



Metro Government Environmental Responsibilities and Programs Summary

Codes Administration (Terry Cobb, Codes Administration Director)

- Zoning, Property Standards, Construction and Plans Review; building inspections (Electrical, Gas and Mechanical, Plumbing)
- Contractor Licensing
- 06/08: New Green Permit Ordinance: Green Permit issued to buildings that meet sustainable design protocol.
- “E-Green” Programs: E-Permits/Permit Issuance, E-Newsletters for Neighborhoods
- Urban Forester (Tree compliance private development)
- New History of Codes Video produced in conjunction with Metro Channel 3. Accessible at: http://www.nashville.gov/codes/program_series.htm

Convention Center (Charles Starks, Convention Center Director)

- Event Services Handbook provides guidelines for Green Events
- Green Events! The Nashville Convention Center is committed to supporting and encouraging sustainable practices, including the hosting of environmentally friendly “green” meetings. Because conservation of energy and natural resources is a high priority, they have made substantial efforts through the years to minimize their carbon foot print, such as: heating/cooling via steam/chilled water, energy management software, low flow-automatic faucets/flush valves, soap/paper towel dispensers, environmentally responsible cleaning products/supplies, donation of excess food, donation of unclaimed lost/found items to the local rescue mission, and recycling of various items. The Convention Center can now handle all event recycling needs. This includes items from a manned recycling station (new!) to advising on exhibit hall floor plans to encourage exhibitors and attendees to easily recycle during the event.
- Low flow-automatic faucets/flush valves, environmentally responsible cleaning products, donate excess food to local charities.
- Has Internal “Green Team”, Website, Bike Racks outside.
- Green Team consists of members throughout the Convention Center in different roles (sales, accounting, front desk). Meet quarterly. Education main focus for first quarter.
- Replacing waxed cups with recyclable no-way cups as supply depletes.
- Recycling compactor installed in Sept. 2008. Reducing number of hauls by over 25%. Economic and green.
- Has bike racks in front of NCC to encourage patrons to ride not drive

Department of Law (Sue Cain, Director of Law) Director)

- Supervise, direct and control all the law work of the Metropolitan Government;
- Furnish legal advice to the Mayor, the Council, all officers, departments, boards and commissions concerning matters related to their official powers and duties

DES (Michael Bradley, Metro Liaison for DES)

- Since 12/03, DES facility provides steam & chilled water to heat and cool 40 downtown buildings.
- One of Nashville Electric Service's largest customers.
- Largest DES customer is state of Tennessee, 14 buildings use, including Capitol
- Nearly 100 percent of the water used for chilled water cooling is recycled

Farmer's Market (Jeff Themm - Market Director)

- Daily Farmers' Market with local farmers and produce re-sellers
- The Farmer's Market is working with Food Security Partners on a variety of programs, from farm to school to growing more farmers. The Farmer's Market also has a partnership with "Good Food for Good People" to glean as much food out of our waste stream as possible. Food is given away to lower income individuals and what can not be used for those less fortunate is composted.

Finance Department, (Richard Riebeling, Finance Director)

- Real Property Services - construction oversight services and real estate services to all Metro's agencies.
- Budget guidelines for LEED certified buildings
- Division of Grants Coordination

General Services (Nancy Whittemore, General Services Director)

- Office of Fleet Management: Service Provider to Metro, use hybrid and flex vehicles; majority of vehicles this year, 3000+ vehicles and equipment.
- Manage 69 Metro facilities
- Sustainable facility management program for existing Metro Facilities using the US Green Building Council's (USGBC) LEED for existing buildings guidelines.
- Partner with Public Works In-House recycling
- New toner and ink-jet contract includes remanufactured cartridges as well as recycling service.
- Anti-Idle Policy (New: August 2008!)
- Metro building energy audits

Health (Dr. Bill Paul, Health Department Director)

- Responsible for air quality; prevention of injury to plant life and property
- Annual emissions inventory for five criteria pollutants...2006 findings below:
 - Particulate matter (86% Dust from Paved Roads)
 - Sulfur dioxide (90% from Fuel Combustion)
 - Nitrogen dioxide (85% on-road and non-road mobile)
 - Carbon monoxide (99% on-road and non-road mobile)
 - Volatile organic compounds (60% on-road and non-road mobile, 15% solvent usage)
- Clean Air Act Compliance/Monitoring: daily check for compliance.
 - The air in middle Tennessee has met the EPA's Ozone Standard for the past four years
 - Target changed this spring (per EPA). New standard went from 84 parts per billion to 75.
 - Contributors to Ozone Problems:
 - Transportation: This area is 2nd in the US in vehicle miles traveled per capita. Over 56 million vehicle miles are traveled daily here—about 14,400 miles per person per year.
 - Summer Weather
 - Air Quality Index: Note: 06/08: Considered good on AQI rating scale.

- Indoor Air Quality
- Vehicle Emissions Testing Program: In 2006, Over 500,000 vehicles were tested. Pass rate was 87.5%,
- Have Internal Green Team (recently implement green parking policy: preferred parking for carpoolers, hybrids, etc.), worked with Metro PW to spearhead full implementation of Mayor Dean's 100% employee recycling initiative.
- Sponsor Walk Nashville Week and Music City Moves
- In partnership with Nashville Electric Service, conducting Green house Gas Inventory for Nashville and Davidson County. Slated to be complete early 2009!
- Green Parking. Premium parking spaces marked "G" and painted green are for MPHD employees who carpool or drive a high-efficiency vehicle to work.
- Redesigned Website: www.health.nashville.gov.

MDHA (Phil Ryan, Executive Director)

- Facilitate redevelopment and revitalization plans
- Brownfield Partnership:
 - Interagency Team: Mayor's Office, Health Department, Planning Department, Historical Commission, Finance Department, Public Works Department, Water Services, Legal Department, Civic Design Center and MDHA.
 - Advisory Committee: Stakeholders from various groups within Nashville and representatives from Federal and State government to act as a conduit of information between the Metropolitan Government and the neighborhood stakeholder groups.
 - Brownfields are old factories and other industrial and commercial properties in inner cities, suburbs and rural areas, which have been stigmatized by years of neglect and/or potential and unpredictable liabilities. Due to their unpredictable nature, developers routinely avoided these sites, choosing to focus on undeveloped property, or "greenfields".
 - Geothermal to cool and heat homes – Parkway Terrace (2006)
 - Convention Center: Planned to be LEED certified silver.

Parks and Recreation (Roy Wilson, Parks and Recreation Director)

- 107 parks, over 10,000 acres; 36 miles of greenways, community gardens program "Grow Nashville"
- 2002 master plan for parks and greenways incorporates LEED principles in design
- New nature centers have waterless urinals, green roof, geothermal heating and solar panels
- public recycling at golf course clubhouses, pilot program started to recycle at baseball field tournaments
- Update of Master Plan will include land acquisition and preservation
- Greenways Commission - reviews plans for properties located on the seven main water corridors of Davidson County, provides information on how developments can incorporate greenways
- Superintendent of Horticulture: Randal Lantz

Planning (Rick Bernhardt, Planning Commission Director)

- Core mission is building a sustainable community
- Has community plan – strategy for implementation is 2-tiered; first, a detailed community density plan, and then modify codes and adjust priorities in capital budget – currently working on areas where there is support in the council.
- Land Use Policy: Guides development (Natural, Rural, Suburban, Neighborhoods, Downtown Core, etc.)
- Neighborhood Design Plan: Addresses land use, transportation, and community design at the neighborhood level

- Detailed Neighborhood Design Plan (DNNDP) currently under development for the Scottsboro/ Bells Bend community. Strong emphasis on community involvement through meetings and on-line drafts for public comment. Plan accessible on Planning Commission Website at www.nashville.gov/mpc
- Provide mapping and GIS services for residential and commercial
- General Plan: Establishes guidelines for growth and development.
- Transportation Plan: Mobility 2030 (Sept 2007 update): Functional plan of the General Plan: Long-Term vision -15+ years for transportation planning; best practices, existing conditions, travel patterns, and trend analysis, funding information, proposed strategies, transit options, public input process,. Plan available on website.
- Community Character Manual: Planning tool and guiding principles for communities; urban, natural, rural, suburban, etc.
- Regional work –Master Planning Org (long-range transportation plan, short-range transportation improvement: Partnership w/U.S. DOT, TDOT, elected officials, local planning and public works directors, the business community, and citizens across the Nashville region), Cumberland Region Tomorrow

Nashville MTA (Paul Ballard, CEO)

- 5 Year Public Transit Improvement Plan for expansion of bus routes and service areas with goal of removing possibly 2 million vehicle trips from current road network, Reduce pollution generated by traffic/congestion
- Music City Central October 2008! Nashville's new downtown transit station opened on Sunday, Oct. 26 after a Grand Opening Oct. 24th. The state-of-the-art building will provide a comfortable place for passengers to await the arrival of their buses. MTA is celebrating the opening of the new Music City Central with a program to encourage rider ship called Rider Rewards! Street teams will be distributing scratch-off rewards cards with chances to win prizes such as tickets to the Grand Ole Opry, Ryman Auditorium, Country Music Hall of Fame, Nashville Zoo, and other Music City tourist attractions, plus 100 All-Day Passes.
- Expanded Airport Service for Residents and Visitors (Nov. 2007)
- Testing rapid bus transit line on Gallatin Road (100,000 riders last year)
- All buses shut down after 5 minutes idle time
- 6 new 60 foot hybrid electric buses (30-40% fuel savings). Could save \$180,000 over 12 year lifespan.
- 05/08: US Federal Transit Authority MegaStar Award: Won for innovative method of promoting ridership by establishing partnerships with employers, educational institutions and other entities through its Easy Ride commuter program – State, Vandy, Belmont, Metro coming on.
- Ridership Increases: 8 mil passenger trips:2006, 8.5 mil passenger:2007, Over 9.4 mil: 2008.
- New Metro partnership for free bus passes begins July 1, 2008! Over 1300 Metro enrollees already with 5000 trips in August and over 6000 in September!

Public Works (Billy Lynch, Public Works Director)

- Signal Optimization Program: Replacing incandescent lights with LED as they burn out – 70% through intersections. Remaining 30% planned and underway.
- Solar powered signals for school zones, crosswalks and other warning type flashers...run for days without sunlight, no road cutting
- Entering the world of LED street and pedestrian lighting. Early stages of testing LED street lights and have set up a 'test site' for analyzing the effectiveness, energy consumption, etc. between 3 different manufacturers.
- Pavement replacement program – use recycle mix where feasible
- Sidewalk Plan/Bike Routes Plan Update 2008. 124 miles of sidewalks, 94 miles of bike routes.
- Manage Right of Way: Coordinate with NEA, Nashville Gas, Planning, Codes, Water

- Trash Collection: Approximately 120,000 homes in the USD
- Recycling: 13 Recycling Drop Off Sites, USD Curbside Recycling, 3 Convenience Centers
- Brush Services Provided throughout Nashville and Davidson County, brush recycled and sold as mulch.
- In House Recycling Program recently expanded with Mayor Dean's 100% employee recycling initiative
- Schools: Support schools recycling program (Allied and MNPS contract). Planned expansion to all schools/single stream Fall 2008.
- Proposed Recycling Curbside Pilot Expansion Program into GSD: This would be a subscription service for a \$10/monthly fee. Rolled out in the Bellevue area Fall of 2008!
- Partnering with the Tennessee Titans to bring recycling to games this season both tailgating and inside LP Stadium. All 24,000 season ticket holders received a flyer in the mail letting them know that LP Field and the Titans are going green this season
- Metro Beautification: Provide recycling and other environmental education programs in Metro Schools and throughout the Community, Host and Organize Neighborhood Clean-Ups and support beautification projects throughout the city.
- Clean City Streets
- Recent expansion of recycling events coordination and providing services as needed and capacity allows (Some Large events with recycling support: Steeplechase, CMA just completed, Titans Games this Fall). 11% increase in recycling collection first 6 months of 2008 over entire 2007! Over 80 events this year!
- Fall Leaf Collection, Christmas Tree Recycling Collection

Water Services Department (Scott Potter, Water Services Director)

The Cumberland River is healthier today than it has been in decades. In 2002, thirty-three miles of the Cumberland were taken off of the state's impaired stream list. Bird species considered the top of the food chain--blue heron and bald eagles-- are thriving along the banks of the Cumberland River within Davidson County. And just this summer, a major bass fishing tournament was moved to the Cumberland from Iowa when flooding there forced its cancellation. Through Nashville's diligent stewardship, the Cumberland has become one of our most promising and important assets.

- Supplies drinking water to customers in Davidson County, as well as parts of Rutherford and Williamson counties
- Environmental Compliance division regulate the quality of wastewater
- Oversees/performs/coordinates compliance activities relating to Metro's MS4 NPDES Permit (issued to Metro by TDEC WPC/EPA), which requires the implementation of a series of programs that work to reduce/eliminate pollutants discharged via municipal storm sewers to receiving streams.
- Enforcement of Metro's Illicit Discharge Ordinance §15.64.205 (it is a violation to discharge/dump any wastewater and/or pollutant material into the storm sewer system or "community waters" - i.e. streams).
- Oversight/enforcement of Metro Grading Permit (GP) sites, which ensures development projects comply with Metro Stormwater regulations (includes requirements for site to address water quantity and quantity issues).
- Oversight/enforcement of Metro's Stream Buffer regulation (via the Metro GP process), which establishes no-disturb riparian buffers along Metro streams, wetlands and ponds on "development/significant redevelopment" projects.
- Engage in various public education activities to educate on stormwater runoff issues and their prevention, as well as, how report such issues (our hotline is 313-PURE or 880-2420), including storm drain stenciling and adopt a stream initiatives.
- Perform various ambient & wet weather stormwater runoff and stream sampling in an effort to monitor the health of our streams & pinpoint sources of pollution. This program also serves to document stream improvements that can result in those segments being taken off of the State's impaired listing.

- Promote the use of various Low Impact Development/Green Infrastructure practices by both the private sector and Metro through revising our regulations & educating other Metro Departments and the development community
- 99.2% reduction of sewage going into the river; goal is 100%
- Biosolids program on horizon
- MWS is actively looking for opportunities to conserve. The fleet study also calls for fleet cutbacks, conservation, and cost reductions. Currently, MWS gets 100,000+ gallons of grease from restaurants that are treated as waste. MWS has begun to explore recycling this grease for use as fuel.

Metro Council

Metro Council has taken the lead on significant environmental protection activities and important environmental legislation. Mayor Dean signed a Metro Council Ordinance establishing a “Green Building Permits” process and “Green Certificates of Occupancy” on June 5. Thanks to the Green Permit Task Force, members of the Council, Metro Codes and other supporters, builders may now apply for a "Green Permit" and be issued a “green certificate of occupancy”. This ordinance, along with the legislation passed last year establishing sustainable design standards for Metro Government buildings, illustrates Nashville’s movement to green building.

“Green Street” program: New legislation sponsored by several members of Metro Council will allow Metro Water Services to include green infrastructure projects in its annual capital budget request. Green infrastructure or “Green Streets” use natural techniques such as planters and tree boxes on public right of way to help manage storm-water problems and improve water quality.

Interagency Initiative

Environmental Surveillance & Source Reduction

- Stemmed from Mosquito Task Force: Health Department, Water Services, Public Works, Community Organizations, Tenn. Department of Health.
- Goal: Reduce stagnant water in storm water treatment devices such as retention/detention ponds and catch basins