

COUNTY OF ALLEGHENY

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

EXECUTIVE ORDER

Subject:

SUSTAINABLE POLICIES

Number:

2009-1

Date:

OCTOBER 27, 2009

By Direction of:

DAN ONORATO, COUNTY EXECUTIVE

WHEREAS, Allegheny County is the second most populated county in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and therefore, has significant potential impact on the regional environment and human welfare; and

WHEREAS, many major metropolitan areas, including Chicago, New York, Miami-Dade County, Multnomah County/Portland, King County/Seattle, Cuyahoga County/Cleveland, Montgomery County/Gaithersburg, Md., Fulton County/Atlanta, and many others, have established sustainability goals, offices, and/or declarations; and

WHEREAS, I established the Allegheny Green sustainability initiative in September 2008 to incorporate sustainability measures across County operations; and

WHEREAS, I believe that Allegheny County needs to be a regional leader and set a strong example by reducing environmental footprint.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Allegheny County Executive Dan Onorato, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Home Rule Charter of Allegheny County and other applicable laws, do hereby order and direct as follows:

1. Establishment of Sustainability Policy for Allegheny County

A. Allegheny County shall establish sustainability policies as detailed herein:

- i. The County shall establish its existing Green Action Team as a permanent advisory committee to assist the County in developing, recommending and monitoring its sustainability initiatives. The committee shall establish and adhere to documented formal terms of service and operating guidelines, and members shall be appointed by the County Executive.

- ii. The County shall continue to support the existing position of sustainability manager.
- iii. The County shall define and adopt environmentally preferable purchasing guidelines.
- iv. The County shall implement a consistent recycling program within its own facilities and parks, as well as within all space leased by the County.
- v. The County shall establish both a dedicated section of its public website and a portion of its employee intranet to sustainability initiatives.
- vi. The County shall appropriately train management and employees to support sustainability policies and initiatives.
- vii. The County shall establish a task force to evaluate the necessary actions and any associated costs of incorporating the principles for “LEED® for Existing Buildings/Operations & Maintenance” in its facilities, and it shall complete the exercise of pursuing certification for at least one targeted facility in 2011.
- viii. The County will commit to achieving a minimum of LEED® certification for any future eligible new construction or qualifying major renovation for spaces exceeding 35,000 square feet.
- ix. County department directors and managers shall identify and pursue appropriate, nationally recognized certifications to support more sustainable operations, as determined by the County Manager, such as “Sustainable Green Printer” and the Audubon Society’s “Cooperative Sanctuary Program for Golf Courses.”
- x. The County shall evaluate County-owned structures and facilities for opportunities for green roofs, rain gardens, pervious paving and other storm water management techniques to help to address the regional storm water management challenges.
- xi. The County shall collaborate with regional resource providers to develop and/or leverage informational materials and a series of presentations to assist the Councils of Governments and regional municipalities with storm water management issues, including model proposed zoning language and green infrastructure options.
- xii. The County shall conduct an annual green jobs forum so long as it shall be deemed a valuable endeavor to the greater community by the County Executive.

B. Allegheny County shall establish a publicly available score card of sustainability metrics and goals, which shall be updated annually, related to the following items:

- i. Decrease County government's overall energy consumption by 20 percent over the next 5 years.
- ii. Increase County government's water efficiency by 20 percent over the next 5 years.
- iii. Decrease County government's greenhouse gas emissions by 20 percent over the next 5 years
- iv. Increase County government's testing and use of advanced energy technologies.
- v. Increase County government's conversion of fleet vehicles and motorized equipment to technologies with higher efficiency and lesser emissions by 5 percent annually over the next 5 years.
- vi. Quantify overall environmental performance of measures that extend beyond County operations, e.g. tree canopy, air quality, acres of green space, green storm water infrastructure, etc.

C. The County shall establish and/or modify the necessary internal support systems to readily access and analyze the data needed to support the score card.

D. The County shall electronically publish an annual sustainability report.

- i. Each Department Manager shall provide information in a timely manner to identify and report on relevant activities in their department, and outline target objectives for the following year.

2. Effective Date

A. This Executive Order shall become effective immediately upon signing.



Allegheny County Executive
Dan Onorato