

# District Department of the Environment DDOE (KG)

#### **MISSION**

Protect and enhance human health and the environment through preservation, conservation, restoration, education, enforcement and energy efficient practices to improve the quality of life in the District of Columbia and build a world-class green city.

#### **SUMMARY OF SERVICES**

The District Department of the Environment is the lead agency for creating, promulgating and enforcing District of Columbia environmental standards. The Department also provides certification, review and technical analysis services to both the District government and District residents through inspections, training programs and permitting processes.

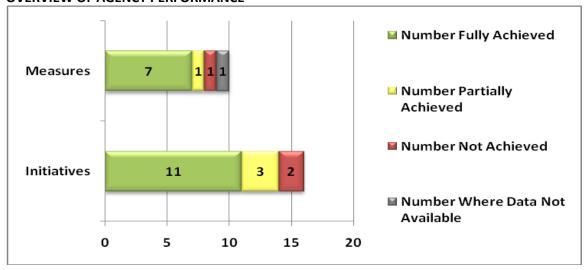
#### **AGENCY OBJECTIVES**

- 1. Establish and continuously maintain regulations that protect and improve the environment for District residents.
- 2. Educate District residents and businesses about environmentally friendly and energy efficient practices and requirements and encourage district-wide environmental and sustainability goals.
- 3. Enrich, restore and protect the environmental quality of the District's natural resources.
- 4. Enforce the District's environmental regulations by increasing the use of enforcement mechanisms and creating incentives for compliance.

#### **ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- ✓ DDOE developed the GreenDC Agenda, which outlines hundreds of actions by District agencies that will improve the city's sustainability.
- ✓ DDOE greatly expanded its RiverSmart Homes program and installed elements at 359 homes, including rain barrels, trees, and rain gardens.
- ✓ DDOE launched the annual Mayor's Environmental Excellence Awards, which recognized 19 businesses and non-profit organizations.

#### **OVERVIEW OF AGENCY PERFORMANCE**





### **Performance Initiatives – Assessment Details**

| Performance Assessment Key: |                    |              |                   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|--------------|-------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Fully achieved              | Partially achieved | Not achieved | Data not reported |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

## OBJECTIVE 1: ESTABLISH AND CONTINUOUSLY MAINTAIN REGULATIONS THAT PROTECT AND IMPROVE THE ENVIRONMENT FOR DISTRICT RESIDENTS.

### INITIATIVE 1.1: Identify, by the end of fiscal year 2009, all DDOE-related regulations that must be created or revised.

The DDOE regulations within FY09 that must be revised or created were successfully identified. This initiative is a bit of a moving target, since as new District or federal laws are passed, new regulatory requirements emerge. However, with the addition of a Legislative Analyst on staff, DDOE has successfully tracked all needed regulatory work. In addition, all regulatory revisions that DDOE sought to complete in FY09 were finished (6 of 6).

### INITIATIVE 1.2: DDOE will finalize amended stormwater regulations by the end of fiscal year 2009.

DDOE had completed its stormwater regulations. However, at the request of the City Administrator, an additional comment period was added late in FY09. As a result, DDOE is now incorporating this latest feedback and preparing a new final draft.

INITIATIVE 1.3: DDOE will develop regulations to implement its voluntary clean-up program. DDOE completed its internal drafting process and the regulations are now in the review phase. They will be sent for external review by the end of calendar year 2009.

OBJECTIVE 2: EDUCATE DISTRICT RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES ABOUT ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY AND ENERGY EFFICIENT PRACTICES AND REQUIREMENTS AND ENCOURAGE DISTRICT-WIDE ENVIRONMENTAL AND SUSTAINABILITY GOALS.

## INITIATIVE 2.1: Increase accessibility of agency information and scope of outreach and education programs by reaching 50 percent of District residents.

DDOE revamped both its official website and green.dc.gov in order to comply with Language
 Access requirements and ensure that all posted materials reflected current laws and policies.
 In addition, via the Communications Office's participation in advertising campaigns and public events, we estimate that DDOE messages have reached 50% of District residents.

## INITIATIVE 2.2: Improve outreach to regulated entities in the development community by increasing participation in pre-development meetings.

The number of pre-development meetings in FY2009 was far below our target--the economic decline resulted in the cancellation/postponement of many projects with whom we otherwise would have met. However, DDOE did take definite steps to improve outreach to regulated



entities. The agency hired a full-time Business Outreach Coordinator, who works to let regulated industries know of new requirements. DDOE also holds voluntary meetings with developers on environmental compliance and design assistance. We proactively attend industry and community meetings about specific projects. We have not been invited to attend DDOT's PRDMs, which is the one piece of this initiative not achieved.

## INITIATIVE 2.3: Expand programs that provide environmental education and opportunities to District youth.

DDOE served 4,800 youth in Summer 2009, an increase from 300 in 2008. This was done through the Mayor's Green Summer Job Corps (800 youth) and the Mayor's Conservation Corps (4,000 youth). In addition, DDOE reached its target for MWEE students and continued to coordinate with DCPS on educational presentations, events and outreach.

#### INITIATIVE 2.4: Create a GreenDC Sustainability Agenda by spring 2009.

The GreenDC Agenda was released in April, 2009. For the climate elements of this initiative, as of 09/30, we had a draft climate emissions inventory in hand. We had also conducted our first round of meetings with District agency personnel to begin the process of developing the District government Climate Action Plan (CAP). With ICLEI, we had also drafted a set of climate emission reduction measures to be considered for inclusion in the District Government CAP. We had also compiled a preliminary list of community stakeholders to solicit for participation in the Community CAP Task Force, and had submitted that preliminary list to the City Administrator for his initial review.

## INITIATIVE 2.5: Provide technical assistance to agencies, businesses and residents to promote development of high performance buildings.

In FY09 DDOE worked with the following sister agencies for coordinated implementation of the Green Building Act:

- Development of a green building intake form for DCRA
- Assistance to DCRA on green projects inquiries and FTE job description for green building coordinator
- Creation of an agencies green projects tracking table with DRES, DCRA, DHCD, DCHA
- Development of a GBA exemption request processes for DHCD and DCHA projects ongoing cross-agency meetings to identify issues and solutions for GBA implementation
- Development of Mayor's Order and processes for public buildings ENERGY STAR benchmarking
- Assistance to OPEFM to incorporate green practices into project construction guidelines and ongoing expertise for projects in development

In FY09 DDOE worked on the following agency trainings:

- Green building standards and processes training for DCRA executive and permitting staff
- Green buildings standards and processes training for DCRA inspections and line staff
- Co-organized training with DRES for agencies undertaking ENERGY STAR benchmarking
- OPEFM-DCPS-DDOE workshop with US Green Building Council to consider LEED for Existing Buildings standards for OPEFM schools portfolio

DDOE's \$725,000 GBA funds were cut in FY09



#### INITIATIVE 2.6: Implement a service awards program for Low Impact Design installations.

DDOE granted three service awards to innovate LID projects in 2009. "Innovative LID" refers to practices and technologies to manage storm water runoff as close to the rainfall as possible. These practices prevent runoff by encouraging evapo-transpiration, infiltration and the capture and use of stormwater in the landscape and the buildings. They include site conservation and tree planting as well as green roofs and green walls, rain gardens, porous pavement, rain

- barrels and cisterns and treatment trains of all of the above. The three sites are:
  - 1. Brent Elementary Bioretention (Brent PTA/OPEFM/DDOT/NRCS);
  - 2. Lafayette Park Harvest & Reuse for drip irrigation (DPR);
  - 3. Takoma Recreation Bioretention (DPR).

### INITIATIVE 2.7: Complete implementation elements of the Clean and Affordable Energy Act by February 2009.

The SEU Board has begun regular meetings. Green Energy DC, the branding effort for the SEU, was launched in early 2009.

#### OBJECTIVE 3: ENRICH, RESTORE AND PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY OF THE DISTRICT'S **NATURAL RESOURCES.**

#### INITIATIVE 3.1: Install measures to reduce trash in the Anacostia River.

DDOE installed a total of 52 trash reducing measures along the Anacostia River, which exceeds the FY09 target of 40. These measures included the first bandalong style trash trap in the Western Hemisphere.

#### **INITIATIVE 3.2: Expand the RiverSmart Homes program to 80 homes.**

DDOE reports a total of 359 homes participating in the RiverSmart program, well over our initial target. In addition, DDOE has a long list of homes seeking an assessment and is actively working to meet demand for participation in the program.

### INITIATIVE 3.3: Complete 50 percent of the stream restoration of the Watts Branch tributary.

The Watts Branch project is still in the initial design phase, although 720 feet were able to be restored. The project requires approvals and communication with WASA to resolve certain implementation barriers. This resolution has taken longer than expected and DDOE continues to collaborate with WASA to get the plans approved and the project moving forward.

#### **INITIATIVE 3.4:** Begin design of stream restoration of Pope Branch.

WASA is responsible for issuing the contracts so that the design phase can be initiated. DDOE partnered with WASA to make contract issuance more efficient, but there have been delays on that end.

### OBJECTIVE 4: ENFORCE THE DISTRICT'S ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATIONS BY INCREASING THE USE OF ENFORCEMENT MECHANISMS AND CREATING INCENTIVES FOR COMPLIANCE.

#### INITIATIVE 4.1: Implement a program to collect unpaid civil infractions fines and penalties.

DDOE negotiated an agreement with OAH in 2009 such that the agency could directly collect unpaid judgments. As a result, DDOE met its target in collected adjudicated fines.



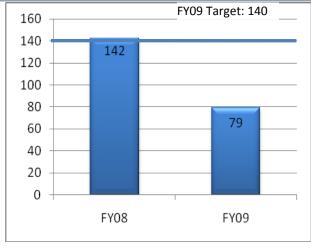
#### INITIATIVE 4.2: Improve the efficiency of the lead case management process.

First, upon the successful consolidation in October 2009 of the DDOE and DOH lead programs, case protocol was changed such that a risk assessor always accompanies the case manager on a home visit. This ensures that a comprehensive assessment can be conducted immediately, eliminating duplicate trips and scheduling problems. In addition, DDOE hired an Enforcement Branch Chief and implemented a new tracking database for all lead cases. There has been a great increase in the caseload due to the requirements of the 2008 Lead Hazard Prevention Act, but DDOE has taken concrete steps to improve efficiency and will continue to do so.

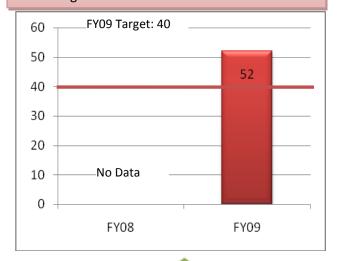


### Key Performance Indicators - Highlights

## From Objective 2: # of applicable development projects conducting pre-plan meetings with DDOE



## From Objective 3: # of trash reducing technologies installed in the Anacostia River



**FULLY ACHIEVED** 



#### **More About These Indicators:**

## How did the agency's actions affect this indicator?

- DDOE continued offering informational meetings for developers to understand and comply with environmental regulations
- DDOE staff has taken a pro-active approach to development outreach by attending industry and community meetings. This strategy has helped DDOE to disseminate useful development information outside of the context of an official pre-plan session.

### What external factors influenced this indicator?

 The main explanation for why predevelopment meetings were below the FY09 target is the national economic decline that began in September 2008. As projects were postponed or funding streams became less certain, plan submissions decreased.

## How did the agency's actions affect this indicator?

- DDOE decided to allocate funding from the newly revised stormwater fees towards installing trash reducing technologies. This funding was not available in previous years.
- DDOE's Watershed Protection Division issued a number of sub-grants to community partners that assured that any trash traps installed would be maintained, thus covering a greater number of tributaries.

#### What external factors influenced this indicator?

Funded by a DDOE sub-grant, the Anacostia
Watershed Society completed a
comprehensive study of trash in the Anacostia
River. This study informed DDOE's decisions
on what type of technologies to use, where to
install them, and how many would be
necessary.



### **Key Performance Indicators – Details**

**Performance Assessment Key:** 

Fully achieved

Partially achieved

Not achieved

Data not reported

|   |     | Measure Name              | FY2008<br>YE | FY2009<br>YE | FY2009<br>YE | FY2009<br>YE | Budget Program                       |
|---|-----|---------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------------------------|
|   |     |                           | Actual       | Target       | Actual       | Rating       |                                      |
| • | 1.1 | % of needed regulatory    |              |              |              |              | POLICY AND                           |
|   | 1.1 | revisions completed       | 0            | 15           | 75%          | 500%         | PLANNING                             |
| • |     | # of applicable           |              |              |              |              |                                      |
|   | 2.1 | development projects      |              |              |              |              |                                      |
|   |     | conducting pre-plan       |              |              |              |              | NATURAL                              |
|   |     | meetings                  | 142          | 140          | 79           | 56.43%       | RESOURCES                            |
|   |     | # of students receiving a |              |              |              |              |                                      |
|   | 2.2 | "Meaningful Watershed     |              |              |              |              | NATURAL                              |
|   |     | Education Experience"     | 3006         | 5000         | 6625         | 132.50%      | RESOURCES                            |
| • |     | # of District government  |              |              |              |              |                                      |
|   | 2.3 | buildings benchmarked     |              |              |              |              |                                      |
|   | 2.5 | using the Energy Star     |              |              |              |              | POLICY AND                           |
|   |     | Portfolio Manager         | 42           | 10           |              |              | PLANNING                             |
|   |     | % of construction plans   |              |              |              |              |                                      |
|   | 2.4 | approved that contain     |              |              |              |              | NATURAL                              |
|   |     | low-impact design         | 15           | 20           | 39.79%       | 198.95%      | RESOURCES                            |
| • |     | Service Awards for        |              |              |              |              |                                      |
|   | 2.5 | innovative LID            |              |              |              |              | NATURAL                              |
|   |     | Demonstration Program     | 0            | 3            | 3            | 100%         | RESOURCES                            |
|   |     | Participants in the       |              |              |              |              |                                      |
|   | 3.1 | RiverSmart Homes          |              |              |              |              | NATURAL                              |
|   |     | program                   | 8            | 80           | 359          | 448.75%      | RESOURCES                            |
|   |     | # of trash reducing       |              |              |              |              |                                      |
|   | 3.2 | technologies installed in |              |              |              |              |                                      |
|   |     | the Anacostia River       |              |              |              |              | NATURAL                              |
|   |     | Watershed                 | 0            | 40           | 52           | 130%         | RESOURCES                            |
| • |     | Linear feet of improved   |              |              |              |              |                                      |
|   | 3.3 | stream habitat or         |              |              |              |              | NATURAL                              |
|   |     | restored stream           | 0            | 14784        | 720          | 4.87%        | RESOURCES                            |
|   | 4.1 | % of adjudicated fines    |              |              |              |              | EDUCATION AND                        |
|   |     | and penalties collected   | 0            | 30           | 79.71%       | 265.70%      | ENFORCEMENT                          |
|   |     | % of EBL-case and other   |              |              |              |              |                                      |
| • |     | properties with           |              |              |              |              |                                      |
|   | 4.2 | identified hazards that   |              |              |              |              |                                      |
|   | 4.2 | receive an Order to       |              |              |              |              |                                      |
|   |     | Abate within 15 days of   |              |              |              |              | ENVIRONMENTAL                        |
|   |     | being assessed            | 0            | 50           | 45.83%       | 91.67%       | PROTECTION  re Accountability Report |

District Department of the Environment Government of the District of Columbia

FY09 Performance Accountability Report