



# 2015 Sustainability Summit: Improving Our Air Quality November 6, 2015 Kentucky Center for African American Heritage Afternoon Breakout Session Notes Track 1: Buildings

# **Question 1 (Strengths)**

Top 3 strengths shared at report-out

- 1. Financial incentives often are available (ePAD, other rebates)
- 2. Community Activism
- 3. Leadership (corporate, metro)

### All provided strengths:

- EPAD is now an option- enables further investment otherwise not possible
- Financial incentives (rebates, EPAD) to operating a building more efficienctly
- Community action is prevalent
- Leadership in place and commercial commitment
- Culture of sharing-close network enables rapid action
- Active non profit community
- Intellectual resources-university, corporate, etc
- Corporate presence and involvement in the community
- Most Louisvillians know we have an air pollution problem
- Plentiful, affordable housing/commercial stock
- Mayor & Metro government supports sustainability agenda
- Existing established organizations and local gov't Office of Sustainability
- Universities are providing research and exposing students to green careers
- Utility rebates and incentives are available
- Community grass roots movement and consumption control
- Minimize energy consumption w/reuse of existing buildings

### **Question 2 (Challenges)**

Top 3 challenges shared at report-out

- 1. Low energy rates
- 2. Not a priority
- 3. Marketing promotes ignorance

### All provide challenges:

• Putting infrastructure needs ahead of environmental

- Ensure equal representation at the sustainability discussion table (academic, corp etc)
- Not knowing how to prioritize initiatives to be impactful
- Lack of financing source to make improvements possible/affordable
- Lack of consistant metrics
- Apathy due to cheap energy
- Low energy rates (prolong paybacks)
- Culture
- Government politics
- Povery
- Not a community priority
- Cornerstone 2020 doesn't mention sustainability
- Perceived cost to high
- · Lack of demand
- Money and resources(awareness of)
- More likely to build new vs renovate (Cost is a factor)
- Lack of regulations to enforce energy efficiencies, updating building infrastructure, etc

### **Question 3 (Short-Term Actions)**

Top 3 short term actions shared at report-out

- 1. Incentives
- 2. Education
- 3. Regulation & Codes

### All short term actions:

- Offer financial incentives
- Incentivize air positive actions for business and citizens
- Raise awareness about 30% tax incentive on solar panels-expires end of 2016
- Modify building code to require extended measurement verification
- Indoor air quality rating-social pressure
- Create an idea bank for philanthropic giving to sustainability building projects
- Raise awareness of successful projects as guide for others to follow
- Enable and promote EPAD and other incentives, esp for multi-family, esp low income
- Offer tax credit for building owners who meet energy star requirements
- Fund Metro Louisville Affordable Housing Trust via a dependable mechanism
- Contribute to the revision of Cornerstone 2020 plan to include Sustainability
- Fund organizations that are raising awareness
- Public Education-community engagement
- Locally adopt green and energy conservation codes
- Focus on present initiatives (Solar over Louisville) (Pilot Sustainability district)

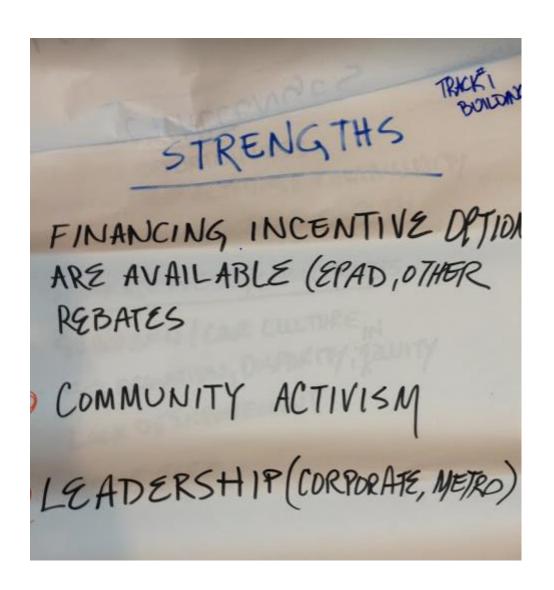
# **Question 4 (Long Term Actions)**

Top 3 long term actions shared at report-out

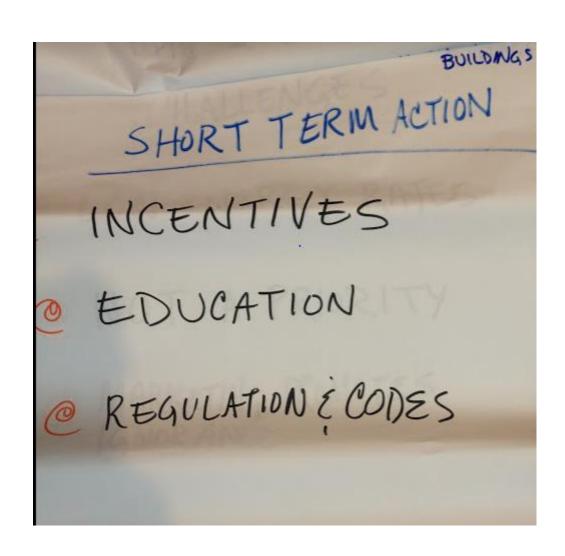
- 1. Performance (Goals, Tracking, metrics, etc.)
- 2. Reporting data, info sharing, recognition
- 3. Education that sets expectations

# All long term actions:

- City provide incentives for structural and financial benefits of green roofs
- Create financial infrastructure to assist people/businesses
- Establish a 2030 benchmark and goal-Relative to other cities
- Create a forum for sharing best practices in air quality
- Use technology to provide easier access to local air quality info (on residential basis)
- New building and retrofit green infrastructure incentives and requirements
- Create a building "scorecard" to help lead demand for air quality improvements-Like a local green label.
- Offer incentives for (if not compel) new developments to meet LEED ND Standards
- Require commercial buildings owners to provide Energy Star scores to would be lessers and buyers
- Quantify and model the emissions connected to energy use in a high profile location-such as average home or restaurant
- Educate the next generation about green building technology
- Continue education to change/shift culture
- Evaluate current air quality in buildings on regular basis
- Continue green/energy concurrency
- Use more "clean/green" energy in our buildings and home
- Renovate existing buildings
- Portfolio standards, mandate "green" energy production by utility companies



# CHALLENGES LOW ENERGY RATES NOT A PRIORITY @ MARKETING PROMOTES IGNORANCE @ COMMUNITY NEEDS DON'T ALIGN W/ CLEAN AIR



LONG TERM ACTION PERFORMANCE GOALS, TRACKING, METRICS,. REPORTING DATA, INFOSHARING RECOGNITION EXPECTATIONS THAT SETS