

Monterey Bay Sustainability Resource Center
Green Building Coordinating Board
August 11, 2005

Introduction:

The following describes a beginning collaborative effort to create a Monterey Bay Sustainability Resource Center to serve this region. The first step in this process is to establish several, high -priority Green Building services for our region. To do this we are assembling a Green Building Coordinating Board (GBCB).

Purpose of the Monterey Bay Green Building Coordinating Board (GBCB):

The Green Building Coordinating Board (GBCB) will start by working collaboratively with stakeholders in the Monterey Bay region and beyond to facilitate the mainstream adoption of building practices that are economically sound, ecologically healthy, and socially beneficial for our communities. The Coordinating Board will encourage communication and collaboration and, as a result, avoid duplication of effort.

This will strengthen all efforts to transform our policies, principles, and practices towards high -performance green building. The ultimate goal is to establish a Sustainability Resource Center for the Monterey Bay Region. The Green Building Coordinating Board could become the body that facilitates the cooperative process of establishing such a Resource Center.

Background

Greenfuse (a green building and sustainability consulting company) and the Sustainable Base Reuse Institute (SBRI) began this process by hosting three meetings in April and May 2005 to build an “Advisory Network”, which included representatives from building professions, government agencies, non-profit organizations, and academia. Together this Network met with Brian Gitt of *Build it Green* (“BIG”) from the San Francisco Bay Area and identified several high priority green building resources and services most useful to our region.

A representative smaller group then met and developed the idea of this Monterey Bay Green Building Coordinating Board in order to implement these priority programs, working with all interested parties. Initially, the GBCB will work with *Build It Green* to expand some of their most appropriate services to the whole Monterey Bay Region, in collaboration with several local organizations.

The Vision Beyond the GBCB -- The Monterey Bay Sustainability Resource Center

The Monterey Bay Sustainability Resource Center will offer support to regional sustainable development efforts —whether they be green building, greening business, water issues, land use planning, energy issues or other relevant topics.

This Resource Center will help coordinate existing and new sustainability programs, resources, talent, and experience in a way that benefits professionals, students and the public seeking information, products or services. It will leverage and empower those professionals and organizations working on sustainability issues in the region. This Center may manifest in one or more physical locations, and certainly through one regional website.

Monterey Bay Green Building Coordinating Board

We propose that this Board be established in August 2005 to focus on this first step – coordinating the implementation of high-priority green building resources and services in the Monterey Bay area.

The initial Board will:

- Consist of 11-15 people from as broad a representation of regional stakeholders as possible (e.g., building industry, government, non-profits, academia, citizens)
- The first Board term will be six months; thereafter, terms will be determined.
- Anyone with demonstrated expertise and/or interest will be eligible and encouraged to apply for a position on the Board (except those that make up the Application Review & Selection Committee).
- Each Board member will commit to attending at least 5 of the 6 Board meetings.
- We expect that there will be subcommittee work between each meeting.
- After the initial six-month term, Board members will have the option to serve additional consecutive term(s), as determined later.
- This Board will consistently inform, work with, respond to, and accept guidance from the larger network group that created the Board, in the democratic spirit of checks and balances.
- The GBCB will remain volunteer and informal, thus it will participate in the great American tradition of civic engagement without vested economic interests.

Selection Process for Green Building Coordinating Board Members

Members of the “first-term” Green Building Coordinating Board, beginning in Fall 2005 will be selected in the following manner:

1. Application deadline will be 2 weeks from the initial announcement: **September 6, 2005**
2. A Selection Committee comprised of five local community leaders representing government, business, education, and non-profits will meet and review the applications. The goal is to achieve a broad representation within the 11-15 members of the MBGBCB.
3. Those selected will be notified within 2 weeks of the application deadline. They will then set the date of the first meeting which will be open to the public.
4. The new members will establish their goals and timelines for the first six months.