

3rd Annual Statewide Energy Efficiency Best Practices Forum
State Overview – Table Discussion Questions
July 19, 2012

1. Where do local governments see themselves 3-5 years down the road in relation to the energy and climate action planning goals discussed by the state panelists?

a. What do you anticipate being your top issue areas?

- Codes
 - Code enforcement- getting people who are overworked to a new training
 - Code enforcement is reactive, not proactive
 - Helping all local builders be trained in T24 codes
- NZ buildings – have incentives and market but how to reach ZNE buildings. Need to be thinking at policy level at cities to drive markets. Point of reach codes with strong T24 – should focus shift to existing buildings and reaching ZNE buildings. Will these be requirements by the state? If so, cities need to start planning
- Funding
 - Without ARRA, no programs that were started will sustain. Lack of focused departments on energy efficiency sustainability
 - Some cities can do more (or less) based on staff resources, funding and constraints
 - Lack of funding for development and redevelopment
 - Mandates will force or guide; funding will be key
- Staff Training
 - Small cities represent 80% of all jurisdictions and they have unique concerns about building core competency of employees due to high staff turn-over
 - Smaller cities with smaller staffs will be trailing behind leaders
- Working to keep ordinances up to date
- Climate Action Plans and Energy Action Plans
 - Climate Action Plans are regional in nature and regional collaboration is key
 - How do we move from development into implementation, enforcement and tracking? Especially the non energy efficiency (utility) portions,
 - Implementing Climate Action Plans, strategic energy plans, linking to state plans, guidance
 - Adaptation plans
 - General plan updates with Sustainability Element and Climate Action Plan
- How to monitor and measure progress at the local and regional levels.
- Education and Outreach

- General public actually knows what the heck we're talking about
- Emphasizing economic/workforce and other "tangible" goals and achievements rather than greenhouse gas reductions
- Greenhouse gases from natural gas: Natural gas is going to be an ever-increasing share of the emissions as the RPS is implemented. As the cost of natural gas has decreased, that will challenge efforts in conservation.
- Engage with carbon markets to reap benefits of efficiency projects
- Actual reductions from Energy Upgrade California- what's the actual performance?
- Municipal and new buildings will be efficient but commercial and multi-family will continue to be a challenge. Overcoming market penetration in those areas is difficult. Getting businesses to retrofit to increase efficiency, and not just when their system has lived its life, is also a challenge.
- Utilizing solar energy beyond building operation – backup/emergency generation; electric vehicle charging
- Transportation and EV
 - Growth in transportation programs through fleet improvements
 - Downplay electric vehicle dangers
 - Industrial/commercial business fleet conversion; alternative fuels; EV infrastructure
- More government implementation to create a community example
 - Electric vehicle charging, renewable energy
 - Model of sustainability with projects such as Balboa Park

b. What are your primary concerns, including any current or anticipated future challenges that will prevent you from being where you would like to be in 3-5 years?

- Funding
 - Consistent, adequate funding
 - Staff funding
 - Funding from grants
 - Resources to implement: the general fund is not supporting these efforts
 - Creative ways to get by on less resources and opportunities for implementation
 - How to recognize and help cities that have laid off/cutback/redevelopment
 - Cap and trade money
- Staff Training
 - Management training/awareness of needs
 - Local government knowledge
 - Sustainability manager/staffing resources
 - Staff turn-over
- Collaboration and Partnerships
 - Aligning local and regional goals

- Higher collaboration is necessary to move forward
- Education and outreach
 - Understanding what it really mean for cities, individually
 - Reactive versus proactive. Which will it be?
 - Priorities are different for everyone. CAP and trade versus killing jobs
 - Marketing and education of businesses and residents. Identifying effective incentives (give tools and technical assistance)
 - Lack of public/private buy-in for Climate action plans and sustainability for General Plan updates
 - Public – still non-acceptance of greenhouse gases
 - Getting industries on board
 - Consistent and simple communication is necessary for successful program rollout; contractors need this
 - How we can better report back to citizens?
 - Shifting political will
 - Politicization of topic
- Programs and Implementation
 - Ability to do long term energy projects
 - Direct install for municipal facilities
 - Low-income, disadvantaged communities
 - Multifamily and mixed use development
 - The existing housing stock
 - Implementation
 - 2020 mandates will force discussions on how municipalities will implement
 - Implementation of development code and programs for efficiency
 - Outsourcing of implementation
 - How schools are built and operate; emphasis on energy efficiency and other renewables
- Transparent benchmarks/metrics between local governments so we can compare
- Evergreening partnerships – consistency 10 year plan
- Strategic Plan/PUC guidance
- Changes to overall dynamics
- Paperwork for grants

c. What types of programs or projects do you anticipate focusing on in 2015-2017?

- Implementation of a long-term energy efficiency strategy
- Title 24
- Implementation of climate action plan and reduction of greenhouse gases
- Solar water heating
- Energy Upgrade California – an incremental approach

- Field verification
- QAQC
- Data
- Multi-family and low-income projects
- Annually updating Climate Action Plan, ideally semi annually
- Capital improvement plan needs to include Climate action Plan and EAP
- Contracts and technical assistance
- Electric vehicle infrastructure support
- Have benchmarking without greenhouse focus
- Regional efforts with cities/counties
- Coordinating with local contractors
- Education, Outreach and Marketing
 - Teaching the residents and development community to remain focused on energy efficiency
 - Education programs, focus on existing facilities
 - Lowering residential outreach
 - Change focus from “global warming” to “energy efficiency, cost-savings, leadership”
 - Potential focus on education/training related to efficiency/renewables → right now about budget. More education in the future
 - Behavioral change

2. What tools and resources will you need to address these priority areas? What is on your wish list besides staff and resources?

- Messaging, Education, Outreach and Program Support
 - Political will, community will and more collaborative efforts. Everything has to be translated to economic savings
 - A message or tag line regarding energy and efficiency. The message should be focused on economics, jobs, and health, and not just be about “being green”
 - Consumer outreach and education
 - Education is necessary to get people to understand the benefits of greenhouse gas reduction partnered with economic savings, overall economic analysis of long term plans
 - Education for decision makers/political leaders
 - Consistent outreach materials that are ready for implementation, recognize the needs of diverse communities
 - Better branding
 - Local BIAs don’t want new Title 24 standards. If the state BAI does, they should reach out to the local branches to educate them
 - Staff champions/advocate
 - State funded mandates reduce the volatility of changing local political will

- Programs and Program Administration
 - More adaptive programs and flexibility to innovate and manage risks
 - Integration support for energy, solar and other areas
 - Balance- infrastructure to accommodate growth
 - Direct Install for municipal facilities. Move from planning to implementation
 - Standard set of documents
 - Implementation guide for local governments
- Partnerships
 - Statewide local government partnership- leveraging resources through collaboration (ex. Purchasing)
 - More regional efforts and collaboration
 - How can IOUs help? WRELP is a good place to start
 - LGSEC partnerships (standards and outreach)
 - Partnerships between gas/electric/water utilities and businesses and residents
- City Staff Training and City Champions
 - Cross department influence
 - Staff training and information- what do we have to do and when does it have to be done
- Tool Development
 - Measure/project prioritization tools
 - Tools for tracking and monitoring progress
 - Analytical tools development
- Financing
 - Financial mechanisms need to be developed
 - Funding resources
- Amnesty program (Provide 180 days to reach compliance, then increase after that)
- State policy/local for code compliance (Title 24)
- Data from pilot participants in an excel format from any NDS agreements