



California Energy Commission
2009 Integrated Energy Policy Report Staff Workshop
August 11, 2009 9:00 am – 5:00 pm Hearing Room A
Energy Efficient Community Development Research Project

The Energy Efficient Community Development Research Project creates planning and modeling tools to help develop sustainable communities. The project will develop several modeling tools to estimate building energy and transportation fuel use in order to maximize community scale efficiency.

Why was this project undertaken?

Prior to 2005, little research had been conducted on optimizing energy and resource efficiency at the community scale necessary to increase the energy efficiency and environmental quality of California cities.

What does this project involve?

The project will evaluate various technology and design options, analyze their impact on existing utility infrastructure, and generate solutions to the institutional obstacles and market barriers that prevent their use. The project will then translate this research into practical case studies and guidelines for anyone seeking to develop sustainable communities.

Benefits of the Project

The project will provide:

- A better understanding of the environmental and economic impacts of the energy use in buildings.
- Better modeling of environmental and economic benefits through more sustainable urban energy planning.
- Practical case studies and guidelines that will enable California planning, design, and building professionals to choose more sustainable urban design patterns.

Who can benefit from this project?

All California cities, counties, design, and building professionals will be able to utilize the technologies and strategies developed through this project to increase energy efficiency and improve environmental quality.

Status

Project is estimated to be completed September 30, 2009

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