

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

HIRI NEWS

Article published in *USA Today* on heat island mitigation and the pilot project

Call participants

Maury Estes, NASA
(maury.estes@msfc.nasa.gov)
Lisa Gartland, Sacramento, CA
(positivenergy@california.com)
Gary Gero, Los Angeles, CA
(ggero@ead.ci.la.ca.us)
Virginia Gorsevski, EPA
(gorsevski.virginia@epa.gov)
Stacey Mandell, South Florida
(sdlm@gate.net)
Camille Russell, Salt Lake City,
UT (crussell@dcad.state.ut.us)
Fran Stewart, Baton Rouge, LA
(frans@deq.state.la.us)
Elisa Vitale, ICF
(evitale@icfkaizer.com)

Urban Heat Island Pilot Project (UHIPP)/Cool Community updates

Los Angeles

New contract to conduct air quality modeling, develop SIP credits, and conduct demonstration projects

Gary Gero (City of Los Angeles) reported that the City of Los Angeles has selected Environ to coordinate the effort to develop a quantification methodology for issuing air quality credits to

entities implementing heat island reduction strategies. Environ has direct experience in air quality modeling and has conducted peer review work of LBNL's studies. Another local contracting firm will assist with day to day coordination. A meeting will be held next week. Project partners will likely include the LA Department of Water and Power, the South Coast Air Quality Management District, the California Air Research Board, and EPA staff.

Grant money issued to be used to mitigate the negative impacts of transportation systems

The City of Los Angeles was awarded a grant for \$250,000 to fund work to mitigate the negative impacts of transportation systems. The City will partner with a Los Angeles conservation group to conduct tree planting.

TEA-21 grant

The City of Los Angeles is on a list for a Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21) grant for \$380,000. The grant money is intended for planning street-scapes and installing vines and trellises over parking lots. Camille Russell (Salt Lake City, Utah) requested that Gary send her the Los

Angeles TEA-12 grant proposal. Virginia Gorsevski noted that Chris Steele, in Austin, Texas, works with methods of using vines for shading. Virginia stated that she would forward the contact information on Mr. Steele to the UHIPP coordinators.

Green Power Program

The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power announced the Green Power Program, which will offer photovoltaic (PV) components that provide shade while generating power. The PV components will mainly be installed over parking lots.

Sacramento

Steering committee

Lisa Gartland (Positive Energy) reported that the Sacramento Steering Committee held its first meeting and has completed its strategic plan, which should be finalized within the week. Steering Committee members will all serve on a sub-committee, and each sub-committee will work on one project at a time. Sub-committee topics for consideration include cool roofs, pavement, trees and vegetation, air quality impacts, and outreach and education.

Shading ordinances

Sacramento is thinking about revising its shading ordinances. The new ordinances would require that parking lots are 50 percent shaded after 15 years.

Baton Rouge

Fran Stewart (LA Department of Environmental Quality, or DEQ) reported that the DEQ is moving forward on the pilot project for the new DEQ building – it hopes to incorporate heat island reduction strategies in the building design over the next three years. The Department of Administration and the Department of Natural Resources are also interested in implementing demonstration projects. DEQ will be working on these three demonstration projects over the next year and hopes to complete demonstration projects on a total of 12 buildings. DEQ hopes to learn more about roofing, paving, and energy efficient materials it uses on the exteriors and interiors of the buildings.

Salt Lake City*Cool Roof Rating Council*

Camille stated that a Cool Roof Rating Council (CRRC) Meeting was held this week and that she and Michelle Didier were elected to the Board of Directors. Camille hopes that their participation in the CRRC will help to add a local perspective to the group.

Conference

A conference is planned for September or October 1999 that focuses on plans and ordinances and how building codes can be changed to incorporate cool

community strategies. The conference will be co-sponsored by the American Planning Association (APA), the American Institute of Architects (AIA), and the American Society for Landscape Architects (ASLA). Virginia noted that the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) may have a similar conference scheduled during this time and that Camille should coordinate with Nancy Skinner at ICLEI to avoid potential overlap.

Urban fabric analysis

Camille is working with LBNL to identify five or six one square mile areas in Salt Lake City. The areas identified will each represent a different aspect of Salt Lake City's "urban fabric." They will conduct some comparisons involving heat island data and will analyze the energy efficiency of the different areas. The purpose of this effort is to identify potential areas of implementation and to support LBNL's modeling efforts.

Roof survey

Camille stated that they are hiring an intern to conduct a roof survey in the Gateway and University areas. The survey results will be used to determine those areas where reflective roofs may be recommended.

Demonstration projects

An upcoming demonstration project will involve installing a concrete parking lot at a school. Kool Kids projects have also been planned around this demonstration project.

A grass paving demonstration project is underway at a housing project in Salt Lake City. They have used grass paving on an emergency lane and hope to show that grass paving can reduce the amount of water runoff.

Miami/Dade County

Stacey Mandell (South Florida) is working on familiarizing herself with program issues, as she is new to the program.

NASA

Maury Estes (NASA) is continuing to work on the land cover classification data; the data should be ready this summer.

NASA is working on developing look-up tables so that data can be easily converted.

There is a GHCC proposal that is targeted to students and teachers. If funded, the proposal would allow students and teachers to review the remotely sensed urban heat island data.

USA Today article

Virginia stated that an article was published in *USA Today* about the urban heat island pilot project. Virginia will send a copy of the article to city coordinators.

Conferences

Virginia attended a conference in Houston sponsored by the Houston Advanced Research Center (HARC). Conference participants discussed various products and technologies that could help identify and mitigate heat islands. Conference participants also discussed issues related to health, air quality, implementation, and scientific research.

Camille stated that she would like any available information about the Sacramento paving conference. Camille also stated that she is trying to develop a list of options for paving other than concrete and asphalt.

Lisa stated that it would be useful to have a fact sheet containing information on the benefits of heat island reduction strategies. Camille stated that Salt Lake City had developed a one-pager that could be used as a basis for future hand outs.

DOE funding

Camille stated that participants in the CRRC meeting discussed the state of funding for the heat island reduction initiative. Funding to DOE for LBNL has been cut. Virginia stated that EPA is still committed to funding implementation activities.

Next steps

- c Virginia will distribute information on vines for parking lots and contact information for Chris Steele to city coordinators.

- c Virginia will send a copy of the *USA Today* article to city coordinators.
- c Gary will send a copy of the Los Angeles TEA-21 grant application to Camille.
- c Camille will forward the Salt Lake City one-pager on urban heat islands to Virginia for distribution to the city coordinators.

The next EPA/Pilot City conference call is scheduled for Thursday, July 22, 1999, from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. EDT. The call-in number is (202) 260-8330, access code 2072#.
