



City of Portland
Bureau of

Planning and Sustainability

Sam Adams, Mayor
Susan Anderson, Director

Planning

1900 S.W. 4th Ave., Ste. 7100
Portland, OR 97201-5350

Phone 503-823-7700
FAX 503-823-7800
TTY 503-823-6868

Sustainability

721 N.W. 9th Ave., Ste. 195
Portland, OR 97209-3447

Phone 503-823-7222
FAX 503-823-5311
TTY 503-823-6868

www.portlandonline.com/bps

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1. **Ordinance Title:** *Authorize Intergovernmental Agreement with Metro to accept \$85,000 in funding for the Green Development Center (Ordinance)
2. **Contact Name, Department, & Phone Number:** Valerie Garrett, Bureau of Planning and Sustainability, 503-823-5431
3. **Requested Council Date:** February 2, 2011

Consent Agenda Item: X or **Regular Agenda Item:** X

Explain why this does or does not require a presentation or Council discussion:

Metro and the City have renewed this funding arrangement for the last three years.

Emergency Item (answer below): X or **Non- Emergency Item:**

If emergency, why does this need to take effect immediately:

Funding supports the continuing operations of the City's Green Development Resource Center, which benefits green building practices citywide and regionally.

4. History of Agenda Item/Background:

In 1994, a citizens' advisory group to City Council drafted the Green Building Initiative to create a plan to expand market demand and make green building practices easier to implement in Portland. In 2001 by Resolution 35956, City Council adopted the City's Green Building Policy to address the negative impacts of the construction and operation of the built environment on human health and well-being and the natural environment.

Green building helps governments, businesses and residents reduce energy use, create healthy spaces for people to live and work, conserve resources and minimize the quantity and toxicity of construction and demolition waste. Over the past decade, demand for information and resources related to green building practices has grown rapidly, reflected in the steadily increasing number of buildings certified by third-party rating systems such as Energy Star, Earth Advantage and LEED. Additionally, consumer demand is strong for products that are aligned with natural materials and processes.

Solid waste reduction programs benefit from green building, especially LEED projects where points are awarded for salvaging and recycling building materials. Additionally, LEED provides a platform for educating builders and architects about cost-effective waste management and recycling practices. This builder education includes tenets of good site planning, preserving natural functions of ecosystems and restoring damaged sites to provide habitat and promote biodiversity.

5. Purpose of Agenda Item:

Authorize intergovernmental agreement (IGA) with Metro to accept funding for the regional Green Development Resource Center housed in the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability.

The Bureau of Planning and Sustainability (BPS) is funded to serve residents and businesses in Portland, but the Green Development Resource Center (GDRC) receives inquiries from homeowners and builders from throughout the region. BPS staff members have developed expertise to provide tips on how to incorporate green features, recommend products and provide information on financial incentives. While BPS remains committed to providing technical assistance to Portland's residents, a growing regional interest in green building reflects the need to create a resource that is not geographically bound to the City of Portland.

Metro's funding allows the City's Green Develop Resource Center to serve as a regional resource and information center. The Resource Center and Green Building Hotline complement Metro's Recycling Information Hotline and generate leads for other local recycling and sustainability programs such as BEST Business Center, Solar Now!, Gresham's GREAT Business Recycling program, Clackamas County Office of Sustainability or Portland's business assistance services.

6. Legal Issues:

None.

7. What individuals or groups are or would be opposed to this ordinance? Supportive?

Opposed: None.

8. How Does This Relate to Current City Policies?

The activities to be funded by the agreements with the regional government are consistent with Portland's Green Building Policy, as adopted by Resolution 35956 in 2001, updated in 2005 by Resolution 36310, and in 2009 by Resolution 36700; and with the City and County's Climate Action Plan, as adopted by Resolution 36748 in 2009.

9. Community Participation:

Indirect. Portland's residents participate in programs supported by the GDRC.

10. Other Government Participation:

Metro, Washington County, Clackamas County and Multnomah County are the Metro-area regional governments that contribute funding or other resources to support the GDRC.

11. Financial Impact:

Revenue of \$85,000 for FY 10/11. This money, together with funds already allocated to the Resource Center by BPS in its FY 10/11 budget, support continuing operation of the Green Development Resource Center.