



GOLDEN URBAN RENEWAL AUTHORITY

Memorandum

To: GURA Board of Commissioners
From: Mark Heller
Date: July 30, 2007
RE: Sustainability Report notes from Commissioners Taylor and Driggers

The following notes have been provided to assist in the discussion on how GURA might assist the Golden Sustainability Initiative.

Page 13, Section D, Existing Building Point of Sale Green Audits -and-
Page 14, Section E, Adopt Incentive Strategies to exceed New/Remodel Construction Green Standards

GURA- commit funds to reduce overhead for building owners to perform green audits at point of sale or prior to remodels

GURA - Fund stickers or placards that could be displayed at business entrances to advertise participating businesses.

Page 16, Sustainability Business Cluster

GURA - ensure that GURA board has representation in this study and commit funding to promote a sustainability business sector in the district.

GURA - Fund stickers or placards that could be displayed at business entrances to advertise participating businesses.

Page 17, Energy Audit

GURA - continue energy audit program, offer energy audit program to more businesses

GURA - fund stickers or placards that could be displayed at business entrances to advertise participating businesses.

Page 17, Signs promoting local business and attraction

GURA - continue funding for business directory signs.

Page 18 Section E, Encourage Private Wind Generators and Solar Panels

GURA - funding of engineering/feasibility studies for property owners

GURA - **Publish** a guide of all available rebates, incentives, and financing resources for sustainability projects.

Page 18 Section F, City Government Wind Generators and Solar Panels

GURA - fund an engineering/feasibility studies to deploy generators/solar panels for parking garages and street lighting

Page 18 Section H, Sustainable Business Certification

GURA - fund stickers or placards that could be displayed at business entrances to advertise participating businesses.

Page 18 Section I - Sustainable Business Expo or Sustainable Living

GURA - fund marketing efforts for businesses with sustainable products

Page 44, Section A - City Action Plan

GURA - fund a portion of the Sustainability Director,

GURA - fund a portion of the baseline energy usage study

Page 44, Section C - Solar Access Ordinance

GURA - ensure that future GURA develop adhere to solar access ordinance or provide alternative access

Page 46, Section D - Increase Use of Alternative Fuels in Transportation

GURA - promote alternative fuel supply sources within the GURA district

GURA - provide designated electric car plug-in parking spots in parking garages and lots, adopt more "compact-only" car parking locations

Page 51, Section H - Dark Skies

GURA - provide incentive funding to businesses to improve external lighting efficiency

GURA - fund a study to assess all outdoor lighting within district

Page 75, Section A - Pedestrian Transit

GURA- provide funding for pedestrian transit studies and initiatives

Page 76, Section B - Bicycle Transit

GURA - provide funding for bicycle transit studies and initiatives, paint bike lanes in the district

Page 77, Section C - Public Transit

GURA - provide funding for public transit studies and initiatives, work with RTD to improve intermodal travel within, to, and from the district

Page 78, Section D - Demand Reduction

GURA - continue funding for business web sites and hot zones within the district,

GURA - possibly fund a shared delivery service for golden residents to receive products from downtown or Farmer's Market via web orders

Page 70, Section D; redesign downtown trash bin to incorporated recycling bins
GURA - budgeting funds to re-design and construct recycling bins in GURA district

Page 71, Section G; Plastic shopping bag ban

GURA - provide purchase program for businesses to help supply lower cost recyclable bags

GURA - implement canvas bag program with residents.

In both cases, bags could be branded with a "shop downtown" advertising themes.

Page 95, Water

GURA - Encourage city, businesses, and developer to adopt xeriscaping in landscaping and planters

GURA - fund a water conservation audit (similar to energy audit)

GURA - help fund capital improvements e.g. back flow devices, efficient toilets, sprinkler improvements, etc

GURA - fund stickers or placards that could be displayed at business entrances to advertise water conserving businesses.

Page 185, Section GURA

GURA - continue to fund LED Christmas lighting.

Btw, is the GURA office powered by a wind generator? What is GURA's "Community Energy" contract about?

Page 200

GURA - fund energy/water performance monitoring programs within the district

Page 222 - Planning

GURA - all future projects to adhere to the Comprehensive Plan's sustainability guidelines

Taking into account that we have some funding constraints over the next year or so, the suggestions seem to fall into four categories: (1) Marketing, (2) Sustainable Business Incentive Program, (3) Funding of Feasibility Studies, and (4) Support of existing City plans and programs.

(1) Marketing

GURA funds the Re-development Fund which goes to EdCom every year and part of it could be designated to support "green" marketing signage and placards for cooperating businesses and support pilot programs such as Farmer's Market and Web orders which is the responsibility of the chamber of commerce, the listings of business with sustainable products, and canvas "green bags."

(2) Sustainable Business Incentive Program

We could set up a Sustainable Business Incentive Program, similar to the Facade Program, and fund to about \$25 to \$30K and set up criteria for energy audits, business lighting, efficient toilets, etc. In line with such a program, GURA and/or city could publish a list of rebates, incentives and funding sources that would complement a GURA incentive program.

(3) Funding of Feasibility Studies

We have a Professional Services budget line item that we could have a designated portion each year on funding sustainability studies, such as the external lighting efficiency, plug-in parking spots, windpower, etc. We could set up a three or four program to support such studies.

(4) Support of existing City Plans and Programs

The city has existing plans in place but that doesn't mean that GURA can give a push to such plans as relate to the downtown. The Downtown Character Committee report will include some of the suggestions you made. Existing plans include a City Bike Path Plan, Transit Studies, Highway and traffic studies, and the City has had conversations with RTD. There may be pedestrian studies.

Over all you have identified ways that GURA can take a more active role and I trust we will discuss these items prior to our fall budgeting discussions.