



Friday, February 20th, 2009
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The Green Connection

Upcoming Meetings

Full Green Committee

Tuesday, March 10th 8:00am-10:00am
James Island Recreation Center
1088 Quail Drive

Land Use and Planning Subcommittee

Tuesday, February 24th 8:30am-10:30am
Third Floor Public Meeting Room
75 Calhoun Street
(CARTA Route [201](#) or [210](#))

Recycling and Waste Management Subcommittee

Tuesday, February 25th 8:00am
Third Floor Planning Library
75 Calhoun Street
(CARTA Route [201](#) or [210](#))

Building and Energy Subcommittee

Thursday, February 26th 4:30pm
College of Charleston
Rita Hollings Science Center Room 344
66 George St.
(CARTA Route [210](#) or [20](#))

Which Car is Greener?

The Honda Civic GX comes in with the highest Green Score, followed by the Toyota Prius. Look to greenercars.org for this and more information.



Green Stimulus Programs



“On Tuesday, a new day dawned for proponents of clean energy and energy efficiency, with President Obama’s signing of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) in Denver, [a fitting place](#). ICLEI member local governments can now tap new funding to save jobs, blunt the economic crash, lower their greenhouse gas emissions, and jumpstart the clean energy economy....The following preliminary list outlines the main programs and how local governments can access them.”



emissions, and jumpstart the clean energy economy....The following preliminary list outlines the main programs and how local governments can access them.” Please see the [full article](#) at ICLEI’s website. Key components include:

Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG)- The EECBG received a total of \$3.2 billion in funding. \$2.8 billion of this will be distributed by formula to state and local governments and Indian tribes. Charleston is an eligible city to receive a block grant. The funds may be used for any program that contributes to the reduction of fossil fuel emissions and/or total energy use.

Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)- The WAP received \$5 billion for the installation of energy efficiency measures in low-income households.

State Energy Programs- Funding for state energy programs will further renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies at \$3.1 billion.

Alternative Fuel Vehicles Pilot Grant Program- \$300 million will be invested to help acquire motor vehicles with a higher fuel economy, including hybrid vehicles, electric vehicles, commercially available plug-in hybrid vehicles and the related infrastructure.

EPA and Department of Labor Green Funding Opportunities- EPA has received \$300 million to implement the Diesel Emission Reduction Act and the Department of Labor has received \$500 million for training for careers in energy efficiency and renewable energy.

Sea-level Rise Threatens SC

Earlier this month the PEW Environment Group along with local partners including Mayor Joseph P. Riley, Jr. warned of current measurable rise in local sea levels of 3.28 mm per year. This current rate equates to about 1 foot in a century. “South Carolina’s coastline is known for its barrier island beaches, expansive salt marshes, and wealth of natural resources. It is an area that draws people to it. Over twenty-five percent of the state’s population lives within the eight coastal counties and millions more visit annually. And in the face of climate change and sea-level rise, it is an area at risk.” Please follow this link to see the [full editorial](#) at the Post and Courier website.

