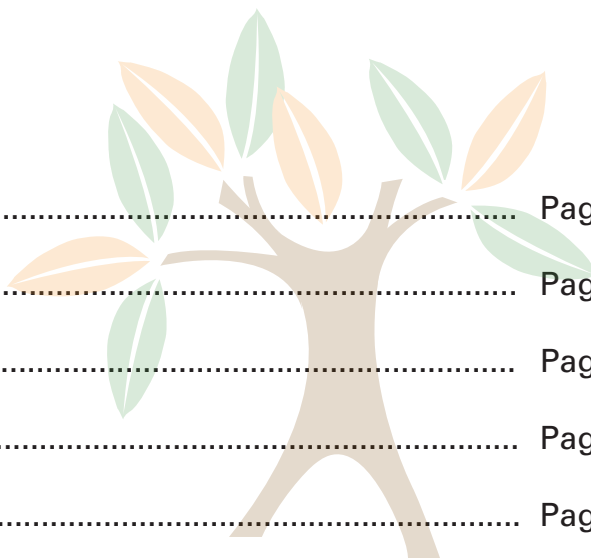


**Agenda, Speakers, and Attendees
Plus Information on:
Policy Committee Task Forces**



May 14-15, 2009
100 Maryland Avenue, N.E.
Washington, DC

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Overview

Alice Ewen Walker > Executive Director



Trees are essential to the health and livability of America's cities and towns. Nationwide, urban forest advocates are bringing this message home to elected officials, policymakers, and the public – resulting in tremendous advances in local policies and investment in support of trees. With cities from New York to Los Angeles planting millions of trees to promote climate protection, now is the time to advance a national agenda for

urban sustainability.

ACT is pleased to welcome you to Washington DC and the first Green Infrastructure Summit and Urban Trees Forum. This event is a direct result of interest expressed by ACT

members at our annual meeting in November. We hope to make it an annual tradition and look forward to your feedback on this inaugural effort.

Alliance for Community Trees is especially grateful for the leadership and support of Congressman Blumenauer for sponsoring today's session, Guy Hager for chairing the ACT Policy Committee, the Schmidt Family Foundation for continued support, our esteemed speakers and moderators, and the membership of ACT, whose collective voice we represent. Thank you to everyone for your time and leadership as we work together to grow support for urban forests.

Guy Hager > Policy Committee, Chair



As a way to maximize both listening and dialoguing opportunities, this two-day series of meetings has been broken up into a day for each. The Green Infrastructure Summit is a chance to listen to experts including Hill staffers, federal agencies, and ACT national partners. Then, we rejoin for the Urban Trees Forum, as urban forest leaders ready to roll up our sleeves and dialogue about the value of trees, elevate local success

stories to national models, and form task forces to champion targeted public policy.

The Urban Trees Forum is a collaborative effort led by ACT's Policy Committee. In each session, we will present to you ACT policy objectives as determined through membership

surveys, one or two organizations already modeling the envisioned outcome locally, and open up the session to small group discussions.

Thank you for joining us in this important discussion as we seek to elevate local success stories to national models and form task forces to champion targeted public policy. Now is the time to harness the momentum of a new Congress and a new administration. It is critical that Members of Congress understand the implications of policy choices on the ability of our cities to promote more sustainable development.

Acknowledgements

The Alliance for Community Trees thanks the members of its Policy Committee. They are:

Nancy Buley
J. Frank Schmidt & Son Co.

Patrick Haller
TN Urban Forestry Council

Martha Ozonoff
California ReLeaf

Ray Tretheway
Sacramento Tree Foundation

Miquela Craytor
Sustainable South Bronx

Scott Jamieson
Bartlett Tree Experts

Shannon Ramsay
Trees Forever

Deborah Weinstein
TreePeople

Glenda Daniel
Openlands

Darin Johnson
New York Restoration Project

Teresa Rhodes
Keep Indianapolis Beautiful

Guy Hager
Parks & People Foundation

Michael Leff
PA Horticultural Society

Pamela Sapko
Delaware Center for Horticulture





Green Infrastructure Summit and Urban Trees Forum

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The Methodist Building
100 Maryland Avenue, N.E.
Washington, DC

AGENDA

Trees are essential to the health and livability of our nation's cities and towns. Cleaner air, greener streets, and healthier neighborhoods are crucial to the prosperity of the American economy. But lasting progress won't come without a change in domestic policy. Now is the time to harness the momentum of a new Congress and a new administration.

The Alliance for Community Trees is organizing the first annual Green Infrastructure Summit and Urban Trees Forum.

Green Infrastructure Summit

May 14, 2009

8:15am – 2:00pm

The Summit is a chance for urban forest leaders from around the country to hear from Hill staffers, ACT national partners, and other experts about how trees and green infrastructure fit into the agendas of energy & commerce, transportation & infrastructure, financial services, labor & education, and more.

Congressional Briefing

May 14, 2009

2:00pm – 3:30pm

Location: Rayburn 2226

Achieving SmartGrowth Policies with Green Infrastructure.

Invited speakers for this event include:

- **Using Green Infrastructure to Enhance Highways**
Anne Canby, President, Surface Transportation Policy Partnership
- **Greening as a Catalyst for Neighborhood Stabilization**
Kevin Gillen, University of Pennsylvania Wharton School of Business
- **Neighborhood Parks and Public Health**
Deborah Cohen, Senior Natural Scientist, RAND Corporation
- **Energy Efficiency through Trees**
Zack Hill, Manager of Federal Government Affairs, Alliant Energy

Urban Trees Forum

May 15, 2009

8:15am – 2:00pm

The Forum is a collaborative effort led by ACT's Policy Committee during which urban forest leaders roll up their sleeves to dialogue about the value of trees, elevate local success stories to national models, and form task forces to champion targeted public policy.





Green Infrastructure Summit and Urban Trees Forum

May 14-15, 2009
The Methodist Building
100 Maryland Avenue, N.E.
Washington, DC

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE SUMMIT

Conference Rooms 1 & 2

May 14, 2009

8:15am: Registration and Check-In
Continental breakfast served

8:40am: Welcome & Introduction
Alice Ewen Walker, Executive Director, Alliance for Community Trees
Jared Liu, Director of Programs, Alliance for Community Trees

8:45am: Transportation & Water
Moderator, Pamela Sapko, Executive Director, Delaware Center for Horticulture

- Jim Catella, Legislative Assistant, Rep. Michael Castle (DE-At Large)
- Lilly Shoup, Senior Research Associate, Transportation for America
- Nancy Arazan, ORISE Fellow, Environmental Protection Agency

9:45am: Healthy Communities
Moderator, Michael Leff, TreeVitalize Program Manager, Pennsylvania Horticultural Society

- Ashley Futrell, Senior Manager- Public Policy, National Recreation and Parks Association
- Faith Baker, Associate Director CCDO, US Department of Justice
- Tyler Frisbee, Legislative Assistant, Congressman Earl Blumenauer (OR-3rd)

10:40am: Break

10:50am: Energy & Climate
Moderator, Shannon Ramsay, President & CEO, Trees Forever

- Sam Stefanki, Legislative Assistant, Rep. Doris O. Matsui (CA-5th)
- Neelam Patel, Heat Island Program Manager, US Environmental Protection Agency
- Jeffrey Williams, Manager- Corporate Environmental Initiatives, Entergy (invited)

11:45am: Revitalization & Green Jobs
Moderator, Miquela Craytor, Executive Director, Sustainable South Bronx

- Alec Garnett, Legislative Assistant, Rep. Ed Perlmutter (CO- 7th)
- Corey Connors, Dir. of Legislative Relations, American Nursery and Landscape Assoc.
- Nancy Wolf, JLN Wolf, Inc.

12:40pm: Lunch

12:45pm: Honorary Remarks
Nancy Buley, Director of Marketing and Communications, J. Frank Schmidt & Son Co.
Earl Blumenauer, Congressman (OR-3rd)

1:45pm: Hill Prep
Laura Schweitzer, Director of Forest Policy, American Forests

2-3:30pm: Congressional Briefing- Location Rayburn 2226
Achieving SmartGrowth Policies with Green Infrastructure

2-5:00pm: Meetings on the Hill (on your own)





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CONGRESSIONAL BRIEFING

Achieving SmartGrowth Policies with Green Infrastructure
Rayburn 2226 House Office Building
May 14, 2009
2:00-3:30pm

The Alliance for Community Trees (ACT), in cooperation with Congressman Blumenauer's office, invite you to the briefing, Achieving SmartGrowth Policies with Green Infrastructure. Learn how trees and green infrastructure may be used to improve the environment where 80% of Americans live: our cities, towns, and villages. Even more so now as a recession encourages innovative thinking, urban forests offers cross-bottom-line solutions that impact neighborhood stabilization, highway safety, energy efficiency, public health, and investments in small business.

This briefing will describe what makes green infrastructure essential when planning and implementing traditional infrastructure projects, and how early and collaborative designs that include green infrastructure are often safer, more efficient, and cheaper. Speakers will also discuss the importance of using green infrastructure to educate local communities and the general public about sustainability practices. Finally, of interest to all Congressional offices, the panel will shed light on what green infrastructure is and how to use it to maximum advantage.

Invited speakers for this event include:

- **Moderator**
Jared Liu, Director of Programs, Alliance for Community Trees
- **Using Green Infrastructure to Enhance Highways**
Anne Canby, President, Surface Transportation Policy Partnership
- **Greening as a Catalyst for Neighborhood Stabilization**
Kevin Gillen, University of Pennsylvania Wharton School of Business
- **Neighborhood Parks and Public Health**
Deborah Cohen, Senior Natural Scientist, RAND Corporation
- **Energy Conservation through Trees**
Zack Hill, Manager of Federal Government Affairs, Alliant Energy

This briefing is free and open to the public. No RSVP required.

For more information, contact Jared Liu at jared@actrees.org or (301) 277-0041.





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URBAN TREES FORUM

Wilson Board Room

May 15, 2009

8:15am: Registration and Check-In

Continental breakfast served

8:45am: Framing the Day

Jared Liu, Director of Programs, Alliance for Community Trees

Guy Hager, Director, Parks & People Foundation (Chair of ACT Policy Committee)

9:00am: Transportation & Water

Moderator, Pamela Sapko, Executive Director, Delaware Center for Horticulture

- Transportation Reauthorization
- Urban Stormwater Mitigation Task Force
- Discussion (40 minutes)

10:00am: Healthy Communities

Moderator, Michael Leff, TreeVitalize Program Manager, Pennsylvania Horticultural Society

- Greener Safer Communities Task Force
- Urban Park & Recreation Recovery (UPARR)
- Urban and Community Forestry Program (USFS)
- Discussion (30 minutes)

10:55am: Break

Soda and snacks served

11:05am: Energy & Climate

Moderator, Ray Tretheway, Executive Director, Sacramento Tree Foundation

- Energy Conservation through Trees Act
- Urban Heat Island Mitigation Task Force
- Discussion (40 minutes)

12:00pm: Revitalization & Green Jobs

Moderator, Guy Hager, Director- Great Parks & Green Communities, Parks & People Foundation

- G.R.E.E.N. Act of 2008
- Green Jobs Task Force
- National Small Business Tree Planting Program
- Trees for Reliable Energy Efficiency and Sustainability (TREES) Act of 2009
- Discussion (20 minutes)

1:00pm: Wrap-up

Next Steps- Jared Liu, Director of Programs, Alliance for Community Trees

Closing remarks- Guy Hager, Chair, ACT Policy Committee

1:15pm: Lunch (on your own)





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POST-FORUM WORKSHOP

Wilson Board Room

May 15, 2009

2:00pm: Creating Change with Science: Effectiveness of Urban Forestry Technology Transfer
Kathleen Wolf, Ph.D., University of Washington

Urban forestry scientists have expanded our knowledge of urban forest benefits and ecosystem services. Many of us are familiar with the research and have been using it for years. Still the question remains, are we making progress? Are we effectively using technology transfer to share urban forest benefit information with professional and public audiences?

Dr. Kathy Wolf has been researching these questions to evaluate the impact of technology transfer on local government and urban forestry programs. Central to her preliminary findings is that non-governmental organizations- including urban forest nonprofits and other non-science groups in the community- are key players in the eventual filtration of urban forest dialog and research. That means that tech transfer should possibly be done differently using more of a co-production approach.

This workshop will look at findings from Dr. Wolf's study of science communications products, and offer ideas based on social science to better place technology transfer for local government decision-making and action. For those staying, please come prepared to dialogue with Dr. Wolf about your perspectives for how science facts aid your activities, and brainstorm about how the scientist-NGO partnerships might be more effective.





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HOTEL OPTIONS

There are 4 rooms reserved at the Kalorama Guest House under Jennifer Hinrichs' name. Please call the number above to select and re-reserve a room in your name. At this time, 3 rooms have shared baths, 1 private. It includes breakfast starting at 7:30 a.m. or earlier which should allow plenty of time to get to the ACT meeting location by 8:30 a.m. All rooms have wireless access. All rooms are \$99 each. Room block expires 4/24. The following option is available on a first-come, first-serve basis.

The Kalorama Guest House at Kalorama Park
1854 Mintwood Place, N.W.
Washington, DC 20009
Tel: 800-974-6450

http://www.kaloramaguesthouse.com/adams_location.shtml

BED & BREAKFAST

Otherwise, the inns below are booked through the umbrella organizations listed. They are slightly more expensive but all have private baths and some are a little more upscale. The service will NOT put a hold on any of these rooms listed below so contact them immediately. If you would like to reserve any of these room options using the Internet, simply follow the links noted or contact: Alan at B&B Accommodations, 877-893-3233.

Akwaaba B&B has seven rooms to choose from, all with private bath, and the Poetry Room, on the fourth floor walk-up, does have two queen beds and all the other rooms have one bed. The rooms range in rates from \$150.00-\$200.00 per night plus taxes of 14.5%, depending on the room.

A hot cooked breakfast is served in the morning. It is located in the Dupont Circle neighborhood, 3 blocks from the Metro stop on the RED Line, that will take you to Capitol Hill in 4-5 stops. Here is the link for you.

<http://www.bedandbreakfastdc.com/index.php?id=29>

Carriage House on Capitol Hill does have availability for the dates requested for three rooms.

The daily rate is \$145.00 plus taxes of 14.5% for queen bedded rooms(1 bed each) with private bath on the second floor WiFi and TV with cable are included. A continental breakfast is included in the morning. Here is the link. It is located 4 blocks from the Metro stop on the Blue Line at Capitol South.

<http://www.bedandbreakfastdc.com/index.php?id=34>

Independence House B&B also has one room with a queen bed with private hall bath for the same rate of \$145.00 per night plus taxes of 14.5%. It is located at 5th and Independence Ave, SE, and a continental breakfast is served in the morning. The nearest Metro stop would be on the Blue Line, 4 blocks walking to Eastern Market. Here is that link.

<http://www.bedandbreakfastdc.com/index.php?id=56>

Holiday Inn Capitol Hill offers a government rate of \$209.00/night, while the regular rate is \$259/night. They also have self-parking at a rate of \$28.00 per day. Contact Renard Roots at renard.roots@hicdc.com or 202-479-4000.

<http://www.hicapitoldc.com>

Priceline. As a first or last option, I have regularly found rooms for family members at \$60-90/night in the DC area.





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OTHER NOTES

1. ISA Reception

If you plan to attend the reception at 6pm on 5/13 hosted by the ISA, you must RSVP to Jess Kebert at jkebert@isa-arbor.com by Friday (5/1). This is a great opportunity to catch up with old friends and make new ones prior to the start of meetings on Thursday. More information is here: http://actrees.org/files/Policy_Alerts/summit09_reception.pdf

2. Hotels

There is not a conference block of rooms at any one hotel, so you are free to explore the best option for yourself (Priceline rarely lets me down). We do have a few hotel recommendations, but the best room rates are quickly disappearing. Make your reservation ASAP. Let me know if you're interested in sharing a room, and I'll try to match you up with another attendee. More information is here: http://actrees.org/files/Policy_Alerts/dchotels.pdf

3. Parking

Street parking in DC is permitted by zones. So, while you may be able to find a spot close to the Capitol, it will only be good for two hours and it is strictly enforced. So, we recommend either taking the metro (Union Station on the red line is the closest) or parking at Union Station or one of the area hotels. The Union Station garage is open 24-7 at the cost of \$19 per day. Access the lot from H Street, N.E. by car and exit onto Columbus Circle, N.E. by foot. A map of the general area is here: http://actrees.org/files/Policy_Alerts/summit09_map.pdf

4. Materials

The week of the Summit, we will have a final agenda and packet of information for you to read prior to coming to DC so that you'll be best prepared for the Summit and Hill visits. Also, consider bringing your own materials to share with your Congressional Reps as well as others at the Summit.

5. Hill Visits

Last, and most importantly, schedule Hill visits now. Your Representative will want to know to you're coming to DC on business, and have the best opportunity to schedule time on his/her agenda to meet with you. If your Representative cannot see you, ask to meet with the Legislative Assistant who handles environmental issues. More information is here: <http://www.house.gov/zip/ZIP2Rep.html>



.....
(Original Signature of Member)

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R.

To relieve traffic congestion.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. CASTLE (for himself and Mr. CAPUANO) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To relieve traffic congestion.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “National Highway
5 Chokepoint Congestion Relief Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

8 (1) In 2007, traffic congestion in the top 437
9 urban areas resulted in major chokepoints and bot-

1 tation” has the meaning such term has under sec-
2 tion 101 of title 23, United States Code.

3 **SEC. 9. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING PERFORMANCE**
4 **MEASURES AND QUANTITATIVE GOALS FOR**
5 **STATE DOTTS.**

6 It is the sense of Congress that—

- 7 (1) States should adopt both interim and long-
8 term objectives for significantly reducing traffic con-
9 gestion at chokepoint areas within each State; and
10 (2) establishing performance measures and
11 quantitative goals will allow State departments of
12 transportation to use available resources as effi-
13 ciently as possible on projects that have the max-
14 imum impact in reducing traffic congestion and im-
15 proving mobility.

16 **SEC. 10. SENSE OF CONGRESS ON NONAUTOMOTIVE TRAV-**
17 **EL MODES, TRAVEL DEMAND MANAGEMENT,**
18 **GROWTH MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES, AND**
19 **GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE.**

20 It is the sense of Congress that alleviating traffic con-
21 gestion requires that the House of Representatives and the
22 Senate commit to authorizing and funding—

- 23 (1) nonautomotive modes of travel, including
24 intercity passenger rail, commuter rail, light rail,
25 heavy rail, bus transit, and bikeways;

1 (2) travel demand management strategies, in-
2 cluding ridesharing, dedicated highway lanes for
3 high occupancy vehicles, staggered work hour initia-
4 tives, and telecommuting;

5 (3) growth management and land use strate-
6 gies; and

7 (4) strategies that promote the inclusion of
8 trees and green infrastructure along transportation
9 corridors, which has been shown to reduce air pollu-
10 tion by removing airborne contaminants and to re-
11 duce congestion by calming traffic and creating safer
12 roadways.

13 **SEC. 11. RITA STUDY OF CONGESTION PRICING.**

14 Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment
15 of this Act, the Administrator of the Research and Innova-
16 tive Technology Administration, through the Volpe Na-
17 tional Transportation Systems Center, shall—

18 (1) study the extent to which congestion pricing
19 can provide an incentive for travelers to drive during
20 off-peak hours or to change their mode of transpor-
21 tation for time-sensitive journeys;

22 (2) study the potential for congestion pricing to
23 generate revenue and thus require less tax-based
24 funding;

Living Roadways Task Force

The Living Roadways Task Force seeks the creation of Federal Highway Administration incentives that state DOTs can utilize to make landscape improvements along major transportation corridors. The purpose of the legislation is to mitigate highway noise and air pollution spilling over into adjoining communities, create healthier communities, reduce congestion, and create safer roads.

In addition to creating natural sound barriers, trees trap and remove tiny particles of soot and dust which otherwise damages human lungs and tree root networks filter airborne contaminants, naturally calm traffic, reduce the number of road accidents and fatalities, and keep traffic moving. Each tree removes two pounds of air pollutants annually, and every four million trees saves \$20 million in annual air pollution cleanup. Children in poor neighborhoods and within close proximity to highways and rail lines have five times less lung function.

DOT

- Create the Living Roadways Program with related guidelines. Mandate that all agencies that receive federal funds from this program implement the latest Living Roadways Program guidelines. Consultation during the development of these guidelines must be provided by Technical Advisory Committees that are composed of local planning and arboricultural experts and state university landscape architecture extensions. Science-based tree-siting guidelines should ensure that trees are not planted in locations that will disrupt pre-existing infrastructure or damage power lines. The program will also create an educational campaign that highlights the synergies between trees and traffic calming and safety, and emphasizes planting the right tree in the right place.
- Designate an applicable DOT department to collect information- or fund a national NGO such as the Alliance for Community Trees to create a reporting method that includes detail such as: air pollution, noise pollution, automotive accidents and fatalities, and existing urban forestry data related to neighborhoods and municipalities benefiting from this program. Require municipalities and other participating agencies to include an annual review that:
 - Compares traffic congestion and safety, air pollution, and noise pollution with tree canopy cover.
 - Outlines a 10-year plan for including greening in transportation planning efforts.
 - Establishes a goal for minimum greenspace or canopy cover and timetables within which to achieve those minimums in high-risk traffic areas.
 - Designates a staff member responsible for tracking and educating intra-agency, partnering agencies, and local citizens.

- Encourage DOT to develop working partnerships that are aimed at increasing understanding of and communication with national and local urban forest organizations.
- That all municipalities or other participating agencies include a three-year plan for post-planting tree care as well as a minimum canopy cover goal for developments targeted to benefit from this program. At minimum, trees shall be selected and installed based on appropriate International Society for Arboriculture (ISA), American Planning Association (APA), and best management practices design guidelines and industry standards. The minimum canopy cover goal shall not be less than 40%.

NOTES:

Implementation

- Create incentives that give preference to roads with the highest safety risks, air pollution, and noise pollution. One approach could be to award grants on a competitive basis, and award points for location priority. A minimum of 50% of program funds must go towards expenses for plant materials and other green infrastructure expenses including tree space preparation, irrigation, and maintenance. For example, in the City of Milwaukee five cents of all transportation dollars go toward expenses for tree planting space, tree and irrigation. In Baton Rouge 0.5% of sales tax goes towards construction of roadways, highway, and bridge projects of which 3% goes towards roads and sidewalk beautification.
- Require municipalities to give priority in awarding grants to projects that meet a verified level of existing and traffic safety, with additional points for more rigorous standards such as air quality and noise levels.
- Require municipalities and other participating agencies to partner with certified tree-planting organization(s) or state university landscape architecture extension who will ensure proper tree planting, maintenance, and at least three years of plant survival or replacement.
- Require municipality planning commissions and other participating agencies to require developers, surveyors, and citizens to submit a site evaluation/analysis of all existing green infrastructure features along with their plans to each applicable

planning board/commission. At minimum, 20% of healthy trees must be preserved.

NOTES:

Funding

- Incentives may be loans or grants to states or municipalities. Administered by Department of Transportation.
- Make available federal Ice-T funds fund for greening-transportation partnerships.
- Require a cost sharing match of 80/20 (federal to state/municipal/other non-Federal funds). For example, Iowa's Living Roadways and Tennessee's Roadscapes are examples of such programs beautifying state routes, entrance plantings, and historical sites.
- As part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, States have until June 17, 2009 to solicit green projects for the State Revolving Loan Funds unless at least 20% of their intended use plans are already green projects. "Green projects" is defined per EPA. No state match is required (never any project level match)

NOTES:

Partner & Other General Policy Ideas

- Could attach to:
 - H.R. 1780, To amend Clean Air Act to achieve GHG reductions.
 - Could attach to H.R. 1329 (Blumenauer- OR), to reduce GHG due to transportation.
 - S.791, but largely about highway workers' safety

- S.238, Build America Bonds Act- fix highway infrastructure. Draft letter with Friends of Trees to Sen. Wyden.
- Expand criteria under the Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) to encourage investments in green community redevelopment efforts.
- Look for eligible use of other funds such as pollination.
- Ultimate goal is to encourage state transportation agencies to create a new direction for right-of-way maintenance and roadside infrastructure design and to help set a strong policy agenda for transportation professionals.
- Sec. Biehler (PennDOT) feels that “nothing is being done at all, right now” and wants to change this. He agrees with the imperative to improve air quality, water quality, and increase carbon sequestration. This from a conversation with the Pennsylvania Landscape and Nursery Association.
- Preference could also be given to certified economic municipalities. In TN, there is a 3-tiered economic program that municipalities must prove through an application process to be eligible for preference for certain grants. The Tennessee Urban Forest Council recently had urban forestry language included in the application process to recognize green infrastructure. This initiative should attach itself to existing certified economic incentives.
- Rep. Betsy Markey might have in the areas of agriculture and transportation (she worked for Ken Salazar and serves on subcommittees of both committees). She is closely aligned with Blumenauer.
- APA’s transportation objective in 2009 largely centers around providing additional support for Amtrak in this year's reauthorization and expand investment in transit. Otherwise, they also promote the funding the repair and modernization of vital existing municipal infrastructure in keeping with initiatives to revitalize and reinvest in downtowns, developed neighborhoods, historic buildings, urban areas, and first suburbs.
- Potential Partners and Models:
 - National Safety Council. They are leaders in traffic safety and can help with traffic calming perspectives. Scott Jamieson is on their board.
 - Delaware has a successful manual titled, Enhancing Delaware Highways.
 - ANLA definitely interested in anything transportation related.

NOTES:

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1780

To amend the Clean Air Act to achieve greenhouse gas emissions reductions through transportation efficiency.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 30, 2009

Ms. MATSUI introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To amend the Clean Air Act to achieve greenhouse gas emissions reductions through transportation efficiency.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Smart Planning for
5 Smart Growth Act of 2009”.

6 **SEC. 2. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS**
7 **THROUGH TRANSPORTATION EFFICIENCY.**

8 Title I of the Clean Air Act is amended by inserting
9 after section 179B (42 U.S.C. 7509a) the following:

1 “(4) Construction of bicycle and pedestrian in-
2 frastructure facilities.

3 “(5) Projects to promote telecommuting, flexi-
4 ble work schedules, or satellite work centers.

5 “(6) Pricing measures such as congestion pric-
6 ing.

7 “(7) Intermodal freight system strategies, in-
8 cluding enhanced rail services, short sea shipping,
9 and other strategies.

10 “(8) Parking policies.

11 “(9) Travel demand management projects.

12 “(10) Restriction of the use of certain roads, or
13 lanes, by vehicles other than passenger buses and
14 high-occupancy vehicles.

15 “(11) Reduction of vehicle idling, including
16 idling associated with freight management, construc-
17 tion, transportation, and commuter operations.

18 “(12) Policies to encourage the use of retrofit
19 technologies and early replacement of vehicles, en-
20 gines and equipment to reduce greenhouse gas emis-
21 sions from existing mobile sources.

22 “(13) Other projects that the Administrator
23 finds reduce greenhouse gas emissions from mobile
24 sources.

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1329

To amend title 49, United States Code, to support efforts by States and eligible local and regional entities to develop and implement plans to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the transportation sector, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 5, 2009

Mr. BLUMENAUER (for himself, Mrs. TAUSCHER, and Mr. LATOURETTE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To amend title 49, United States Code, to support efforts by States and eligible local and regional entities to develop and implement plans to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the transportation sector, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Clean, Low-Emission,
5 Affordable, New Transportation Efficiency Act”.

1 “(1) new transit projects eligible for assistance
2 under chapter 53 (or the expansion of operations or
3 frequency of existing transit service);

4 “(2) an intercity passenger rail project;

5 “(3) sidewalks, crosswalks, bicycle paths, green-

6 ways, pedestrian signals, pavement marking, traffic

7 calming techniques, modification of public sidewalks

8 (including projects to achieve compliance with the
9 Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C.
10 12101 et seq.)), and other strategies to encourage
11 pedestrian and bike travel;

12 “(4) additional freight rail capacity;

13 “(5) travel or demand management programs,
14 including—

15 “(A) carpool, vanpool, or car-share
16 projects;

17 “(B) congestion pricing measures;

18 “(C) programs to promote telecommuting,
19 flexible work schedules, or satellite work cen-
20 ters; and

21 “(D) intelligent transportation systems or
22 other operational improvements that are cer-
23 tified by the Administrator to reduce green-
24 house gas emissions;

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 238

To provide \$50,000,000,000 in new transportation infrastructure funding through bonding to empower States and local governments to complete significant infrastructure projects across all modes of transportation, including roads, bridges, rail and transit systems, ports, and inland waterways, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 7, 2009

Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. THUNE, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Ms. COLLINS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To provide \$50,000,000,000 in new transportation infrastructure funding through bonding to empower States and local governments to complete significant infrastructure projects across all modes of transportation, including roads, bridges, rail and transit systems, ports, and inland waterways, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; ETC.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
5 “Build America Bonds Act of 2009”.

1 (b) REFERENCES TO INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF
2 1986.—Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever
3 in this Act an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms
4 of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provi-
5 sion, the reference shall be considered to be made to a
6 section or other provision of the Internal Revenue Code
7 of 1986.

8 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.**

9 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

10 (1) Our Nation’s highways, transit systems,
11 railroads, ports, and inland waterways drive our
12 economy, enabling all industries to achieve growth
13 and productivity that makes America strong and
14 prosperous.

15 (2) The establishment, maintenance, and im-
16 provement of the national transportation network is
17 a national priority, for economic, environmental, en-
18 ergy, security, and other reasons.

19 (3) The ability to move people and goods is crit-
20 ical to maintaining State, metropolitan, rural, and
21 local economies.

22 (4) The construction of infrastructure requires
23 the skills of numerous occupations, including those
24 in the contracting, engineering, planning and design,

1 materials supply, manufacturing, distribution, and
2 safety industries.

3 (5) Investing in transportation infrastructure
4 creates long-term capital assets for the Nation that
5 will help the United States address its enormous in-
6 frastructure needs and improve its economic produc-
7 tivity.

8 (6) Investment in transportation infrastructure
9 creates jobs and spurs economic activity to put peo-
10 ple back to work and stimulate the economy.

11 (7) Every billion dollars in transportation in-
12 vestment has the potential to create up to 47,500
13 jobs.

14 (8) Every dollar invested in the Nation's trans-
15 portation infrastructure yields at least \$5.70 in eco-
16 nomic benefits because of reduced delays, improved
17 safety, and reduced vehicle operating costs.

18 (9) Numerous experts have noted that the esti-
19 mated cost to maintain and improve our Nation's
20 highways, bridges, and other critical transportation
21 infrastructure significantly exceeds what is currently
22 being provided by all levels of government.

23 (b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to provide
24 financing for additional transportation infrastructure cap-
25 ital investments.

1 **SEC. 3. CREDIT TO HOLDERS OF BUILD AMERICA BONDS.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart I of part IV of sub-
3 chapter A of chapter 1 is amended by adding at the end
4 the following new section:

5 **“SEC. 54F. BUILD AMERICA BONDS.**

6 “(a) BUILD AMERICA BOND.—For purposes of this
7 subpart, the term ‘Build America bond’ means any bond
8 issued as part of an issue if—

9 “(1) 100 percent of the available project pro-
10 ceeds of such issue are to be used for expenditures
11 incurred after the date of the enactment of this sec-
12 tion for 1 or more qualified projects pursuant to an
13 allocation of such proceeds to such project or
14 projects by the Transportation Finance Corporation,

15 “(2) the bond is issued by the Transportation
16 Finance Corporation and is in registered form (with-
17 in the meaning of section 149(a)),

18 “(3) the issuer designates such bond for pur-
19 poses of this section,

20 “(4) the Transportation Finance Corporation
21 certifies that it meets the State contribution require-
22 ment of subsection (h) with respect to such project,
23 as in effect on the date of issuance,

24 “(5) the Transportation Finance Corporation
25 certifies that the State in which an approved quali-

1 fied project is located meets the requirement de-
2 scribed in subsection (i),

3 “(6) the face amount of such bond, when added
4 to the face amount of all Build America bonds pre-
5 viously designated under paragraph (3) and issued
6 in the calendar year, does not exceed the Build
7 America bond limitation for such year under sub-
8 section (d),

9 “(7) the term of each bond which is part of
10 such issue does not exceed 30 years,

11 “(8) the payment of principal with respect to
12 such bond is the obligation of the Transportation Fi-
13 nance Corporation, and

14 “(9) the issue meets the requirements of sub-
15 section (e).

16 “(b) QUALIFIED PROJECT.—For purposes of this
17 section, the term ‘qualified project’ means the capital im-
18 provements to any transportation infrastructure project of
19 any governmental unit or other person, including roads,
20 bridges, rail and transit systems, ports, and inland water-
21 ways, proposed by 1 or more States and approved by the
22 Transportation Finance Corporation, but does not include
23 costs of operations or maintenance with respect to such
24 project.

Urban Stormwater Mitigation Task Force

The Urban Stormwater Mitigation Task Force seeks an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) incentive program that directs research, education, and grants to developers, community organizations, and municipal planning agencies utilizing better stormwater management designs that incorporate trees and green infrastructure. The purpose of the legislation is to mitigate the construction of stormwater treatment infrastructure needed to capture increased volumes resulting from replacing green infrastructure with non-pervious surfaces during development.

Contrary to pop media stories that all trees planted near levees or sewer lines cause breakage problems, there are actually great synergies between trees and stormwater systems. Tree roots actually stabilize soil, prevent erosion by trapping soil, and hold stream banks and levees in place to protect against flooding. One tree reduces 350 gallons of storm water runoff annually, and every 4 million trees saves \$14 million in annual stormwater runoff costs. (Center for Urban Forest Research)

EPA

- Create the Urban Stormwater Mitigation Program with related guidelines. Mandate that all agencies that receive federal funds from this program implement the latest Urban Stormwater Mitigation Program guidelines. Science-based tree-siting guidelines should ensure that trees are not planted in locations that will disrupt pre-existing infrastructure. Consultation during the development of these guidelines must be provided by Technical Advisory Committees that are composed of local planning and arboricultural/watershed management experts. The program will also create an educational campaign that highlights the synergies between trees and stormwater systems, and emphasizes planting the right tree in the right place.
- Designate an applicable EPA department- or fund a national NGO such as the Alliance for Community Trees- to provide outreach and education needed to heighten awareness and inform constituents about the importance of trees for watershed management.
- Designate an applicable EPA department to collect information- or fund a national NGO such as the Alliance for Community Trees to create a reporting method that includes detail such as: stormwater volumes, stormwater treatment costs, and existing urban forestry data related to neighborhoods and municipalities benefiting from this program. Require municipalities, counties, or other participating agencies to include an annual review that:
 - Compares stormwater quantities with tree canopy cover.
 - Outlines a 10-year plan for including greening in urban planning and stormwater mitigation efforts.

- Establishes a goal for minimum canopy cover or greenspace and timetables within which to achieve those minimums: 25% overall city/county and 30% in areas zoned commercial and industrial.
- Designates a staff member responsible for tracking and educating intra-agency, partnering agencies, and local citizens.
- Encourage EPA to develop working partnerships that are aimed at increasing understanding of and communication with national and local urban forest organizations.
- Require that all municipalities or other participating agencies include a three-year plan for post-planting tree care as well as a minimum canopy cover goal of 30% for developments targeted to benefit from this program. At minimum, trees shall be selected and installed based on appropriate International Society for Arboriculture (ISA), American Planning Association (APA), American National Standards Institute (ANSI), and best management practices design guidelines and industry standards.
- Require 50% stormwater retention and flow reduction for new construction and major rehabilitation projects. Portland and Chicago already do this. Also construct green roofs on all feasible new and reconstructed school and community center rooftops.

NOTES:

Implementation

- Create incentives that give preference to priority economic stimulus/retail zones in low-income neighborhoods and flood zone areas. One approach could be to award grants on a competitive basis, and award points for location priority. A minimum of 50% of program funds must go towards expenses for plant materials and other green infrastructure expenses including tree space preparation, irrigation, and maintenance.
- Require municipalities to give priority in awarding grants to projects that meet a verified level of existing and projected stormwater, with additional points for more rigorous standards such as green infrastructure designs.
- Require municipalities and other participating agencies to partner with an Alliance for Community Trees certified tree-planting organization(s) who will

ensure proper tree planting, maintenance, and at least three years of plant survival or replacement.

- Require municipality planning commissions and other participating agencies to require developers, surveyors, and citizens to submit a site evaluation/analysis of all existing green infrastructure features along with their plans to each applicable planning board/commission. At minimum, 20% of healthy trees must be preserved for stormwater control.

NOTES:

Funding

- Provide loans or grants to state, county, or municipal agencies and nonprofit organizations for this program. Pay loans back through the savings accrued from stormwater cleanup/sewer savings.
- Make available Water Revolving Loan Funds for greening-stormwater partnerships that comply with this program. This includes new projects as well as rehab projects (replacing gray infrastructure with green infrastructure). At least 5% of all Water Revolving Loan Funds shall go towards green infrastructure expenses including preparing tree planting spaces, trees, and tree maintenance.
- The Clean Water State Revolving Fund program, which has been in place since 1987, received \$4 billion from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. The Drinking Water State Revolving Fund program, in place since 1997, received \$2 billion. There are several ways in which states, communities, and individuals can use the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) to finance green infrastructure projects (see EPA's fact sheet on green infrastructure and CWSRF at http://www.epa.gov/npdes/pubs/gi_cwsrf.pdf).
- Municipalities, counties, and other participating agencies that assess Stormwater Utility fees must designate at least 10% of such monies for greening-stormwater projects such as tree plantings. For example, in Philadelphia the Water Department has such a policy for new or re-development approval.
- Require a cost sharing match of 80/20 (federal to state/municipal/other non-Federal funds). For example, the State Water Revolving Fund.

- As part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, States have until June 17, 2009 to solicit green projects for the State Revolving Loan Funds unless at least 20% of their intended use plans are already green projects. "Green projects" is defined per EPA. No state match is required (never any project level match)
- Secure appropriations funds for the Watershed Forestry Program. The program was authorized in the most recent Farm Bill (April 2009), but it has not had any success at getting funded. Steve Koehn, the State Forester for Maryland, was a big proponent. It's a cooperative program of the Forest Service with similar authorities to the U&CF program, so you'd still be dealing w/ the Forest Service, but there's the potential if interested.

NOTES:

Partners & Other General Policy Ideas

- Could attach to:
 - H.R.1262, Water Quality Investment Act of 2009 (Oberstar- MN).
 - H.R.1310, Clean Water Protection Act (Pallone- NJ), regarding fill material.
- Expand criteria under the Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) to encourage investments in green community redevelopment efforts. Integrated neighborhood planning and efforts that promote the creation of green collar jobs should all receive specific and additional credits in compliance with the CRA.
- Provide standards, planting designs, and scientific studies for trees as water sponges. In some cases, trees are incorporated into bioswales as a means to grab water, hold soil, improve infiltration, etc.
- Set a formula for how many trees must be strategically planted to capture a given amount of stormwater runoff tied to the amount of surface area installed.
- Incentives for municipalities to create a stormwater utility to separately charge for stormwater wastewater. Over 500 municipalities structure wastewater and drinking water fees separately.
- APA's priorities regarding water include: ensure water quality and improve water infrastructure investment, increase federal funding for water infrastructure,

increase accountability, target investment, and promote improved planning in sensitive areas. More generally, one of APA's policy objectives is: Build Safe Communities. This includes: Support programs to provide resources for local governments to improve mitigation planning, modernize planning and building regulations, conduct critical infrastructure threat assessments, and acquire technology for advanced visualization and scenario planning. Ensure adequate implementation of national flood insurance reform and continue to support key disaster mitigation programs, such as flood map modernization and pre- and post-disaster mitigation funding.

- Potential Partners and Models:
 - Stormwater management bill passed in New York City in 2007/08 includes trees. Sustainable South Bronx was a part of making this happen.
 - North East Trees stormwater management design charette.
 - EPA has an unfunded mandate- National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)- whereby the federal government deals with this incredibly local issue. They could have good insight on how to proceed.
 - Virginia Tech and the University of California- Davis just released a relevant report.
 - Center for Watershed Protection standards.
 - http://www.naco.org/Template.cfm?Section=New_Technical_Assistance&Template=/TaggedPage/TaggedPageDisplay.cfm&TPLID=62&ContentID=26019

NOTES:

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1262

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 16, 2009

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and
Public Works

AN ACT

To amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to authorize appropriations for State water pollution control revolving funds, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—This Act may be cited as the
3 “Water Quality Investment Act of 2009”.

4 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Amendment of Federal Water Pollution Control Act.

TITLE I—WATER QUALITY FINANCING

Subtitle A—Technical and Management Assistance

- Sec. 1101. Technical assistance.
- Sec. 1102. State management assistance.
- Sec. 1103. Watershed pilot projects.

Subtitle B—Construction of Treatment Works

- Sec. 1201. Sewage collection systems.
- Sec. 1202. Treatment works defined.

Subtitle C—State Water Pollution Control Revolving Funds

- Sec. 1301. General authority for capitalization grants.
- Sec. 1302. Capitalization grant agreements.
- Sec. 1303. Water pollution control revolving loan funds.
- Sec. 1304. Allotment of funds.
- Sec. 1305. Intended use plan.
- Sec. 1306. Annual Reports.
- Sec. 1307. Technical assistance; requirements for use of American materials.
- Sec. 1308. Authorization of appropriations.

Subtitle D—General Provisions

- Sec. 1401. Definition of treatment works.
- Sec. 1402. Funding for Indian programs.

Subtitle E—Tonnage Duties

- Sec. 1501. Tonnage duties.
- Sec. 1502. United States-Mexican border water infrastructure studies.

TITLE II—ALTERNATIVE WATER SOURCE PROJECTS

- Sec. 2001. Pilot program for alternative water source projects.

TITLE III—SEWER OVERFLOW CONTROL GRANTS

- Sec. 3001. Sewer overflow control grants.

TITLE IV—MONITORING, REPORTING, AND PUBLIC NOTIFICATION
OF SEWER OVERFLOWS

- Sec. 4001. Monitoring, reporting, and public notification of sewer overflows.

TITLE V—GREAT LAKES LEGACY REAUTHORIZATION

- Sec. 5001. Remediation of sediment contamination in areas of concern.
- Sec. 5002. Public information program.
- Sec. 5003. Contaminated sediment remediation approaches, technologies, and techniques.
- Sec. 5004. Great Lakes water quality.

TITLE VI—PHARMACEUTICALS AND PERSONAL CARE PRODUCTS

- Sec. 6001. Presence of pharmaceuticals and personal care products in waters of the United States.

TITLE VII—MISCELLANEOUS

- Sec. 7001. Task force on proper disposal of unused pharmaceuticals.

TITLE VIII—OMB STUDY

- Sec. 8001. Evaluation using program assessment rating tool.

TITLE IX—CHESAPEAKE BAY ACCOUNTABILITY AND RECOVERY

- Sec. 9001. Chesapeake Bay Crosscut Budget.
- Sec. 9002. Adaptive Management Plan.
- Sec. 9003. Definitions.

1 **SEC. 2. AMENDMENT OF FEDERAL WATER POLLUTION CON-**
2 **TROL ACT.**

3 Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever in
4 this Act an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms
5 of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provi-
6 sion, the reference shall be considered to be made to a
7 section or other provision of the Federal Water Pollution
8 Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.).

1 **TITLE I—WATER QUALITY**
2 **FINANCING**
3 **Subtitle A—Technical and**
4 **Management Assistance**

5 **SEC. 1101. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.**

6 (a) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR RURAL AND SMALL
7 TREATMENT WORKS.—Section 104(b) (33 U.S.C.
8 1254(b)) is amended—

9 (1) by striking “and” at the end of paragraph
10 (6);

11 (2) by striking the period at the end of para-
12 graph (7) and inserting “; and”; and

13 (3) by adding at the end the following:

14 “(8) make grants to nonprofit organizations—

15 “(A) to provide technical assistance to

16 rural and small municipalities and tribal gov-

17 ernments for the purpose of assisting, in con-

18 sultation with the State in which the assistance

19 is provided, such municipalities and tribal gov-

20 ernments in the planning, developing, and ac-

21 quisition of financing for eligible projects de-

22 scribed in section 603(c);

23 “(B) to provide technical assistance and

24 training for rural, small, and tribal publicly

25 owned treatment works and decentralized

1 wastewater treatment systems to enable such
2 treatment works and systems to protect water
3 quality and achieve and maintain compliance
4 with the requirements of this Act; and

5 “(C) to disseminate information to rural,
6 small, and tribal municipalities and municipali-
7 ties that meet the affordability criteria estab-
8 lished under section 603(i)(2) by the State in
9 which the municipality is located with respect to
10 planning, design, construction, and operation of
11 publicly owned treatment works and decentral-
12 ized wastewater treatment systems.”

13 (b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section
14 104(u) (33 U.S.C. 1254(u)) is amended—

15 (1) by striking “and (6)” and inserting “(6)”;
16 and

17 (2) by inserting before the period at the end the
18 following: “; and (7) not to exceed \$100,000,000 for
19 each of fiscal years 2010 through 2014 for carrying
20 out subsections (b)(3), (b)(8), and (g), except that
21 not less than 20 percent of the amounts appro-
22 priated pursuant to this paragraph in a fiscal year
23 shall be used for carrying out subsection (b)(8)”.

24 (c) SMALL FLOWS CLEARINGHOUSE.—Section
25 104(q)(4) (33 U.S.C. 1254(q)(4)) is amended—

Greener Safer Communities Task Force

The Greener Safer Communities Taskforce seeks the creation of a Department of Justice (DOJ) incentive program that local government agencies can utilize to create safer communities through coordinated community policing and urban greening. The purpose of the program is to invest in lowering crime and calming traffic. Trees correlate not only with less crime against both people and property, but also traffic calming along streets where kids play, and can be designed without sacrificing traffic mobility and driver safety.

DOJ

- Create the Greener Safer Communities Program with related guidelines. Mandate that all agencies that receive federal funds from this program implement the latest Greener Safer Communities Program guidelines. Consultation during the development of these guidelines must be provided by Technical Advisory Committees that are composed of local planning and ISA certified arboricultural experts and utilize the American Planning Association design standards. Science-based tree-siting guidelines should ensure that trees are not planted in locations that will disrupt pre-existing infrastructure or damage power lines. The program will also create an educational campaign that highlights the synergies between trees and safer communities, and emphasizes planting the right tree in the right place.
- Designate an applicable DOJ department to collect information- or fund a national NGO such as the Alliance for Community Trees to create a reporting method- with details including: crime metrics and existing urban forestry data related to neighborhoods and municipalities benefiting from this program. Require municipalities and other participating agencies to include an annual review that:
 - Compares crime with tree canopy cover for that city or region.
 - Includes a 10 year plan for including greening in community policing outreach efforts.
 - Establishes a goal for minimum greenspace or canopy cover and timetables within which to achieve those minimums in high-crime areas.
 - Designates a staff member responsible for tracking and educating intra-agency, partnering agencies, and local citizens.
- Encourage DOJ to develop working partnerships that are aimed at increasing understanding of and communication with national and local urban forest organizations.
- That all municipalities or other participating agencies include a three-year plan for post-planting tree care as well as a minimum canopy cover goal for developments targeted to benefit from this program. At minimum, trees shall be selected and installed based on appropriate International Society for Arboriculture (ISA), American Planning Association (APA), and best management practices design

guidelines and industry standards. The minimum canopy cover goal shall not be less than 40%.

NOTES:

Implementation

- Create incentives that give preference to neighborhoods with the highest crime or highest proportion of post-release/ex-offender populations. For example, Delaware Center for Horticulture has established a post-release job-training program with the Delaware Departments of Justice and Labor to plant trees. One approach could be to award grants on a competitive basis, and award points for location priority. A minimum of 50% of program funds must go towards expenses for plant materials and other green infrastructure expenses including tree space preparation, irrigation, and maintenance.
- Require municipalities to give priority in awarding grants to projects that meet a verified level of overall existing and projected crime rates, with additional points for more rigorous standards such as... Programs driven locally by community leader. Plantings in any area, in addition to high crime areas, have proven to be most effective when led and implemented by community leaders.
- Establish incentives for targeting the project at new and rehab affordable housing construction.
- Work with security experts to better define Crime Prevention through Environmental Design. Too frequently the term is interpreted to mean heavy pruning of trees where criminals may “hide.” Also, there needs to be a better balance the need for security cameras to have a clear line of sight through existing tree canopies.
- Require municipalities and other agencies participating in the program to partner with a certified tree-planting organization(s) who will ensure proper tree planting, maintenance, and at least three years of plant survival or replacement.

NOTES:

Funding

- Incentives may be loans or grants to states or municipalities. Administered by Department of Justice.
- Establish a federal revolving loan fund for greening-crime fighting partnerships, and/or offer a federal match to municipalities with revolving loan funds for such projects.
- Require a cost sharing match of 80/20 (federal to state/municipal/other non-Federal funds).
- As part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, States have until June 17, 2009 to solicit green projects for the State Revolving Loan Funds unless at least 20% of their intended use plans are already green projects. "Green projects" is defined per EPA. No state match is required (never any project level match)

NOTES:

Partners & Other General Policy Ideas

- Could attach to:
 - H.R.827, seeking to appropriate money to LISC for its Community Safety Initiative, but Joe Wilson was not supportive.
 - S.453- wrote a letter is cooperation with NYRP.
 - H.R.932- mirror bill of one in Senate. No word from Rep. Ryan (OH).
 - Wrote letter to Reps. Weiner (NY) and Scott (VA).
- Expand criteria under the Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) to encourage investments in green community redevelopment efforts. Integrated neighborhood planning and efforts that promote the creation of green collar jobs should all receive specific and additional credits in compliance with the CRA.

- APA’s policy objective regarding parks and open space is to provide resources and incentives for land conservation and park development; promote new public health strategies that address the linkage between land use, air quality, and overall physical health. More generally, one of APA’s policy objectives is: Build Safe Communities. This includes: Support programs to provide resources for local governments to improve mitigation planning, modernize planning and building regulations, conduct critical infrastructure threat assessments, and acquire technology for advanced visualization and scenario planning.

- Possible Partners:
 - Weed and Seed
 - National Crime Prevention Council
 - National Safety Council. They are leaders in traffic safety and can help with traffic calming perspectives. Scott Jamieson is on their board.

NOTES:

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 827

To authorize funds to the Local Initiatives Support Corporation to carry out its Community Safety Initiative.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 3, 2009

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin (for herself, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. OBERSTAR, Mr. FATAH, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. PASTOR of Arizona, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, and Mr. CLEAVER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To authorize funds to the Local Initiatives Support Corporation to carry out its Community Safety Initiative.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Community Safety Ini-
5 tiative Act of 2009”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

1 (1) The Local Initiatives Support Corporation
2 (in this section referred to as the “LISC”) is a na-
3 tional community development support organization
4 which provides capital, technical expertise, training,
5 and information to help community-based organiza-
6 tions transform distressed neighborhoods into
7 healthy and sustainable places to live, do business,
8 work, and raise families. Since 1994, LISC’s Com-
9 munity Safety Initiative has promoted partnerships
10 between community developers and law enforcement
11 agencies in low-income communities to reduce crime,
12 encourage economic revitalization, and respond to
13 the challenges faced by people returning home upon
14 release from jail or prison.

15 (2) Community Safety Initiative activities spe-
16 cifically accomplish the following:

17 (A) Address crime and disorder, including
18 drug and gang activity involving youth.

19 (B) Spur economic investment.

20 (C) Build trust between communities and
21 police.

22 (D) Respond to prisoner reentry challenges
23 related to housing, employment, social services,
24 and systems coordination.

1 (E) Foster national knowledge-sharing be-
2 tween law enforcement agencies and community
3 organizations about best-practice crime preven-
4 tion strategies.

5 (3) The Community Safety Initiative improves
6 safety and quality of life in more than 20 low-income
7 communities across the country each year, resulting
8 in measurable reductions in crime, better commu-
9 nity-police relations, quality affordable housing in
10 place of problem properties, viable businesses in pre-
11 viously blighted commercial corridors, effective pris-
12 oner reentry programs, and more strategic and effi-
13 cient use of public- and private-sector resources.

14 (4) The Community Safety Initiative program
15 has effectively utilized Federal funds since fiscal
16 year 1999.

17 (5) The Community Safety Initiative has a
18 long-standing partnership with the United States
19 Department of Justice Community Capacity Devel-
20 opment Office and has been endorsed by police
21 chiefs and community development leaders across
22 the country.

1 **SEC. 3. GRANT PROGRAM FOR EXPANDING THE COMMU-**
2 **NITY SAFETY INITIATIVE.**

3 In each of fiscal years 2010 through 2015, the Assist-
4 ant Attorney General for the Office of Justice Programs
5 of the Department of Justice may make grants to the
6 Local Initiatives Support Corporation to carry out its
7 Community Safety Initiative.

8 **SEC. 4. ANNUAL REPORT.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Local Initiatives Support
10 Corporation shall, in each of fiscal years 2010 through
11 2015, submit a report to the Assistant Attorney General.

12 (b) REQUIRED CONTENT.—Each report required to
13 be submitted under subsection (a) shall include a detailed
14 statement—

15 (1) regarding the progress made by the Com-
16 munity Safety Initiative in using Federal funds to
17 reduce crime, encourage economic revitalization, im-
18 prove community-police relations, respond to the
19 challenges faced by people returning home upon re-
20 lease from jail or prison, and promoting community
21 safety knowledge-sharing in low-income and minority
22 communities; and

23 (2) of the activities for which the appropriated
24 funds were spent by the Community Safety Initia-
25 tive.

1 **SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

2 There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out
3 this Act \$2,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2010 through
4 2015.

○

Community Regeneration, Sustainability, and Innovation Act of 2009

The Community Regeneration Act (or “the Act”) would create a new, competitive program within the U.S. Department of Housing and Community Development (“HUD”) targeted towards cities and metropolitan areas experiencing large-scale property vacancy and abandonment due to long-term employment and population losses. The Act would provide assistance to communities to start or expand land banks that establish public control over vacant and abandoned property so it can be used in ways to benefit the public. The Community Regeneration Act would encourage innovation, experimentation, and environmentally sustainable practices through collaborative efforts to reuse land bank properties in ways that will provide long-term benefits to the public, whether it is through the creation of green infrastructure, economic development, or other strategies. Implementation of such strategies would create new and sustainable employment opportunities for residents. The Community Regeneration Act would also strongly encourage multi-jurisdictional or regional approaches to addressing the problem of vacant and abandoned property.

Regeneration Communities Demonstration Program:

The Community Regeneration Act would establish a three-year demonstration program that would authorize the selection of ten applicants per year for funding. HUD would select 15 small cities (population of 150,000 or less) and 15 large cities (population exceeding 150,000) over the three-year period. An eligible applicant would have to show it experienced significant population and employment loss occurring over a period of years which resulted in widespread property vacancy and abandonment. Under the Act, an applicant would have to fall within one of two categories—

- (1) The applicant jurisdiction, or the most populous jurisdiction within an applicant consortium, has experienced at least 20 percent population loss since 1970, as measured by 2000 decennial census data.
- (2) The applicant jurisdiction, or the most populous jurisdiction within an applicant consortium, meets the following two conditions—
 - (A) It has experienced prolonged population, income, and employment loss resulting in substantial levels of housing vacancy and abandonment.
 - (B) Its housing vacancies and abandonments are concentrated in more than one neighborhood or geographic area.

Eligible uses for funding provided under the Act would fall into four broad categories—

- (1) Vacant Property and Program Capacity Activities: Includes the establishment or expansion of local or regional land banks, the establishment of recovered building materials reuse and recycling infrastructure, the expansion and improvement of code enforcement capabilities, the development of data and information systems such as comprehensive real property systems, early warning systems, and vacant property inventory and tracking systems, among other activities.
- (2) Stabilization Activities: Includes deconstruction and demolition of vacant and abandoned properties, demolition and removal of public infrastructure, and the relocation of structures, among other eligible uses.
- (3) Design, Development and Reuse Activities: Includes creation of open space and networks of green infrastructure, establishing and maintaining urban agriculture and farm markets, adaptive reuse, rehabilitation, or improvement of architecturally, historically, or culturally significant structures, or other structures of community significance, and the development of infrastructure to produce renewable energy on vacant land including solar energy, wind power, and geothermal power.

(4) Planning and Policy Innovation Activities: Includes strategic planning, neighborhood, brownfield, and vacant property plans, city and neighborhood typologies, collaborative vacant property assessment processes that identify and target Federal, State, local, and nonprofit resources for neighborhoods and communities, and efforts to reform existing State and local codes, policies, and processes to promote vacant property reclamation and reuse through flexible, performance based standards, regulations, and development processes.

In addition to these activities, the Secretary of HUD would be authorized to designate other eligible activities in accordance with the purposes and goals of the Act.

Ineligible Uses: Include the demolition of public housing, historic structures, and the clean-up or redevelopment of brownfields.

Selection and Evaluation of Applications:

Regeneration Plan: In order to compete for demonstration program funds, a jurisdiction, or consortium of jurisdictions, would submit a regeneration plan to HUD, along with any other information HUD may require. A regeneration plan would include the following elements—

- (1) A comprehensive land use plan that reflects the population loss a community or region has experienced, reflects future population trends, including any anticipated further losses using the most current data available, and provides for the efficient and sustainable use of land, structures, neighborhoods, and resources within the community or region.
- (2) Creation of green infrastructure to be set aside for recreation, open space, agriculture, park use, educational use, or purposes related to future economic or residential development.
- (3) A detailed implementation strategy, including modifications to comprehensive or master land use plans, neighborhood plans, and zoning and building codes.
- (4) Integration of related programs and strategies funded through other sources, Federal, State, local, and private, into its implementation strategy.
- (5) Any other elements determined by the Secretary.

Green Infrastructure: This term is defined in the Act as the interim and permanent reuse of vacant properties for an interconnected network of open spaces, trails, and natural areas such as greenways, wetlands, parks, forest preserves, and native plant vegetation that can naturally manage stormwater, reduce flooding risks, improve water quality, and reduce urban heat islands.

Selection Criteria: HUD's primary criteria would include the following—

- (1) If feasible or appropriate, the extent to which an applicant proposes to foster regional collaboration among and across governments, and with private and non-profit organizations, in addressing vacant and abandoned properties, such as the establishment of one or more—
 - (A) Regional vacant property reclamation strategies.
 - (B) Regional land banks to gain public control of such properties.
 - (C) Regional real property data systems.
 - (D) Regional vacant property action plans that target and coordinate other Federal, State, local and nonprofit funds and resources to identified communities and neighborhoods.

- (2) The extent to which an applicant proposes to reposition the jurisdiction, or the jurisdictions constituting a consortium, for the future by targeting resources and investment in clusters of sustainable urban neighborhoods and establishing networks of green infrastructure.
- (3) The extent to which an applicant proposes to partner with institutions such as universities, museums, historic preservation organizations, neighborhood and community organizations, Federal, State, and local governments, and other organizations or entities whose participation would promote the successful implementation of a regeneration plan.
- (4) The extent to which an applicant proposes to design and develop policy and programmatic innovations that foster vacant property reclamation, such as code reforms and performance-based regulatory approaches.
- (5) The severity of the problem of vacant and abandoned property within an applicant's or applicants' jurisdiction or jurisdictions.
- (6) The capacity of an applicant or applicants to implement a regeneration plan, including its ability to demonstrate quantifiable outcomes, such as the potential to enhance property values, improve ecosystems, and benefit public health.
- (7) The level of commitment of an applicant or applicants, and any organizational partners, to the implementation of a regeneration plan.
- (8) The potential for a regeneration plan to promote the overall livability of a jurisdiction or jurisdictions for current residents.

Secondary Criteria: A successful application would also include as many of the following elements as appropriate or feasible—

- (1) Good urban design principles.
- (2) Sustainability principles.
- (3) Integration and targeting of CDBG funding.
- (4) Use of other funds and resources, Federal, State, local, private, financial, or otherwise.
- (5) If appropriate, brownfields remediation and redevelopment (funded through other sources.)
- (6) Smart growth principles, including, but not limited to, complete streets, new urbanism, affordable housing, mixed uses, infill development, public infrastructure improvements, and form-based codes.
- (7) Deconstruction activities.
- (8) Where necessary, improvement of real property data and information systems with respect to property conditions, and streamlining and improvement of code enforcement procedures in order to expedite the process of asserting public control over vacant and abandoned properties.
- (9) Promotion of energy-use efficiency, green collar jobs, natural systems storm water management, and other ecological services.
- (10) Neighborhood plans developed through a community-based process for component communities within an applicant's jurisdiction or jurisdictions.

(11) The potential to create new employment opportunities, especially in areas directly related to the implementation of a regeneration plan, including building deconstruction, removal of buildings and infrastructure, creation of green infrastructure, environmental remediation, and long term employment in environmentally sustainable activities including urban agriculture, open space maintenance, and renewable energy production.

(12) Adaptive reuse, rehabilitation, or improvement of architecturally, historically, or culturally significant structures, or other structures of community significance in targeted areas.

The Secretary may also include other elements commensurate with the purposes of the Act.

Planning Grants:

The Community Regeneration Act would authorize HUD to provide assistance to communities to develop regeneration plans prior to their submission to HUD. Such assistance could not exceed \$250,000.

Sustainability Demonstration Grants:

The Act would also authorize a competitive innovative grants program for specific short-term demonstration projects that are in accordance with the sustainability goals of the Act. Communities would not have to submit a regeneration plan when applying for a sustainability grant. Grants could not exceed \$250,000. A local match amounting to 25 percent is required. Projects could include—

- (1) Design and creation of interim and permanent open space and networks of green infrastructure, low impact development, and storm water management activities.
- (2) Establishment of recovered building materials reuse and recycling infrastructure.
- (3) Development or expansion of urban agriculture initiatives, including community supported agriculture and farmers markets.
- (4) Development of infrastructure to produce renewable energy on vacant land including solar energy, wind power, and geothermal power.
- (5) Creation of workshops and training for green collar jobs to support innovative sustainability demonstration projects.
- (6) Development of other innovative sustainability projects that would further the purposes of the Act.

After an applicant receives funding for a Regeneration Communities Demonstration Program grant, it is no longer eligible to apply for or receive funding for planning or Sustainability Demonstration grants.

Performance-based Regulations:

To the extent feasible, the Secretary would employ performance-based regulatory concepts in promulgating regulations under the Act.

Federal Interagency Regeneration Communities Coordinating Council:

The Act would create a Federal Interagency Regeneration Communities Coordinating Council that would include representatives from relevant Federal agencies, including designees of the Secretaries of the Departments of Commerce, Transportation, and HUD, and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, and advisors from academia, the non-profit sector, and community organizations. The Council would develop Federal agency support plans for Regeneration Communities which would include—

- Offering technical assistance to grantees through a network of local and national vacant property assistance providers.
- Assigning staff through Intergovernmental Personnel Agreements.
- Allocating other Federal agency funds consistent with an approved plan.
- Offering guidance and technical assistance to program applicants on leveraging and coordinating funding from other Federal sources in plans developed under the Act, especially assistance provided by the Economic Development Administration, the Environmental Protection Agency, and HUD—particularly HUD’s Community Development Block Grant (“CDBG”) program.
- Where feasible, instituting alternative performance-based regulatory approaches and standards.

Funding:

Regeneration Communities Demonstration Program: \$100 million per year for 3 years.

Planning and Sustainability Innovation Grants: \$25 million for first year; \$12.5 million for last two years.

Federal Interagency Regeneration Communities Coordinating Council: \$24 million per year for 3 years.

Energy Conservation through Trees Act One-Page Summary

WHAT THE BILL DOES

The Energy Conservation through Trees Act creates a grant program to assist electric utilities with programs that use targeted planting of shade trees to reduce residential energy demand.

The purpose of the legislation is to help homeowners lower their electric bills (and help utilities lower their peak load demand) by reducing residential energy demand caused by the need to run air conditioners and heaters at a high level. Shade trees not only help mitigate the urban heat island effect, but also help to shield homes from sun in the summer and cold winds in the winter.

Guidelines: The legislation requires the use of science-based tree-siting guidelines to ensure that trees are not planted in locations that will disrupt pre-existing infrastructure, block solar panels and wind turbines, or damage power lines. Consultation during the development of these guidelines must be provided by Technical Advisory Committees that are composed of local energy and arboricultural experts.

Partnerships: The legislation requires utilities that receive assistance to partner with nonprofit tree-planting organizations or other municipal infrastructure groups to run the technical side of the program. These nonprofit groups are meant to serve as tree-planting experts to complement utilities' financial interest in lowering peak energy demand and reducing consumption. They will provide technical and outreach assistance, work with tree recipients, and ensure that trees are planted in the right place to maximize energy conservation.

Cost Sharing: The bill contains a requirement that all Federal funds be matched at least one-to-one with non-Federal dollars.

BENEFITS OF STRATEGICALLY-PLANTED TREES

Planting shade trees around homes in a strategic manner is a proven way to lower energy demand in residential areas. According to research conducted by the Department of Energy, three shade trees strategically planted around a house can reduce home air-conditioning bills by about 30 percent in some cities, and a nationwide shade program could reduce air-conditioning use by at least 10 percent.

Shade trees also help to:

- Improve public health and air quality by absorbing particulate matter;
- Store carbon dioxide to help slow global warming;
- Reduce the risk of flooding in urban areas by absorbing stormwater runoff;
- Improve private property values and increase residential aesthetics;
- Preserve public infrastructure, such as streets and sidewalks.

SUPPORT FOR CONSERVING ENERGY THROUGH TREES

Conserving energy through the use of strategically-planted trees is supported by the following organizations:

National Arbor Day Foundation; Alliance for Community Trees; Pacific Gas and Electric Company; American Forests; Sacramento Municipal Utility District; American Public Power Association; International Society of Arborists; American Public Works Association; California Urban Forests Council; Urban Ecology Institute; Utility Arborists Association; California ReLeaf; American Society of Landscape Architects; Trees Atlanta; Friends of Trees.

Urban Heat Island Mitigation Task Force

The Urban Heat Island Mitigation Task Force seeks an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) grant program for municipal parking authorities to use targeted planting of shade trees in parking lots to mitigate urban heat island effect. The purpose of the program is to curb climate change by reducing ambient temperatures in cities. Shade trees not only create more pleasing environments for shoppers, but also mitigate urban heat island effect by preventing asphalt and concrete from supercharging and creating a mini-ozone layer.

Neither ACT nor EPA is aware of any specific federal legislation that authorized EPA to research heat islands and their mitigation. To the best of our knowledge, EPA's efforts to promote heat island mitigation in the early 1990s were part of a range of "no regrets" climate-related programs initiated by EPA during the Bush (Sr.) Administration. The pilot phase of the Cool Communities program, mentioned in the first U.S. National Action Plan for Global Climate Change (published in December 1992), was launched during that time. The 1993 U.S. Climate Action Plan, released during the Clinton Administration, directed EPA, USDA, and DOD and their industry partners to take Cool Communities beyond the pilot stage.

EPA

- Create the Urban Heat Island Mitigation Program with related guidelines. Mandate that all agencies that receive federal funds from this program implement the latest Urban Heat Island Mitigation Program guidelines. Consultation during the development of these guidelines must be provided by Technical Advisory Committees that are composed of local planning and ISA certified arboricultural experts and utilize the American Planning Association design standards. Science-based tree-siting guidelines should ensure that trees are not planted in locations that will disrupt pre-existing infrastructure or damage power lines. The program will also create an educational campaign that highlights the synergies between trees and urban heat island mitigation, and emphasizes planting the right tree in the right place.
- Designate an applicable EPA department to collect information- or fund a national NGO such as the Alliance for Community Trees to create a reporting method that includes detail such as: rooftop and ground-level temperatures and existing urban forestry data related to neighborhoods and municipalities benefiting from this program. Require municipalities and other participating agencies to include an annual review that:
 - Compares surface temperatures with tree canopy cover.
 - Outlines a 10-year plan for including greening in urban heat island mitigation outreach efforts.
 - Establishes a goal for minimum greenspace or canopy cover and timetables within which to achieve those minimums in high-temperature or ozone-risk areas.
 - Designates a staff member responsible for tracking and educating intra-agency, partnering agencies, and local citizens.

- Encourage EPA to develop working partnerships that are aimed at increasing understanding of and communication with national and local urban forest organizations.
- That all municipalities or other participating agencies include a three-year plan for post-planting tree care as well as a minimum canopy cover goal for developments targeted to benefit from this program. At minimum, trees shall be selected and installed based on appropriate International Society for Arboriculture (ISA), American Planning Association (APA), and best management practices design guidelines and industry standards. The minimum canopy cover goal shall not be less than 40%.

NOTES:

Implementation

- Create incentives that give preference to existing parking lots in neighborhoods with the hottest heat signatures. One approach could be to award grants on a competitive basis, and award points for location priority. A minimum of 50% of program funds must go towards expenses for plant materials and other green infrastructure expenses including tree space preparation, irrigation, and maintenance.
- Require priority in awarding grants to projects that meet a verified level of existing and projected surface temperatures and ozone, with additional points for more rigorous standards such as percentage of total development that is impervious surfaces.
- Establish incentives for municipalities to work with developers and big box retailers, especially for greening multi-level parking garages with greenroofs including trees to cool exposed rooftops, around the building perimeter with trees to reduce reflective heat, and on the building's sides with planter boxes for beautification (such as at Chicago O'Hare's garages).
- Require municipalities and other participating agencies to partner with a certified tree-planting organization(s) who will ensure proper tree planting, maintenance, and at least three years of plant survival or replacement.

- Require municipality planning commissions and other participating agencies to require developers, surveyors, and citizens to submit a site evaluation/analysis of all existing green infrastructure features along with their plans to each applicable planning board/commission. At minimum, 20% of healthy trees must be preserved for urban heat island mitigation.

NOTES:

Funding

- Incentives may be loans or grants to states or municipalities. Administered by the Environmental Protection Agency.
- Establish a federal revolving loan fund for greening-energy partnerships, and/or offer a federal match to municipalities with revolving loan funds for such projects.
- Require a cost sharing match of 80/20 (federal to state/municipal/other non-Federal funds).
- As part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, States have until June 17, 2009 to solicit green projects for the State Revolving Loan Funds unless at least 20% of their intended use plans are already green projects. "Green projects" is defined per EPA. No state match is required (never any project level match)

NOTES:

Partners & Other General Policy Ideas

- Could attach to H.R.585, Environment and Public Health Restoration Act of 2009 (Rep. Lee- CA).

- Expand criteria under the Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) to encourage investments in green community redevelopment efforts. Integrated neighborhood planning and efforts that promote the creation of green collar jobs should all receive specific and additional credits in compliance with the CRA.
- Pay loans back through the savings accrued from energy efficiency and air cleanup savings.
- Could also tie this to water quality. Delaware Center for Horticulture has completed two UHI mitigation projects combined with stormwater quality. One was funded with penalty funds and the other through the Forest Service. Also, the Sierra Club's Cool Cities program, which is generating money for New Jersey cities, may be a model.
- For sample legislation, EPA suggests using the Community Actions Database for heat island initiatives, at:
http://yosemite.epa.gov/gw/statepolicyactions.nsf/webpages/HIRI_Initiatives.html
Click on the "By Initiative Type" link on that page, and then narrow the search to find specific ordinances, zoning laws, implementation plans, and other types of initiatives that have been used to promote heat island mitigation.
<http://www.epa.gov/heatisland/resources/compendium.htm>
- APA's energy objective in 2009 includes support for sustainability and energy efficiency initiatives including "green building" practices that use environmentally conscious design and construction.
- <http://www.cities21.com/>
- International organization linked to EPA website on urban heat island mitigation
- Make sure there isn't anything in here that could be the purview of HUD or we start to blur some lines.
- Trends in the Urban Heat Island strategies: In CA all legislation requires that parking lots be 50% covered by shade within 15 years. A plan must be submitted to the local government at the same time as the application for a building permit. Other places require that there is a tree planted for every certain number of parking spots, the number changes as lots get newer and larger. These require less canopy coverage and would be easier to implement.
- Cool Communities for a healthier planet. The 1993 U.S. Climate Action Plan, released during the Clinton Administration, directed DOE, USDA, and DOD and their industry partners to take Cool Communities beyond the pilot stage.
- Davis, CA: Per Section 40.25.100 of the City of Davis Municipal Code and the Parking Lot Shading Guidelines, 50% of the paved parking lot surface shall be

shaded with tree canopies within fifteen (15) years of the acquisition of a building permit. A parking lot shading plan and related shade calculations shall be submitted to the Planning and Building Department along with the building permit or discretionary project permit for all new and/or reconstructed parking lots. Tree selection shall be in accordance with the provisions of the Parking Lot Shading Guidelines and the City Master Tree List; only trees identified as parking lot shade trees may be planted unless otherwise approved by the Director. The tree species should be varied, but are not required to be, throughout the parking lot. Parking lot planter design, materials, planting and irrigation details shall be as per the City Tree Planting and Maintenance Specifications and the Parking Lot Shading Guidelines.

- Sacramento, CA: 17.68.040 Tree shading requirements for parking lots.
 1. Expansion of Existing Nonconforming Parking Facilities. When a parking facility that does not comply with the shading requirement is expanded by an amount, in area or number of spaces, equal to or greater than fifty (50) percent within any continuous three-year period, the entire parking facility, including the existing area and the expansion, shall comply with the shading requirement. When a parking facility that does not comply with the shading requirement is expanded by an amount, in area or number of spaces, less than fifty (50) percent, only the expansion must comply with the shading requirement
 - 2B. Tree Shading Requirement. Trees shall be planted and maintained throughout the parking facility to ensure that, within fifteen (15) years after establishment of the parking facility, at least fifty (50) percent of the parking facility will be shaded. All planting, soil volumes and maintenance shall comply with the parking facility tree shading design and maintenance guidelines.
 - 2F. Maintenance. All trees and associated landscaping, such as shrubs and turf, planted or installed pursuant to this section shall be properly maintained for the life of the facility pursuant to the parking facility tree shading design and maintenance guidelines established by resolution of the city council as provided in this section. The maintenance obligation provided herein shall apply to all parking facilities subject to the shading requirement, whether approved prior to, contemporaneously with, or after the effective date of the parking facility tree shading design and maintenance guidelines. Any required trees or other plantings that die or are improperly maintained shall be replaced with healthy specimens of similar species and size, provided that replacement trees shall not be required to exceed forty-eight (48) inch box size. Removal and replacement of trees that have caused damage to city sidewalks or other city infrastructure shall be reviewed and approved by the city arborist prior to tree removal. (Ord. 2003-027 § 4)

- Baton Rouge, LA: Vehicular Use Area: Vehicular use areas shall be required to have a minimum of eight (8) percent of the total vehicular use area landscaped with trees, shrubs and ground cover other than turf grass. Such landscaping shall be distributed within the vehicular use area in such a manner that no parking space is further than fifty (50) feet from a Class "A" tree. Class "A" trees peripheral to the vehicular use area and in designated vehicular use area screens

may be counted if a minimum of forty (40) percent of their canopies, at maturity, can be expected to shade or overlap the vehicular use area. Such trees will not, however, be counted to either the developed site area tree requirements, the street yard planting area requirements, or the street wall planting requirements. The landscaping shall be installed accordingly:

a. For vehicular use areas of one to twenty five (25) parking spaces, one (1) Class "A" tree or two (2) Class "B" trees for every fifteen (15) parking spaces, or fraction thereof.

b. For vehicular use areas of twenty five (25) to one hundred (100) parking spaces, one (1) Class "A" tree or two (2) Class "B" trees for every twelve (12) parking spaces, or fraction thereof.

c. For vehicular use areas of over one hundred (100) parking spaces, one (1) Class "A" tree or two (2) Class "B" trees for every ten (10) parking spaces, or fraction thereof.

8. Technical requirements for the maintenance of plant materials and landscape areas shall be as follows:

a. The owner or his agent, shall be responsible for the maintenance, repair and replacement of all landscape materials as may be required by this Chapter.

b. Landscape maintenance specifications require that all landscaping shall be maintained in a sound manner and in accordance with accepted maintenance procedures as established by the Louisiana Nursery and Landscape Association.

c. All plant materials and planted areas shall be tended and maintained in a healthy growing condition;

- Salt Lake City, UT: 21A.48.070 Parking Lot Or Vehicle Sales Or Lease Lots Landscaping:

Applicability: All hard surfaced parking lots or hard surfaced vehicle sales or lease lots, for passenger cars and light trucks, with fifteen (15) or more parking spaces shall provide landscaping in accordance with the provisions of this section. Smaller parking lots shall not be required to provide landscaping other than yard area landscaping and landscaped buffer requirements as specified in other sections of this title.

1. Area Required: Not less than five percent (5%) of the interior of a parking lot or vehicle sales or lease lots shall be devoted to landscaping. Landscaping areas located along the perimeter of a parking lot or vehicle sales or lease lots beyond the curb or edge of pavement of the lot shall not be included toward satisfying this requirement.

i. Type: The primary plant materials used in parking lots or vehicle sales or lease lots shall be shade tree species in conformance with applicable provisions of subsections 21A.48.050A and B of this chapter. Ornamental trees, shrubbery, hedges, and other plants may be used to supplement the shade tree plantings, but shall not be the sole contribution to such landscaping;

ii. Quantity: One shade tree shall be provided for every one hundred twenty (120) square feet of landscaping area;

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6078

To encourage energy efficiency and conservation and development of renewable energy sources for housing, commercial structures, and other buildings, and to create sustainable communities.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 15, 2008

Mr. PERLMUTTER (for himself, Mr. HODES, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. MARKEY, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mr. KAGEN, Mr. BRALEY of Iowa, Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. WILSON of Ohio, Mr. ELLISON, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. WELCH of Vermont, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. OLVER, Mr. EMANUEL, Mr. SALAZAR, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. INSLEE, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Mr. ANDREWS, and Ms. TSONGAS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Financial Services

A BILL

To encourage energy efficiency and conservation and development of renewable energy sources for housing, commercial structures, and other buildings, and to create sustainable communities.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE AND TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

2 (a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the
 3 “Green Resources for Energy Efficient Neighborhoods Act
 4 of 2008” or the “GREEN Act of 2008”.

5 (b) **TABLE OF CONTENTS.**—The table of contents for
 6 this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title and table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Minimum HUD energy efficiency standards and standards for additional credit.
- Sec. 3. Energy efficiency and conservation demonstration program for multifamily housing projects assisted with project-based rental assistance.
- Sec. 4. Additional credit for Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac housing goals for energy efficient mortgages.
- Sec. 5. Authority of housing-related government-sponsored enterprises with respect to energy-efficient and location-efficient mortgages and reporting.
- Sec. 6. Energy-efficient mortgage and location-efficient mortgage goals for Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac.
- Sec. 7. FHA energy-efficient housing requirement.
- Sec. 8. Energy efficient mortgages education and outreach campaign.
- Sec. 9. Collection of information on energy-efficient and location efficient mortgages through Home Mortgage Disclosure Act.
- Sec. 10. Ensuring availability of homeowners insurance for homes not connected to electricity grid.
- Sec. 11. Mortgage incentives for energy-efficient multifamily housing.
- Sec. 12. Energy efficiency certifications for housing with mortgages insured by FHA.
- Sec. 13. Assisted housing energy loan program.
- Sec. 14. Making it green.
- Sec. 15. Residential energy efficiency block grant program.
- Sec. 16. Including sustainable development in comprehensive housing affordability strategies.
- Sec. 17. Grant program to increase sustainable low-income community development capacity.
- Sec. 18. Utilization of energy performance contracts in HOPE VI.
- Sec. 19. HOPE VI green developments requirement.
- Sec. 20. Community Reinvestment Act credits for energy efficient mortgages and green building efforts.
- Sec. 21. Consideration of energy-efficiency improvements in appraisals.
- Sec. 22. Assistance for Housing Assistance Council.
- Sec. 23. Rural housing and economic development assistance.
- Sec. 24. Revolving fund for loans to States and Indian tribes to carry out renewable energy sources activities.
- Sec. 25. Green banking centers.

1 which shall involve not fewer than 3 and not more than
2 5 lenders.

3 **SEC. 14. MAKING IT GREEN.**

4 (a) PARTNERSHIPS WITH TREE-PLANTING ORGANI-
5 ZATIONS.—The Secretary shall establish and provide in-
6 centives for developers of housing for which any financial
7 assistance is provided by the Secretary for development,
8 maintenance, operation, or other costs, to enter into agree-
9 ments and partnerships with tree-planting organizations,
10 nurseries, and landscapers to certify that trees, shrubs,
11 grasses, and other plants are planted in the proper man-
12 ner, are provided adequate maintenance, and survive for
13 at least three years after planting or are replaced.

14 (b) PLAN FOR ASSISTED HOUSING.—In the case of
15 any new or substantially improved housing for which fi-
16 nancial assistance is provided by the Secretary for the de-
17 velopment, construction, maintenance, rehabilitation, im-
18 provement, operation, or costs of the housing, the Sec-
19 retary shall require the development of a plan that pro-
20 vides for—

21 (1) in the case of new construction and im-
22 provements, siting of such housing and improve-
23 ments in a manner that provides for energy effi-
24 ciency and conservation to the extent feasible, taking
25 into consideration location and project type;

1 (2) not less than 50 percent of the total area
2 of paved surfaces at the site of such housing to be
3 shaded, consist of greenspace, be covered by solar
4 energy panels or greenroofs, or be part of a geo-
5 thermal piping system;

6 (3) how any construction, rehabilitation, or
7 other development will affect and minimize the ef-
8 fects of construction, rehabilitation, or other develop-
9 ment on the condition of existing trees;

10 (4) selection and installation of trees, shrubs,
11 grasses, and other plants based upon applicable de-
12 sign guidelines and standards of the International
13 Society for Arboriculture;

14 (5) post-planting care and maintenance of the
15 landscaping relating to or affected by the housing in
16 accordance with best management practices; and

17 (6) establishment of a goal for minimum
18 greenspace or tree canopy cover for the housing site
19 for which such financial assistance is provided, in-
20 cluding guidelines and timetables within which to
21 achieve compliance with such minimum require-
22 ments.

23 (c) PARTNERSHIPS.—In carrying out this section, the
24 Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall con-
25 sult with national organizations dedicated to providing

1 housing assistance and related services to low-income fam-
2 ilies, the Alliance for Community Trees and its affiliates,
3 the American Nursery and Landscape Association, the
4 American Society of Landscape Architects, and the Na-
5 tional Arbor Day Foundation, and shall take such actions
6 as are appropriate to establish, and encourage the estab-
7 lishment, of such agreements and working partnerships
8 between such organization and its affiliates and recipients
9 of assistance from the Department of Housing and Urban
10 Development for the development, maintenance, operation,
11 or costs of housing.

12 **SEC. 15. RESIDENTIAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY BLOCK GRANT**
13 **PROGRAM.**

14 Title I of the Housing and Community Development
15 Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.) is amended by add-
16 ing at the end the following new section:

17 **“SEC. 123. RESIDENTIAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY BLOCK**
18 **GRANT PROGRAM.**

19 “(a) IN GENERAL.—To the extent amounts are made
20 available for grants under this section, the Secretary of
21 Housing and Urban Development shall make grants under
22 this section to States, metropolitan cities and urban coun-
23 ties, Indian tribes, and insular areas to carry out energy
24 efficiency improvements in new and existing single-family
25 and multifamily housing.

1 dows, heating system replacements, wall insula-
2 tion, site-based generation, advanced energy
3 savings technologies, including renewable en-
4 ergy generation, and other such retrofits.

5 “(D) EXTENSION OF EXISTING CON-
6 TRACTS.—The term of a contract described in
7 subparagraph (A) that, as of the date of the en-
8 actment of the Green Resources for Energy Ef-
9 ficient Neighborhoods Act of 2008 is in repay-
10 ment and has a term of not more than 12
11 years, may be extended to a term of not more
12 than 20 years to permit additional energy con-
13 servation improvements without requiring the
14 re-procurement of energy performance contrac-
15 tors.”.

16 **SEC. 19. HOPE VI GREEN DEVELOPMENTS REQUIREMENT.**

17 (a) MANDATORY COMPONENT.—Section 24(e) of the
18 United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437v(e))
19 is amended by adding at the end the following new para-
20 graph:

21 “(4) GREEN DEVELOPMENTS REQUIREMENT.—

22 “(A) REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary may
23 not make a grant under this section to an appli-
24 cant unless the proposed revitalization plan of

1 “(II) the ability of the applicable
2 ratings system organizations to collect
3 and reflect public comment;

4 “(III) the ability of the standards
5 to be developed and revised through a
6 consensus-based process;

7 “(IV) An evaluation of the
8 robustness of the criteria for a high-
9 performance green building, which
10 shall give credit for promoting—

11 “(aa) efficient and sustain-
12 able use of water, energy, and
13 other natural resources;

14 “(bb) use of renewable en-
15 ergy sources;

16 “(cc) improved indoor and
17 outdoor environmental quality
18 through enhanced indoor and
19 outdoor air quality, thermal com-
20 fort, acoustics, outdoor noise pol-
21 lution, day lighting, pollutant
22 source control, sustainable land-
23 scaping, and use of building sys-
24 tem controls and low- or no-emis-
25 sion materials, including pref-

1 SEC. 20. COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT ACT CREDITS FOR
2 ENERGY EFFICIENT MORTGAGES AND GREEN
3 BUILDING EFFORTS.

4 Section 804 of the Community Reinvestment Act of
5 1977 (12 U.S.C. 2903) is amended by adding at the end
6 the following new subsection:

7 “(d) ENERGY EFFICIENT MORTGAGES AND GREEN
8 BUILDING EFFORTS.—

9 “(1) EVALUATION.—In assessing and taking
10 into account, under subsection (a), the record of a
11 financial institution, the appropriate Federal finan-
12 cial supervisory agency shall consider, as a factor,
13 capital investments, loan participation, and other
14 ventures undertaken by the institution to support or
15 enable—

16 “(A) the use of energy efficient and energy
17 improvement mortgages by low-income, first-
18 time, and other homebuyers;

19 “(B) compliance of housing with the en-
20 ergy efficiency requirements under section 2 of
21 the Green Resources for Energy Efficient
22 Neighborhoods Act of 2008 and with the energy
23 efficiency and conservation standards, and the
24 green building standards, under section 2(b) of
25 such Act;

1 “(C) neighborhood planning in a manner
2 that is consistent with environmental regula-
3 tions, plans, and tree ordinances;

4 “(D) green building principles that in-
5 crease the efficiency of buildings and their use
6 of energy, water, and materials, and minimize
7 building impacts on human health and the envi-
8 ronment, through better siting, design, con-
9 struction, operation, maintenance, and speci-
10 fication of materials that have no added known
11 carcinogens that are classified as Group 1
12 Known Carcinogens by the International Agen-
13 cy for Research on Cancer and whose manufac-
14 turing processes are exempt from Environ-
15 mental Protection Agency regulations limiting
16 manufacturing emissions of hazardous air pol-
17 lutants listed in section 112(b) of the Clean Air
18 Act (42 U.S.C. 7412(b)), especially hazardous
19 air pollutants that are classified as such Group
20 1 Known Carcinogens;

21 “(E) generation and distribution of renew-
22 able energy;

23 “(F) creation of employment opportunities
24 in positions that involve the design, manufac-
25 ture, installation, operation, or maintenance of

1 renewable energy and energy efficiency tech-
2 nologies and landscaping or by companies or or-
3 ganizations whose mission or purpose is to im-
4 prove environmental quality; or

5 “(G) funding for energy-conserving and
6 clean energy technologies.

7 “(2) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—To encourage
8 and facilitate activities described in subparagraphs
9 (A) through (F) of paragraph (1), each appropriate
10 Federal financial supervisory agency, the Secretary
11 of Energy, the Secretary of Housing and Urban De-
12 velopment, and the Secretary of Agriculture shall
13 make available and provide technical assistance to fi-
14 nancial institutions in carrying out or providing such
15 activities.”.

16 **SEC. 21. CONSIDERATION OF ENERGY-EFFICIENCY IM-**
17 **PROVEMENTS IN APPRAISALS.**

18 (a) APPRAISALS IN CONNECTION WITH FEDERALLY
19 RELATED TRANSACTIONS.—

20 (1) REQUIREMENT.—Section 1110 of the Fi-
21 nancial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforce-
22 ment Act of 1989 (12 U.S.C. 3339) is amended—

23 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “and” at
24 the end;

National Small Business Tree Planting Program

Public Law 101-515 directed the Administrator of the Small Business Administration (SBA) to create the National Small Business Tree Planting Program (Title 15, Chapter 14A, § 651 of the U.S. Code) and authorized \$15 million in appropriations for FY1991, and \$30 million in annual appropriations for FY1992 through FY1997. While the program was a valuable tool for small businesses, who worked in collaboration with state and local governments on development plans to utilize the funding, SBA did not have the appropriate resources necessary to administer the program.

The program provided grants to state forestry agencies to enable communities to receive funds to hire private nurseries and arborists for tree-planting projects that helped to beautify retail storefronts and rental housing and parks, turn Main Streets into Green Streets, and jump-start many municipal tree canopy initiatives. As research has shown, trees enhance community economic stability by attracting businesses and tourists.

The funds were allocated by population and resulted in hundreds of local grants. Each locality receiving funds was obligated to contract with private industry companies, such as landscapers, nurseries, arborists, and consulting foresters. Typically, local foresters worked directly with the program, approving planting plans and transferring vital technological expertise.

Unfortunately, it offered no money for the SBA to administer it, which, from everything that we can tell, is what killed the program. With minor changes, we'd like for the National Small Business Tree Planting Program to be reauthorized. The Alliance for Community Trees is pleased to offer the following suggestions for reauthorizing the legislation:

- Appropriate the program in the amount of \$30 million for each of fiscal years 2010 to 2015.
- No more than 20% of funding shall go towards administrative costs for the SBA and we assume the remainder will be passed to the states via the state foresters. The value of it going via the State Forestry agencies is that it mandates that State Foresters oversee the projects and approve them (which they'd be only too happy to do again), thus putting them in direct contact with real people in municipalities of all sizes.
- No less than 75% of remaining program funds shall go towards state-approved pass-through local contracts for tree-planting by green industry companies and non-profit organizations.

Alternatively, we could pursue organic legislation that creates the Small Business Economic Beautification Act creates a Small Business Administration (SBA) grant program that small businesses and rental complex (apartments and condominiums) operators/managers can use to beautify retail storefronts and rental housing and participate in Main Street initiatives and municipal tree canopy initiatives. The purpose of the legislation is to encourage increased shopping and more stable rental rates. Trees enhance community economic stability by attracting businesses and tourists. People linger and shop longer along tree-lined streets. 40,000 trees in commercial parking lots would induce shoppers to spend 11% more for goods and services. In addition, properties along tree-lined streets rent for higher prices and with less turnover.

SBA

- Create the Small Business Economic Beautification Program with related guidelines. Mandate that all agencies that receive federal funds from this program implement the latest Small Business Economic Beautification Program guidelines. Consultation during the development of these guidelines must be provided by Technical Advisory Committees that are composed of local planning and ISA certified arboricultural experts. Science-based tree-siting guidelines should ensure that trees are not planted in locations that will disrupt pre-existing infrastructure or damage power lines and provide options for sidewalks and signs to avoid tree and retail conflicts. The program will also create an educational campaign that highlights the synergies between trees and small business retail, and emphasizes planting the right tree in the right place.
- Designate an applicable SBA department to collect information- or fund a national NGO such as the Alliance for Community Trees to create a reporting method that includes detail such as: number of shoppers, retail sales, and existing urban forestry data related to neighborhoods and municipalities benefiting from this program. Require municipalities and other participating agencies to include an annual review that:
 - Compares retail sales with tree canopy cover.
 - Outlines a 10-year plan for including greening in economic development efforts.
 - Establishes a goal for minimum greenspace or canopy cover and timetables within which to achieve those minimums in priority-targeted economic/retail zones.
 - Designates a staff member responsible for tracking and educating intra-agency, partnering agencies, and local citizens.
- Encourage SBA to develop working partnerships that are aimed at increasing understanding of and communication with national and local urban forest organizations.
- That all municipalities or other participating agencies include a three-year plan for post-planting tree care as well as a minimum canopy cover goal for developments

targeted to benefit from this program. At minimum, trees shall be selected and installed based on appropriate International Society for Arboriculture (ISA), American Planning Association (APA), and best management practices design guidelines and industry standards. The minimum canopy cover goal shall not be less than 40%.

NOTES:

Implementation

- Create incentives that give preference to priority economic stimulus/retail zones in low-income neighborhoods(highest preference) and Tree City and Tree Line USA municipalities. One approach could be to award grants on a competitive basis, and award points for location priority. A minimum of 50% of program funds must go towards expenses for plant materials and other green infrastructure expenses including tree space preparation, irrigation, and maintenance.
- Require municipalities to give priority in awarding grants to projects that meet a verified level of existing and projected retail sales, with additional points for more rigorous standards such as tree canopy cover less than 40%.
- Require municipalities to give priority in awarding grants to projects that meet a verified level of existing and projected retail sales, with additional points for more rigorous standards such as tree canopy cover less than 40%.
- Require municipalities and other participating agencies to partner an Alliance for Community Trees certified tree-planting organization(s) who will ensure proper tree planting, maintenance, and at least three years of plant survival or replacement.

NOTES:

Funding

- Incentives may be loans or grants to states or municipalities. Administered by the Small Business Administration.
- Establish a federal revolving loan fund for greening-economic development partnerships, and/or offer a federal match to municipalities with revolving loan funds for such projects.
- Require a cost sharing match of 80/20 (federal to state/municipal/other non-Federal funds).
- As part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, States have until June 17, 2009 to solicit green projects for the State Revolving Loan Funds unless at least 20% of their intended use plans are already green projects. "Green projects" is defined per EPA. No state match is required (never any project level match)

NOTES:

Partners & Other General Policy Ideas

- Expand criteria under the Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) to encourage investments in green community redevelopment efforts. Integrated neighborhood planning and efforts that promote the creation of green collar jobs should all receive specific and additional credits in compliance with the CRA.
- Senators Kerry and Snowe have previous bills directed at helping SBA that may align well.
- Preliminary outreach to the US Conference of Mayors and American Nursery & Landscape Association indicates that they'd be willing to voice support for this program again. ANLA is pursuing having this administered by the USFS and even NUCFAC.
- New York State, including New York City, greatly benefited from this program. Since the original funds were allocated by population, New York State received a generous amount each year. The NYS Department of Environmental Conservation approved hundreds of local grants, using approximately \$4 million under the program until it was discontinued.

- Potential Partners and Models:
 - Scott Jamieson alerted Greater North Michigan Avenue Association (GNMAA) in Chicago to Kathy Wolf’s research. They have since used it to realize that plantings and trees in their retail district drives business. They even created a garden event on the Avenue to bring people into downtown to enjoy world class shopping among the trees and landscape beds lining the streets.
 - Retailers in Chicago paid into a fund to help supplement the care of the streetscapes in the city. Scott Jamieson says that a special tax was implemented to make sure it was happening. Also, vigorous fundraising was done to create private funding for the streetscapes. Their biggest worries were planters and landscapes that would go unmaintained when funding dried up. So far this hasn’t happened.
 - Main Street USA program would be an ideal fit to partner with to gain support from mayors.
 - US Conference of Mayors would probably be willing to voice support in some way for SBA grants, unless it is perceived to conflict with other small business initiatives they care about. The benefit is that it is free grant money for business district improvements, goes to the States, and then local government, nonprofits, and downtown business associations can apply for the SBA grants from the State Forestry Agency.
 - American Nursery and Landscape Association, since the SBA grants create funding for plant purchase, contract services etc.
 - <http://www.stateforesters.org/node/666>
 - <http://openlibrary.org/b/OL1986617M/Small-Business-Natural-Resource-Development-and-Employment-Opportunity-Act--H.R.-4123>
 - http://books.google.com/books?id=37cVAAAAIAAJ&source=gbs_View_API&pgis=1

NOTES:

Green Jobs Task Force

The Green Jobs Task Force seeks a Department of Labor (DOL) grant program that nonprofit greening organizations can apply for to create jobs. The purpose of the legislation is to create jobs in the green industry and put the “green” back into green jobs. The green industry is an annual \$40 billion market and growing. Developing a workforce to keep pace is becoming more critical to our economic every day.

Green solutions to stormwater management and reducing urban heat island effect are cost-effective strategies now, and will only become more important as global warming consequences like more intense rains and higher average temperatures become the norm. In addition, studies have proven the social and health benefits of increased greenery in an urban context.

Green collar jobs are family-supporting jobs that contribute significantly to preserving or enhancing environmental quality. This includes jobs such as greenroof installation and maintenance, tree care/arboriculture, brownfield remediation, urban forestry design and maintenance, wetland/estuary restoration, and stream bank stabilization.

DOL

- Create the Green Jobs Program with related guidelines. Mandate that all agencies that receive federal funds from this program implement the latest Green Jobs Program guidelines. Consultation during the development of these guidelines must be provided by Technical Advisory Committees that are composed of local green jobs providers.
- Provide incentives for greening organization to establish job training programs aimed at “repairing the whole person” by assisting and preparing individuals into work in a green industry.
- Create public-private partnerships to build and expand workforce development programs. Look to quasi-governmental organizations such as state urban forestry councils to fill this role.
- Designate an applicable DOL department to collect information- or fund a national NGO such as the Alliance for Community Trees to create a reporting method that includes detail such as: cost to run program per individual, nationwide labor market data on the green industries workforce needs, trends, and job growth, existing urban forestry data related to neighborhoods and municipalities benefiting from this program. Require states and other participating agencies to include an annual review that:
 - Compares the number of jobs created, state/municipal unemployment rate, tree canopy cover, and other relevant metrics.
 - Outlines a 10-year plan for identifying and linking green collar job opportunities with state workforce development training outreach opportunities.

- Designates a staff member responsible for tracking and educating intra-agency, partnering agencies, and local citizens.
- Encourage DOL to develop working partnerships that are aimed at increasing understanding of and communication with national and local urban forest organizations.

NOTES:

Implementation

- Create incentives that give preference to specific populations such as at-risk youth, displaced workers, formerly incarcerated individuals, and others facing barriers to employment. One approach could be to award grants on a competitive basis, and award points for location priority.
- Require states to give priority in awarding grants to organizations that work with high percentages of at-risk youth, displaced workers, formerly incarcerated individuals, and others facing barriers to employment, with additional points for more rigorous standards such as school absences due to asthma and hospital admissions and mortalities due to air quality.
- Establish incentives for community development corporations, social work programs, and prisons to participate. In some ways, social issues are more of a challenge than actually finding a job. For example, the challenges of re-entering the job force include learning how to get to work on time, manage transportation logistics, and issues presenting at home. It is necessary to make sure that support is available in this green collar jobs program.
- Require participating states to revise their workforce development agency guidelines to waive nonprofit greening organizations from needing an educational license, or at minimum stipulate reasonable requirements by which nonprofit greening organizations may obtain a state educational license. In the case of the latter, states shall also designate how many and what type of educational credits are to be awarded for individuals completing said training program.

NOTES:

Funding

- Incentives may be loans or grants to states or municipalities. Administered by Department of Labor.
- Estimating that this program will cost \$1,000 – 5,000 per person in print materials and staff time.
- Establish a federal revolving loan fund for public-private green collar jobs partnerships, and/or offer a federal match to municipalities with revolving loan funds for such projects.
- Require a cost sharing match of 80/20 (federal to state/municipal/other non-Federal funds).

NOTES:

Other General Policy Ideas

- Green Jobs Act of 2007: Authorized in 2007, this federal program will pay for 30,000 people a year to get training in green trades - like solar panel installation and home weatherization.
- Establish a training facility in each state that trains the future green employees that businesses, governments, and nonprofits can hire from directly.
- Could also be a Department of Justice program, especially if focusing on post-release, ex-offenders, or neighborhoods heavily impacted by a large post-release population or high unemployment.
- This could fit as an extension of AmeriCorps.

- Expand criteria under the Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) to encourage investments in green community redevelopment efforts. Integrated neighborhood planning and efforts that promote the creation of green collar jobs should all receive specific and additional credits in compliance with the CRA.

- Potential Partners and Models:
 - Sustainable South Bronx
 - Chicago’s GreenCorps
 - Green-Collar Cities: Has helped elected officials and grassroots activists create green-collar jobs in numerous cities, including Seattle, Atlanta, and Newark.
 - Green For All Academy: In partnership with Al Gore's Alliance for Climate Protection, our Green For All Academy will be training hundreds of grassroots advocates (most from disadvantaged communities) for a green-collar economy.
 - Senate Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee Hearing (5/21/08) to examine efforts to create jobs with climate solutions, focusing on the ways agriculture and forestry can help lower costs in a low-carbon economy.
 - Clean Energy Corps: Working to propose a new federal program called the Clean Energy Corps for America. This \$30 billion initiative would put 600,000 people to work retrofitting millions of buildings, so that the structures waste less energy. Paid for by an innovative revolving loan fund, the program would capture subsequent savings in energy costs and essentially pay for itself.

NOTES:



Arboreal Energy Efficiency Tax Credit

Besides the obvious aesthetic contribution made by trees in the managed landscape, trees offer environmental and consumer cost savings that actually **increase** in value and return on investment over time. A report by the U.S. Department of Energy (DoE) entitled, “Landscaping for Energy Efficiency” states that, “carefully positioned trees can save up to 25% of a household’s energy consumption for heating and cooling.” This research, which warranted the inclusion of “landscaping” into the DoE’s “Consumer’s Guide to Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy,” predicted that the proper placement of only three trees could save an American household up to \$250 in energy costs annually, providing enough energy savings to return the investment in less than 8 years.

While American consumers are incentivized to purchase energy efficient appliances and building materials for new and existing homes through federal tax credits, similar incentives do not yet exist for energy-efficient landscaping. We believe that there is an opportunity to promote a low-cost, natural solution to energy efficiency that requires virtually no energy consumption, that does not produce carbon emissions, and does not experience a sustained decline in efficiency or productivity over its life-cycle but rather provides increasing contribution over time. A solution that has a positive impact on the environment and has been demonstrated to increase the value of a home. The solution? Provide homeowners with an energy efficiency tax credit for planting a properly-sited, site-appropriate tree.

How Energy Savings Are Achieved

According to the U.S. Department of Energy, an eight-foot, deciduous shade tree costs about as much as an awning for one large window, and can ultimately save a household hundreds of dollars in reduced cooling costs, yet still admit winter sunshine to reduce heating and lighting costs. The “Landscaping for Energy Efficiency” report states that a well-planned landscape can reduce an unshaded home’s summer air-conditioning costs by as much as 50%.

A 6-foot to 8-foot (1.8-meter to 2.4-meter) deciduous tree planted near a home will begin shading windows the first year. Depending on the species and the home, the tree will shade the roof in 5–10 years. Shading an air conditioning unit can increase its efficiency by as much as 10%.”

- During the summer, shading and evapotranspiration (the process by which a plant actively moves and releases water vapor) from trees can reduce surrounding air temperatures as much as 9 degrees Fahrenheit. Because cool air settles near the ground, air temperatures directly under trees can be as much as 25 degrees Fahrenheit cooler than air temperatures above nearby black top.
- In the winter, dense evergreen trees and shrubs can serve as a windbreak to lower the wind chill near a home. One study in South Dakota found that windbreaks to the north, west and east of houses cut winter fuel consumption by 40%. DoE, through its research, found that houses with windbreaks planted on the windward side averaged 25% less fuel consumption than similar, unprotected homes.

The Environmental Benefits of Tree Planting

The environmental benefits of a well managed landscape, and the ecosystems service benefits provided by trees in particular, are well documented. The environmental value of a single tree, in monetary terms, has been documented by the USDA Forest Service. USDA Forest Service Pamphlet #R1-92-100 states that “over a 50 year lifetime, a tree generates \$31,250 of oxygen, provides \$62,000 worth of air pollution control, recycles \$37,500 worth of water and controls \$31,250 worth of soil erosion.”

The Alliance for Community Trees has compiled government research and discovered that:

- Planting one million trees would equal \$3.5 million in annual storm water runoff control costs. Tree canopies and root systems provide a natural filter to our water supply and reduce storm water runoff, flooding and erosion;
- Planting one million trees would equal \$5 million in annual air pollution clean-up costs. Tree foliage reduces particulate matter from the air, including dust, micro-sized metals and pollutants such as ozone, nitrogen oxides, ammonia and sulfur dioxides. Trees sequester carbon dioxide and produce oxygen. Combined with the cooling effect of trees, these processes can have a significant impact on reducing smog and overall air pollution. Every 40 trees removes 80 lbs. of air pollutants annually.

The “REAL” (Estate) Value of Trees

Real estate experts understand the benefits of landscaping in terms of enhancing “curb appeal” for a home that is for sale, and for good reason. In research conducted by the Gallup Organization, it was discovered that landscaping can add between 7% and 15% to the value of a home. Money Magazine has reported that landscaping can bring a recovery value of 100 to 200 percent at selling time. This is in comparison to kitchen remodeling, which brings a 75 to 125 percent recovery rate; bathroom remodeling, a 20 to 120 percent recovery rate; and addition of a swimming pool, a 20 to 50 percent recovery rate. Additional studies indicate that landscaping also speeds the sale of a home by four to six weeks.

As a part of the landscape, a mature tree itself has substantial monetary value for the homeowner. As was reported in REALTOR Magazine, Horticultural Asset Management, who assesses the value of landscape plants, puts the worth of a healthy, 60-foot-tall European beech tree at \$50,000. The USDA Forest Service’s Center for Urban Forest Research has found that a single front yard tree is equals a 1% increase in the sale price of a home.

Policy Recommendation

Directly incentivizing the American consumer to invest in energy-efficient landscaping has the dual benefit of educating the public about the environmental benefits of trees, while allowing a homeowner to realize substantial monetary benefits at the time a home is sold and cost-savings from increased energy efficiency. Meanwhile the neighborhood and community enjoy the environmental and public health benefit of planting a site-appropriate tree. Since the precedent for a tree planting tax credit has already been established for private landowners (Federal Reforestation Tax Credit), industry is comfortable recommending a tree planting tax credit for American homeowners, especially given

consideration to the positive environmental and economic impact during the current economic condition.

ANLA is pleased to offer the following recommendations:

- ANLA recommends providing an energy efficiency tax credit for planting a site-appropriate, properly sited tree at a homeowner's primary residence.
- ANLA recommends that the costs for installation of a tree are included, so that the homeowner has the option of hiring a horticultural services professional to ensure that a tree is appropriately sited to ensure maximum energy efficiency benefits.
- ANLA recommends that only trees of a minimum height (established by the Department of Energy's research as between 6 and 8 feet for the purposes of shading, and a minimum of 3 feet tall for the purposes of providing a windbreak) are eligible, as research has proven that more mature trees will have an immediate impact on energy efficiency and a far greater chance of survival and sustainability than a seedling.
- Finally, ANLA suggests that any arboreal energy efficiency tax credit legislation could be named the "Trees for Reliable Energy Efficiency and Sustainability (TREES) Act of 2009."



Green Infrastructure Summit and Urban Trees Forum

May 14-15, 2009
The Methodist Building
100 Maryland Avenue, N.E.
Washington, DC

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

NANCY ARAZAN

ORISE Fellow, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Nancy Arazan joined EPA's inter-office Green Infrastructure team in August 2008, where she works on regulatory stormwater issues in the Water Permits Division. As the Outreach, Training, and Demonstration Coordinator for green infrastructure efforts, Ms. Arazan works with EPA regions, states, and municipalities to promote the use of green infrastructure to manage wet weather. Ms. Arazan holds a Bachelors degree in Natural Resources and Environmental Science (Univ. of Illinois), and Masters degrees in both Environmental Policy and Water Resources (Indiana University).

FAITH BAKER

Associate Director of the Community Capacity Development Office, Department of Justice

Faith A. Baker currently serves as the Associate Director at the Department of Justice, Community Capacity Development Office, Weed and Seed Initiative. Since 1997, Ms. Baker has work for Weed and Seed in a variety of capacities, starting as a Grants Program Specialist. She later became Special Assistant to the Director for Grants Management before assuming the role as Acting Deputy Director in 2004, then the Associate Director in 2007. For a decade, Ms. Baker has coordinated national and local partnerships with police departments, community groups and service providers under the Weed and Seed Initiative. Her strong advocacy of building law enforcement relations with the community have given her a comprehensive understanding of public safety policy disciplines as related to law enforcement and community policing program requirements. Though Faith has spent the majority of her professional career working at the Department of Justice, she worked and interned at the Trudie Wallace Halfway House for Women in Washington, D.C. She provided oversight to nearly twenty-five incarcerated women. Faith also worked at the Department of Veterans Affairs, Human Resources Office, for four years while pursuing her Bachelor's degree and received numerous Unsung Hero and commendation awards. Ms. Baker received her bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from Howard University and her Masters of Public Administration from Southeastern University in Washington, D.C.

DANIELLE BAUSSAN

Majority Counsel, Select Committee on Energy and Global Warming

Danielle Baussan is Majority Counsel for the Select Committee on Energy and Global Warming, where she focuses on state and local environmental initiatives, sustainable development, aviation and alternative fuels. Prior to joining the Select Committee, she was the Director of Government Affairs for the Anacostia Waterfront Corporation in Washington DC, a sustainable economic redevelopment initiative in one of Washington D.C.'s most underserved areas. A graduate of Rutgers College and University of Virginia Law School, she has also served the District of Columbia government as a Capital City Fellow and health and environmental policy advisor under former D.C. Mayor Anthony Williams.

REP. EARL BLUMENAUER

U.S. Representative from Oregon

Congressman Earl Blumenauer represents Oregon's 3rd Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives. A lifelong resident of Portland, Oregon, Mr. Blumenauer has devoted his entire career to public service. He received undergraduate and law degrees from Lewis and Clark College, and served three terms in the Oregon Legislature before being elected to the Portland City Council in 1986. His 10-year tenure as the Commissioner of Public Works demonstrated his leadership on accomplishments in transportation, planning, environmental programs, and public





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participation that helped Portland earn its reputation as one of America's most livable cities. Elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1996, Blumenauer serves a unique role as Congress' chief spokesperson for Livable Communities: places where people are safe, healthy and economically secure. He served on both the International Relations Committee and the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, where he was a strong advocate for federal policies addressing transportation alternatives, housing choices, sustainable economies, and the environment. Now a member of the Ways and Means Committee and the Budget Committee, Blumenauer also serves as Vice Chair of the Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming.

NANCY BULEY

Marketing and Communications Director, J. Frank Schmidt & Son Co

Nancy Buley is Marketing and Communications Director for J. Frank Schmidt & Son Co, wholesale tree growers of Boring, Oregon. A former newspaper reporter and freelance journalist, she is an active member of Garden Writers of America and regularly contributes articles to nursery trade publications. She was elected an Honorary Lifetime Member of the American Society of Landscape Architects in 2004. Ms. Buley has served as Chair of the marketing committees of the Oregon Association of Nurseries and the American Nursery & Landscape Association. She currently serves on the board of directors of Friends of Trees, Portland's non-profit tree planting organization. Trees have a way of following her home, where she gardens beneath an ever-widening canopy of shade.

ANNE CANBY

President, Surface Transportation Policy Partnership

Anne Canby serves as President of the Surface Transportation Policy Partnership (STPP), a national advocacy coalition for transportation reform. She served as Delaware's transportation secretary from 1993 to 2001 and is recognized nationally as a progressive leader in the transportation field for transforming a traditional highway agency into a multimodal mobility provider and as an advocate for integrating land-use and transportation planning. Prior to serving in this post, Ms. Canby lead a consulting practice focusing on institutional and management issues. She has served as the Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Transportation, Treasurer of the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority, and Deputy Assistant Secretary of the U. S. Department of Transportation. She sits on the executive committee of the Transportation Research Board and is on the Board of the Mineta Transportation Institute. She is a member of the Urban Land Institute, the Institute of Transportation Engineers, and the Women's Transportation Seminar. Ms. Canby received the 2006 Carey Distinguished Service Award for outstanding leadership and service to transportation research and to the Transportation Research Board.

DEBORAH COHEN, M.D., MPH

Senior Natural Scientist, RAND Corporation

Dr. Deborah Cohen (MD, University of Pennsylvania, MPH, UCLA, Yale, BA) is a researcher in the area of the built environment and health, and is the co-author of "Prescription for a Healthy Nation, A new approach to improving our lives by fixing our everyday world," published by Beacon Press. She is Board Certified in Public Health and Preventive Medicine and currently a Senior Natural Scientist at the RAND Corporation. She previously served on the faculty at Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center and at the University of Southern California Medical School. Most recently her research studies have been focused in on the role of the built





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environment in physical activity and dietary behaviors, but she has also done extensive work in STD/HIV control and alcohol policy. She has served on several advisory panels for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and was a Fulbright Senior Scholar in Brazil. She is the Principal Investigator of several studies to assess how local neighborhoods influence dietary behaviors and how parks influence physical activity.

COREY J. CONNORS

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Corey J. Connors is Director of Legislative Relations for the American Nursery & Landscape Association (ANLA), the Washington, DC based trade association representing over 1,800 firms who grow, sell, and use landscape plants. He is responsible for overseeing ANLA's legislative advocacy program in several areas including the Farm Bill, the environment, sustainability, tax and small business issues. Before joining the ANLA staff, Mr. Connors was Government Relations Manager for the International Association of Amusement Parks and Attractions. He has also served on the staffs of U.S. Senator John McCain (R-AZ) and City of Pittsburgh Mayor Luke Ravenstahl (D-PA). A native of Pittsburgh, PA, Mr. Connors received a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Clarion University in 2000, and a Master of Arts in Political Management from the George Washington University in 2003.

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Ashley Futrell is the Senior Public Policy Manager at the National Recreation and Parks Association. Futrell worked as the youngest Legislative Director in the United States House of Representatives for Congressman Henry Cuellar (TX-28). Ms. Futrell has worked for the legislative staffs of Representatives Kathy Castor of Florida and Anthony Weiner of New York; the legislative affairs office of the Office of Management and Budget in the Executive Office of the President of the United States; and Senator John McCain's staff of the U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation. Ashley was active in her hometown of Toledo, Ohio, as a board member for the City of Toledo Board of Community Relations and the City of Toledo Youth Commission. Ms. Futrell received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Law and Society and a Certificate of Advanced Leadership Studies from the School of Public Affairs at American University. She is currently a candidate for the Master of Arts in Government Program at Johns Hopkins University with a concentration in Political Communication.

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Green Infrastructure Summit and Urban Trees Forum

May 14-15, 2009
The Methodist Building
100 Maryland Avenue, N.E.
Washington, DC

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Vice President, Econosult Corporation

Kevin C. Gillen, Ph.D. is Vice President of Econosult Corporation and an urban economist with special expertise in Philadelphia area real estate markets. His research in urban economics appears in numerous publications and is cited in various policy applications and has been cited extensively in the Philadelphia Inquirer, the Philadelphia Daily News, and Philadelphia Magazine. Dr. Gillen received his PhD in Applied Economics from the Wharton School of The University of Pennsylvania, and received both the U.S. Department of Housing & urban Development dissertation award and Lincoln Land Institute Fellowship. He retains his affiliations with The University of Pennsylvania as a research fellow in its Institute for Urban Research, through which he publishes his quarterly report on the current state of Philadelphia's housing and condominium markets.

DENNIS GREENHOUSE

Director, Department of Justice Community Capacity Development Office

Dennis Greenhouse was named the Director of the Community Capacity Development Office (CCDO) at the Department of Justice in 2006. Mr. Greenhouse had been the Deputy Director of the Office for Victims of Crimes (OVC). He has served as the Principal Deputy Director of the office of Community Oriented Policing Services at the Department of Justice; he has been the Acting Deputy Director of the Bureau of State and Local Affairs for the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy. Prior to that, he held public office for fourteen years. From 1989 to 1997, Mr. Greenhouse was the elected County Executive of the most populous county in Delaware, serving two-thirds of the residents of the state. From 1983 to 1989 he held the post of Delaware State Auditor. During his tenure with the Federal Government, Mr. Greenhouse has brought his concept of partnership to local, state, and tribal entities and the faith community. He has been honored for his service by community and law enforcement groups. A graduate of Fairleigh Dickinson University in Teaneck, New Jersey, Mr. Greenhouse had a career in finance before his election to public office. Mr. Greenhouse and his wife Elizabeth reside in Rockville, Maryland.

GUY W. HAGER

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Guy W. Hager is Director of Great Parks, Clean Streams & Green Communities at Parks & People Foundation in Baltimore, MD. Mr. Hager obtained his Masters Degree in Public Administration in Urban Affairs from American University in Washington, DC, in 1974, and served in the U.S. Navy and later in the Naval Reserve after retiring as a Lieutenant. Mr. Hager has extensive experience as an Urban Planner, Policy Analyst, Project Manager and Public Administrator. His prior positions include project management for the National Wildlife Federation and National Research Council. He has served as Executive Director of the Baltimore Regional Council of Governments, Director of the Department of Planning and Zoning for Harford County, and Chief of the Administrative Services Division, Department of Public Works for Howard County.

ZACHARY HILL

Manager of Federal Government Affairs, Alliant Energy

Zack Hill is Manager of Federal Government Affairs at Alliant Energy. He received a degree from Indiana University – Bloomington in 2001. He joins Alliant after most recently serving as Junior Lobbyist for We Energies (2006-2008). Previous to that, he worked in Congressman Ted Strickland's congressional office (2001-2002) and handled Rep. Tammy Baldwin's energy / environmental issues (2002-2006).





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TreeVitalize Program Manager, Pennsylvania Horticultural Society Philadelphia Green Program

Michael Leff is TreeVitalize Program Manager for the Philadelphia Green program at the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society. Launched by the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources in 2004, TreeVitalize is a partnership to restore tree cover in the region. The program is managed by PHS here in Southeast PA and is now being launched in several other metro areas across the state. Mr. Leff embarked upon his current environmental path in 2001, in a mid-life career correction after 20 years in consumer communications and publishing. He spent that first summer as a seasonal worker at Longwood Gardens before heading for Awbury Arboretum in Germantown, where he served as land manager for several years. Following a stint as watershed program manager at the Pennsylvania Environmental Council, Mr. Leff had the good fortune to join the Philadelphia Green team, where he inherited the responsibilities of TreeVitalize Program Manager in January 2008.

JARED LIU

Director of Programs, Alliance for Community Trees

As Director of Programs, Jared coordinates grants, policy, and communications. He joins ACT after most recently working for a U.S. Senator. In addition to more than five years experience on the Hill and in policy circles overseeing budgeting and political field operations, he brings knowledge of banking, audit/compliance, and inner-city education. His passions for the outdoors and conservation carried him to Bowdoin College and the Appalachian Mountain Club, and continue to guide his beliefs of stewardship and planned growth. He enjoys walking to work with his daughter, Rosie.

NEELAM R. PATEL

Program Manager, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Neelam R. Patel is the program manager for US EPA's Heat Island Reduction Program and co-manager of EPA's Local Government Climate and Energy Program. She has been with EPA for five years, and has experience across the Agency including ocean and coastal protection, enforcement and compliance, and intergovernmental relations at the local, territorial and international level. Before joining EPA, Ms. Patel taught high school Chemistry, Earth and Physical Science at Detroit Public Schools premier college preparatory high school. During her transition from teaching to environmental work, Neelam traveled overseas to conduct a program evaluation for water conservation and harvesting techniques in Indian earthquake-devastated agricultural villages. She holds a Bachelor's degree in chemistry from Michigan State University and a Master's degree in environmental science with a policy emphasis from American University.

LILLY SHOUP

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Ms. Shoup has more than 5 years experience working on federal transportation policy, in both the public and private sector. At Transportation For America, she leads research projects and policy analysis of federal programs on a variety of topics, including the Congestion Management and Air Quality Program (CMAQ), the Transportation Enhancements Program, and State climate change plans. Ms. Shoup graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with





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Sam Stefanki is on the staff for Representative Doris Matsui (CA-5) and is a Legislative Assistant for issues concerning: Veterans' Affairs, Military issues, Child/Family issues, Health, Foreign Policy, the Environment, Medicare/Medicaid, and Animal Rights. He started working with Rep. Matsui on her first day in office as a junior legislative aide.

RAY TRETHERWAY

Executive Director, Sacramento Tree Foundation

Ray Tretheway is Executive Director of the Sacramento Tree Foundation and also a City of Sacramento Councilmember. Mr. Tretheway has a long history with nonprofit organizations, including the Natomas Alliance for Community Trees, California ReLeaf, Urban Forest Building Community, Natomas Habitat Conservancy, and is serving his 16th year as Executive Director for the Sacramento Tree Foundation. Mr. Tretheway is a graduate of Mira Loma High School and University of California Santa Cruz, with a BA in Environmental Studies/Anthropology. He is a Master Gardener, Greenprint founder, and recognized urban forest leader.

JEFF WILLIAMS

Manager, Corporate Environmental Initiatives, Entergy Corporation

Jeff Williams is a Manager, Corporate Environmental Initiatives for Entergy Corporation. In that capacity he plays an important role helping Entergy manage carbon risk and execute future sustainable growth opportunities. Mr. Williams has been a strong advocate for taking proactive, responsible action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and has stressed the importance of creating innovative, efficient market mechanisms for achieving cost effective greenhouse gas reductions.

KATHLEEN L. WOLF, Ph.D.

Research Social Scientist, College of Forest Resources, University of Washington

Dr. Kathleen L. Wolf is a Research Social Scientist at the College of Forest Resources, University of Washington, and does research in environmental psychology. She has worked professionally as a landscape architect and as an environmental planner. Since receiving her Ph.D. from the University of Michigan, Dr. Wolf has worked to better understand the human dimensions of urban forestry and urban ecosystems. She is also interested in the integration of scientific information in policy and planning. She is a member of the Washington Urban & Community Forestry Council, and the Environmental Design Research Association. Information about her research can be found at: www.cfr.washington.edu/research.envmind





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