

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



HIRI NEWS

Chicago includes an albedo requirement in its building code; Sacramento to host a cool roofing seminar

Call participants

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Urban Heat Island Pilot Project and Cool Community updates

Sacramento

Lisa Gartland (PositivEnergy) said that Sacramento's Cool Community program is waiting to hear if it will receive state funding for a statewide Cool Community program. Lisa helped submit a \$52 million grant proposal to the

Governor of California for eight years of funding for the program.

Sacramento's Cool Community program has submitted a few grant proposals this year which have not been funded. Lisa hopes the program receives funding soon to help support the program's various activities, since funding for the program is running low.

Cool roofing seminar

The Cool Community program will host a cool roofing seminar with Sacramento's municipal utility district on July 12, 2000.

Planting will soon begin at Chicago's City Hall rooftop garden.

Chicago

Rooftop garden

Alex Holt (Chicago Department of Environmental Health) said that construction on Chicago's

rooftop garden on City Hall will be completed this summer. Planting will begin in the next few weeks. The rooftop garden will cover approximately 20,000 square feet. The city estimates a \$4,000 yearly energy savings based on reduced summer cooling and winter heating costs.

Demonstration projects

Chicago has selected more than 20 wards or political jurisdictions to implement heat island reduction projects involving activities such as rooftop gardens, alternative paving, and parking lot shading. One project to occur this summer will involve implementing a porous, light-colored surface in an alley to reduce heat and drainage problems.

Codes

Chicago is rewriting its building code to include an albedo requirement for all new roofs (i.e., residential, commercial, industrial, and institutional roofing). Alex will e-mail the draft building code language to the group.

Chicago is also developing architectural, energy efficiency, incinerator, and lawnmower codes in an effort to reduce air emissions. Alex will e-mail Lisa information on credits and the incinerator ban in Chicago.

Baton Rouge

Fran Stewart (Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality) said that Baton Rouge is collaborating with Camille Russell (Utah Office of Energy Services) on a grant proposal for urban fabric analyses. Fran and Camille are developing a methodology and process of using remote sensing for urban fabric analyses to be applied to other cities.

Salt Lake City

Camille was not able to participate in the conference call, but she e-mailed the coordinators an update on Salt Lake City's activities.

Landscape ordinance

Salt Lake City has passed an amendment to its landscape ordinance. This ordinance requires that trees be planted in the interior of all commercial parking lots so that no less than 5% of the lot interior is devoted to landscaping.

Demonstration projects

Potential demonstration projects in Salt Lake City this summer include a rooftop garden project in the Salt Lake City Gateway District, a cool pavement project with Habitat for Humanity, and a white-chipping project.

Tree documentary

A video documentary titled "Our World Among Trees" will discuss the cultural significance of trees

throughout Utah's history. The video will feature the Cool Communities program and heat island mitigation.

Cool Roof Rating Council

A Cool Roof Rating Council meeting is scheduled to take place in Atlanta in June. The Council is planning a series of rooftop visits in the downtown area to record emissivity and reflectance.

NASA

Outreach articles

Maury Estes (NASA) said that the Planners' Advisory Service recently published an article on rooftop gardens in its newsletter. The article mentions Chicago's City Hall rooftop garden.

Maury is also working on an article for *Photogrammetric Engineering and Remote Sensing*, a journal published by the American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing. The Society is planning on publishing a special issue this summer on the use of remote sensing information in decision making.

Maury noted that NASA has thermal images available on its website at <http://www.ghcc.msfc.nasa.gov> and on other FTP servers. Anyone interested can e-mail Maury for the specific FTP server addresses.

HIRI website

Jeremy Castle, an intern at EPA, is gathering information to develop the HIRI website. Information he is gathering

includes updated city contact information, thermal images (delineating parking lots, parks, highways, etc.), and other comments or suggestions on what the website should include. He asked the coordinators to e-mail such information to castle.jeremy@epa.gov.

Proposed policy on stationary emissions sources

Edgar Mercado (EPA) stated that EPA's Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards is developing a policy for voluntary measures from stationary sources, similar to the voluntary mobile source emission reduction policy involving state implementation plans. The proposed policy will be sent to stakeholders for comment. Edgar is involved with the workgroup developing this policy. He has asked the group to include measures for energy efficiency and urban heat island reduction strategies. Edgar said that states would receive credit for including these voluntary stationary source emission reduction measures in air quality plans. Edgar will e-mail the draft policy language to the group.

Next steps

- Alex will e-mail Chicago's draft building code language to the group.
- Alex will e-mail Lisa information on credits and incinerator bans.
- Jeremy will e-mail Maury regarding NASA's FTP addresses for thermal images.
- City coordinators should send any comments,

suggestions, or materials for the HIRI website to Jeremy Castle at castle.jeremy@epa.gov.

- Edgar will e-mail the draft language of the proposed stationary sources policy to the group.

The next conference call is scheduled for Thursday, June 22, 2000, from 4:00 to 5:00 pm EST. The call-in number is (202) 260-7280, access code 6826#.
