

# SUSTAINABILITY SCOOP

October 2011 • Volume 1 • Issue 9

## Happy Fall!!!

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## A Partnership for Sustainable Communities

The Partnership for Sustainable Communities was formed in June 2009 as a joint effort by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to help communities nationwide improve access to affordable housing, increase transportation options, and lower transportation costs while protecting the environment. The Partnership for Sustainable Communities works to coordinate federal housing, transportation, water and other infrastructure investments to make neighborhoods more prosperous, allow people to live closer to jobs, save households time and money and reduce pollution.

The partnership agencies incorporate six principles of livability into federal funding programs, policies, and future legislative proposals.

In 2011 the Partnership for Sustainable Communities will focus on four areas in order to move forward implementing the Livability Principles. In doing so the Sustainable Communities will provide more transportation choices, promote affordable housing, enhance economic competitiveness, support existing communities, coordinate and leverage federal policies and investment, value communities and neighborhoods and continue to build on the work which had begun in 2009 and 2010. The four areas are:

- ✿ Emphasize the connection between sustainable communities and job creation, economic growth, and redevelopment.
- ✿ Continue to cultivate and support communities adopting and implementing livability principles.
- ✿ Provide communities with faster, more streamlined access to Partnership programs.
- ✿ Leverage new partners to make Federal programs work better for communities.

For more information visit <http://www.sustainablecommunities.gov/index.html>.



## And So It Stands – Bulbs Will Be More Efficient

In July, the House tried to repeal the Light Bulb Law but were defeated. The new light standards will stand as there.

So what are the new light bulb standards? The new standards will require most light bulbs to be 25 to 30% more efficient by the year 2014 and at least 60% more efficient by 2020.

According to the news release (see <http://www.nytimes.com/2011/07/16/business/house-votes-to-withhold-funding-for-light-bulb-law.html>), traditional incandescent light bulbs use only about 10% the energy they consume to produce light and the other 90% is wasted energy. Additionally, this invention is now 130 years old. Although it has yet to be determined which bulb will take the lead as the alternative there are now several choices: halogen incandescent bulbs, compact fluorescent light and light-emitting diode (LED).



*“When we build, let us build as if it would last forever”*

-John Ruskin 19<sup>th</sup> Century English author, poet & artist



## Sustainable Long Island Gets Good News – Redeveloping Closed Auto Dealerships

The Citi Foundation awarded Sustainable Long Island a \$45,000 grant to support the redevelopment of closed auto-dealership corridors in four low-to-moderate income communities across Long Island in July 2011.

*“This generous grant will help initiate neighborhood revitalization within the communities looking to spur economic growth through job creation, curb sprawl and add to their tax base,”* said Ruth Negron-Gaines, Board President of Sustainable Long Island. *“The reuse of these closed corridors can spark redevelopment opportunities for surrounding properties serving as a catalyst for a community-wide resurgence with preventing leaks to continue.”*

The money received from the Citi Foundation is anticipated to be used to conduct a comprehensive regulatory scan to identify barrier redevelopment of closed auto-dealership corridors; determine local, state and federal agencies necessary for redevelopment of these properties; and

identify the preliminary environmental challenges, community priorities, and redevelopment opportunities in the private market.

*“Promoting neighborhood revitalization is an important element of Citi’s commitment to community development,”* said Pat Edwards, Vice President of Citi. *“We are pleased to facilitate this important analysis by Sustainable Long Island, which will help lay the groundwork for positive development.”*

Sustainable Long Island also states in their news release of the currently closed auto-dealerships on Long Island, approximately 25% are located in low-to-moderate income communities. Using an area-wide approach, a strategy that Sustainable Long Island has long advocated for in statewide and national brownfields redevelopment programs, these vacant dealerships can be transformed into vibrant, vital downtown areas that reflect the community’s image for the place in which they live.

*More information may be viewed at <http://sustainableli.org/>.*

## TOP Sustainability Projects

### Suffolk County DPW – Net Zero Energy Building (NZEB)

SCDPW has engaged PWGC’s sustainable expertise to assist the county as they aspire to research and explore viable options for Net Zero Energy Buildings (NZEB) and Carbon Neutral Buildings (CNB) in effort to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (GHG), dependence on fossil fuels and rising energy costs. PWGC along with our team of NZEB consultants will develop a process to plan, program and budget for the NZEB/CNB throughout their lifecycles, design and to monitor the construction of a prototype project. In addition, the team we will measure, verify and evaluate the process of the prototype. PWGC will also update the Suffolk County Energy Policy (SCEP – August 2002) in order to seek a long term solution in how to properly evaluate and design its present and future facilities as part of the SCEP’s master energy plan regarding NZEB/CNB and on-site renewable energy sources. This is a multi-phased, multi-year contract.



# JOIN US FOR OUR LAST PWGC SUSTAINABILITY WORKSHOP IN 2011



## RENEWABLE ENERGY

**Date:** November 2, 2011

**Time:** 12pm

**Given By:** Steve Giordano, PE, LEED AP,  
Director, Sustainable Energy Group,  
Dan Malone, Sr. Project Manager ,  
Julie Calabrese, Intern

**Contact:** Jenna Rothstein for further details at:  
jennar@pwgrosser.com

*\*lunch will be provided*

## Quality & Performance

Businesses are all too aware of their responsibility to protect and enhance the environment in which they work and operate. However, Directors have found that managing activities in a responsible way not only helps to reduce the negative impacts on the environment (e.g. production of waste, natural resource preservation) but also reduces production costs significantly.

That's where we come in: PWGC will work with you to integrate environmental best practice measures into key areas of the business stream and current working practices.

## Applying Knowledge & Insight

We act as your advocate with partners, contractors and regulatory agencies. PWGC's experienced regulatory specialists know how to apply regulations to keep you in compliance and yet let you meet your corporate goals. The added benefit: Enhanced image with your community and regulatory agencies.

Going  
Green  
Can Be  
Puzzling...

Let us help  
you solve it!



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