



TO: Regional Planning Commissioners
FROM: Frank DiNovo, Andrew Levy
DATE: September 17, 2008
RE: Sustainability Initiative

On September 9, Regional Planning Staff received a memo from Cameron Moore announcing the sustainability initiative. The Sustainability Committee was formed with the directive to develop a commitment statement and set of prioritized actions that will move the Regional Planning Commission towards its sustainability goals. The six member committee, along with seven other RPC staff, held their first meeting on September 16. Progress was made in developing a commitment statement and identifying primary means of communication. Below are a few of the suggestions that were made.

Commitment Statement

- Define sustainability in the statement by referencing a balance of Environment, Economy, and Society or balancing decisions so that they are viable, equitable, and bearable.
- Provide an explanation for why the RPC is taking this step, emphasizing regional leadership and integrity of the sustainability concept. For example, we do not want to say we 'recycle' electronics when only valuable metals are actually recycled.

Communications Strategy

- Visitors should be informed of the initiative
- News to the Cubes
- Brief emails
- Sustainability awards for people or departments
- Comic style posters

Staff Brainstorming Exercise

- How can we reduce costs
- How can we lessen our environmental impact
- How can we be more socially conscious

Over the next few weeks, the committee will work on educating staff and gathering their input for the project.