

Pittsburgh's Green Agenda



Mayor Luke Ravenstahl
Dunkirk, France
January 2008



Agenda

- What Makes Pittsburgh a Green City
- Objective of Pittsburgh's Green Policies
- Description of Green Policies being implemented
- How is Pittsburgh curbing greenhouse gas emissions?
- Competencies in comparison to state and federal
- Building and transportation issues



What makes Pittsburgh a Green City: *Green Buildings and Greener Building*

■ Green Buildings

- The City of Pittsburgh is 5th in the US for number of LEED certified buildings
- The state of Pennsylvania is 2nd in the US for the number of LEED certified buildings
- PGH is home to the first green certified historic building, Convention Center, warehouse and university dormitory. Also home to Phipps Conservatory.
- Currently building a green arena and office building— tallest green building in the world



What makes Pittsburgh a Green City: *Green Buildings and Greener Building*



- Greener Building- Incentives to build green
 - Density bonus – allows LEED certified structures to be 20 percent taller than others in their zoning districts
 - Urban Redevelopment Authority- (URA)
 - Financial incentives- lower rates and extended deferral rates for projects pursuing LEED rating
 - Policy changes- placing greater weight on incorporation of green building design and hiring of a sustainability coordinator



What makes Pittsburgh a Green City: *Green Government Task Force- GGTF*

- Co-chair
- Creating a local action plan for and with the city, universities, businesses and communities
- Helping to achieve standards and to implement sustainable global warming solutions that will save taxpayer dollars and reduce energy use



What makes Pittsburgh a Green City: *Climate Protection Agreement*



- 400th signatory of the US Mayor's Climate Protection Agreement
- Pledge by over 700 Mayors in the US to implement global warming solutions that will save money and reduce energy use.
- Pledge to reduce carbon dioxide pollution in the City to 7% below 1990 levels by 2010
 - Using the GGTF to help implement necessary changes



What makes Pittsburgh a Green City: *Solar American City Grant*

- Pittsburgh is one of 13 cities chosen by the DOE as a Solar American City
- \$400,000 Grant awarded to PGH
- A task force of City employees, university faculty and individuals from local non-profits appointed to work with solar experts from Sandia to develop a long term, sustainable, solar plan for the city of PGH



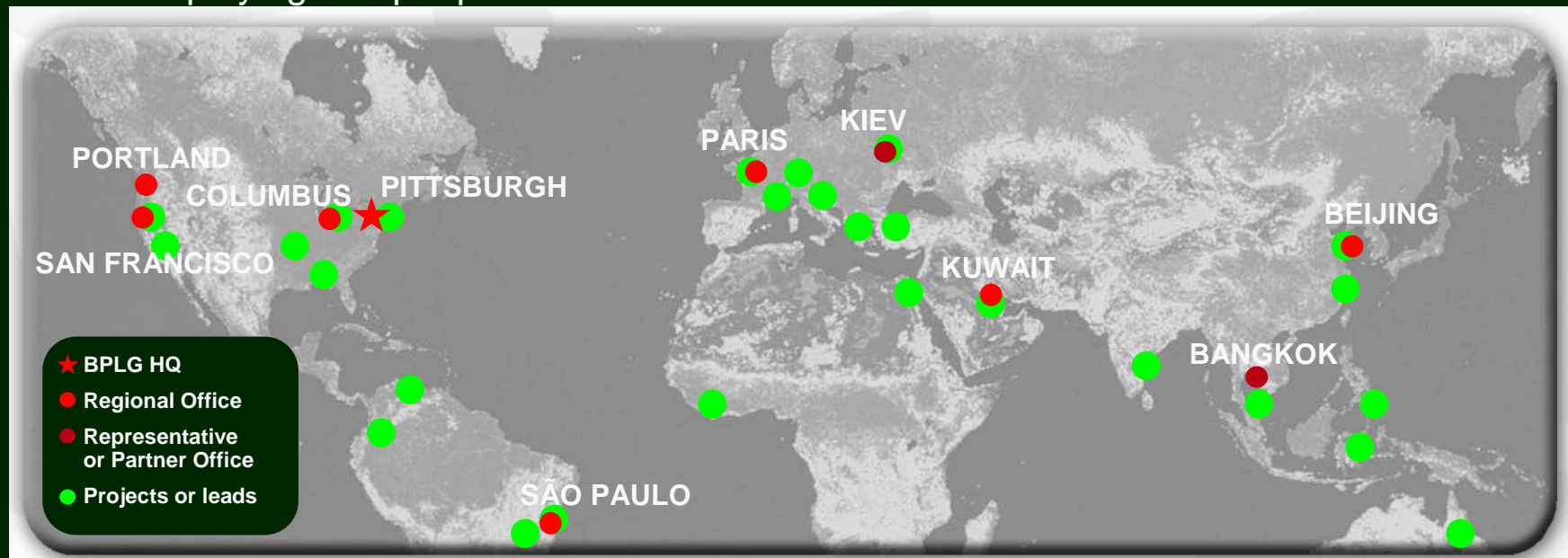
What makes Pittsburgh a Green City: *Companies Who Promote Green*

- Pittsburgh and the surrounding region are home to companies that aid in the green efforts not just in the City of Pittsburgh, but all over the world.
 - Plextronics-
 - Offshoot of CMU, this company creates high end solar panels
 - BPL Global (Better Power Lines Global)
 - BPL Global is a software company dedicated to leading the transformation of how energy and information are delivered



What makes Pittsburgh a Green City: *Companies who promote green- BPLG*

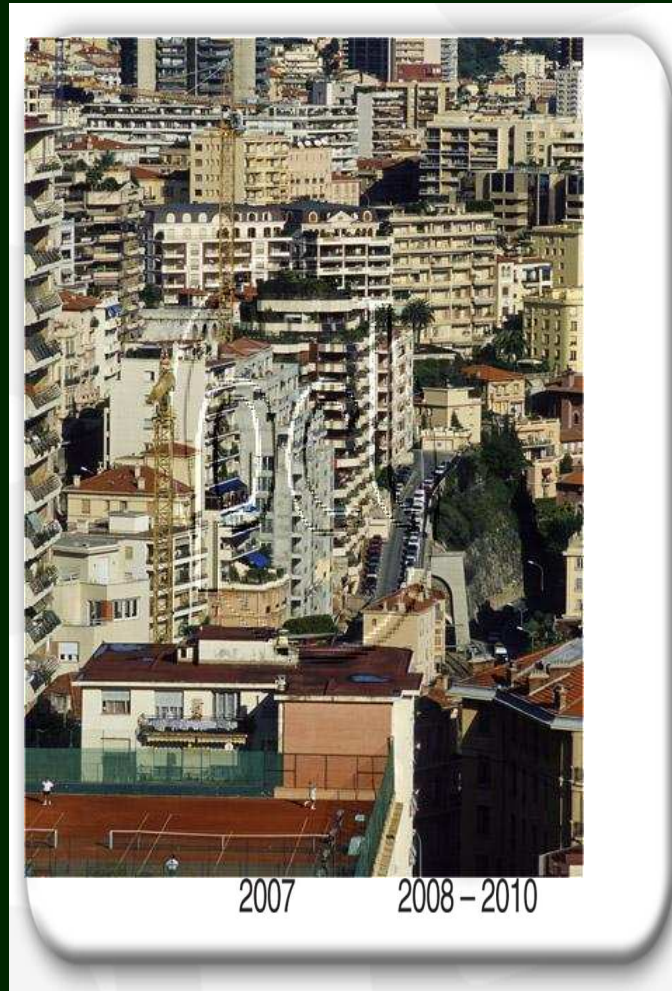
- ❑ Founded and Headquartered in Pittsburgh
- ❑ Providing smart grid solutions to electric utilities improving efficiency and reliability of energy delivery.
- ❑ BPL Global is a private company with strong investor backing
 - Local investors: DQE, Innovation Works, Novatis Capital (formerly PA Early Stage), Tollgrade
 - Strategic investors: Morgan Stanley, Perseus, Siemens
- ❑ Strong regional commitment with offices worldwide
- ❑ Employing 115 people worldwide



Companies who promote green:

BPL Case Study: Building Management in France

- Opportunity
 - Cities in France are sponsoring energy management and broadband services for low-income housing
- Solution
 - From our regional HQ in Le Mans France, BPL Global provides comprehensive building management services including energy efficiency and communications solution
- Results
 - BPL Global won the public tender of the city of Poitiers for 33 apartment buildings
 - BPL Global will operate an existing communications network to MDUs in the city of Dunkerque
 - Residents will save money on their electric bills and help the environment



What makes Pittsburgh a Green City: *Green Up Pittsburgh!*

- PGH is turning blight into beauty by clearing city owned vacant lots and planting grass, trees and gardens
- The pilot program greened up lots in 6 of the city's neighborhoods.
- The City is currently working with foundations to get funding to do 40 lots



What makes Pittsburgh a Green City: *Bike, Parks and Trails*

- In 2007 the City opened the first inter-neighborhood bike lane and in 2008 will hire a Bike-Ped coordinator
- Trails- City is working to connect and re-establish walking trails
 - Hot-Metal Bridge
- In 2007 City created a new regional park with passive and active recreational space
 - Natural assets are one of the city's greatest resources



What makes Pittsburgh a Green City: *Alternative fuel technologies and retro-fits*

- City received a grant from the PA-DEP to help convert waste vegetable oil into bio-diesel for the City fleet, starting with the DPW
- City installed new fuel tanks to house the biodiesel
- PGH also received a grant to retrofit 12 waste haulers with filters to reduce particulate matter



What makes Pittsburgh a Green City: *Recycling and Trees*

- City of Pittsburgh continues to expand and improve it's recycling programs
- Enforcing the business recycling and partners with the Pittsburgh Steelers
- Treevitalize and Shade tree commission
 - Treevitalize-
 - Shade Tree Commission- advocates for our urban forest



What makes Pittsburgh a Green City: *Partnerships*

- The City of Pittsburgh partners with a variety of local businesses and groups who are dedicated to the greening of Pittsburgh
 - ❑ Green Building Alliance
 - ❑ Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy
 - ❑ Student Conservation Association
 - ❑ Clean Pittsburgh Commission
 - ❑ Pittsburgh Steelers
 - ❑ Penn State Cooperative Extension



Objectives of Pittsburgh's Green Policies

- Reverse the decay of years as a Steel town-
 - From Rust Belt to Green Belt
- Reduce our carbon emissions and our contribution to global warming
- Make Pittsburgh a responsible steward of the environment
- Recognize and protect our natural assets and green spaces



Green Policies Being Implemented

- Building density bonuses for LEED certified building
- URA financial incentives for green building
- Transition of city fleet to biodiesel
- LED traffic lights
- Climate Protection Agreement
 - City has already undertaken a full carbon emissions inventory and has begun measuring cost vs. impact



Pittsburgh is Curbing Green House Gas Emissions

- Signatory of Climate protection agreement and co-chair of the Green Gov't Task Force
 - In conjunction these efforts have done a full carbon emission inventory and are coming up with a sustainable action plan to move forward to reduce carbon emissions.
- Bike lanes and trails
- LED traffic lights
- City Fleet
 - Bio-diesel and waste hauler retro-fit



The City of Pittsburgh goes beyond state and federal initiatives

- Building density bonuses
- LED traffic lights
- Carbon Emission inventory
- Focusing on households not just businesses for renewable energy
- Reverse electricity auction- buying electricity in bulk with other businesses and City authorities that includes an agreement for a 10% renewable energy purchase
- GGTF action plan



Pittsburgh's initiatives are impacting important sectors: Buildings and Transportation

■ Buildings:

- ❑ KWH analysis of facilities and playgrounds where various energy initiatives have taken place
- ❑ Recycled carpet and low VOC paint when remodeling offices
- ❑ Pittsburgh ranks 5th in the nation for number of LEED certified buildings, Pennsylvania ranks 2nd in the nation for number of LEED certified buildings
- ❑ Building density bonuses
- ❑ Carbon emissions inventory



Evaluation of result with regards to Buildings and Transportation

- Transportation

- Bio-diesel for City Fleet
- LED traffic lights
- Waste hauler retrofit
- Bike lanes and trails
- Flex car



Long Term Goals



- Carry out the action plans of the GGTF and Solar City grant
- Partner with area non-profits and businesses to fund and implement new ideas
- Continue to build green buildings and encourage and promote green buildings
- Make our current structures more energy efficient



Conclusion

- Thank you
- Q&A
- Contact Information
 - Kristen Baginski
 - Deputy Chief of Staff
 - kristen.baginski@city.pittsburgh.pa.us
 - 412-255-2632

