

**Green Impact Zone
Energy Efficiency Committee
Meeting Summary for August 17, 2009**

A major portion of the meeting was spent discussing hosting a meeting or series of meetings for businesses within the Green Impact Zone. We started out by discussing the goals for such a meeting or series of meetings, which included:

- ◇ Making businesses aware of the Green Impact Zone, its mission, what has happened so far, and what we hope will happen
- ◇ Making businesses aware of renewable, sustainability, and business resources (maybe a flyer)
- ◇ We need to manage expectations and figure out what we can do together
- ◇ We need to identify businesses associated with sustainable or green products and services
- ◇ We want to help businesses with both environmental and financial sustainability
- ◇ We need to develop and share processes to get involved in the zone and create partnerships
- ◇ What are the issues that businesses in the zone are facing?

We discussed that we needed to know what businesses were currently operating in the zone and what services they provided. We will want to coordinate with New Tools which should be issuing a report to the city next month. We will also want to coordinate with the Chamber's Power Program.

After some discussion it was agreed that this would take more than one meeting. First we needed to explain what was happening in the zone, what opportunities there might be for businesses in the zone, and we needed to give the businesses an opportunity to discuss their needs. We could then take the information from the first meeting to develop the agenda for one or more additional meetings that would address their needs as well as address energy conservation opportunities.

We also discussed that there was some distinction between businesses in the zone and businesses and contractors outside of the zone that would like to provide services to activities in the zone. We need to reach out to these businesses as well, but this may need to be a separate meeting with separate goals.

It will be very important to "build the appetite for what benefits might be available" if we are going to get small business people to take the time to come to a meeting and get involved. It would be helpful to identify if there are any business associations in the area.

We need to make sure we integrate the business program with other things going on in the zone.

With regard to one or more business meetings we decided to wait on having the meeting until:

- ◇ We have identified the businesses in the zone
- ◇ We have the staff organized
- ◇ We have the New Tools report
- ◇ We have identified the resources available to businesses and put this information in an easy to access place and format
- ◇ We have thought through the meeting and the subsequent process

It was pointed out that communications was very important and it would have to be done with different means including the Web, newsletters, one-on-one contacts, and through the center.

Gail Allen of KCPL presented some background information on the Smart Grid. It will extend beyond the zone. It will include renewable generation, smart distribution, and customer communication. KCPL will be submitting a grant for ARRA funds next week.

We agreed we needed to set up a regular meeting time once a month.