# MINUTES

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## LEED for Neighborhood Development Core Committee

**Conference Call – April 15, 2009**

| Member | Company/Affiliation | Attendance? |
|---|---|---|
| Ted Bardacke | Global Green USA | Yes |
| Kaid Benfield | Natural Resources Defense Council | Yes |
| John Dalzell | Boston Redevelopment Authority | Yes |
| Victor Dover | Dover, Kohl & Partners Town Planning | |
| Doug Farr | Farr Associates, Architecture and Urban Design | Yes |
| Tim Frank | Sierra Club | Yes |
| Bert Gregory | Mithun Architects + Designers + Planners | Yes |
| Daniel Hernandez | Jonathan Rose Companies | Yes |
| Justin Horner | Natural Resources Defense Council | |
| Bruce Knight | City of Champaign, IL | |
| Jessica Cogan Millman | The Agora Group | Yes |
| Susan Mudd | Congress for the New Urbanism | Yes |
| John Norquist | Congress for the New Urbanism | Yes |
| Kenneth Potts | McGough Development | Yes |
| Elizabeth Schilling | Urban Associates | Yes |
| **Committee liaisons** | | |
| Brett Van Akkeren | U.S. EPA | Yes |
| **USGBC Staff** | | |
| Sophie Lambert | | Yes |
| Dara Zycherman | | Yes |
| Chris Marshall | | No |
| Meghan Bogaerts | | Yes |
| Jason Hercules | | No |
| Robyn Eason | | No |
| Stefanie Young | | No |
| **Others** | | |
| Nora Beck | Congress for the New Urbanism | Yes |
| Laura Watchman | Watchman Consulting (consultant) | Yes |
| Eric Main | Criterion Planners (consultant) | No |
| Rachel Sohmer | Natural Resources Defense Council | No |
| Eliot Allen | Criterion Planners (consultant) | Yes |
| Nathan Sandwick | Natural Resources Defense Council | No |

**1. Approved of minutes for 4/7/09 core committee call.**

a. Moved by John Dalzell.
b. Seconded by Bert Gregory.
c. Vote Results: 6 ayes; 0 nays; 3 abstentions (others joined call later).

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**2. Declaration of conflicts of interest related to this call's agenda**

a. None.

**3. Committee discussion of proposed credit language revisions**

*a. SLLp5: Agricultural Land Conservation*

The committee discussed several changes proposed by the working group, including modifications to the title, intent, and content of Options 2 and 4. The committee agreed to retain both the title of the prerequisite and Option 2. The committee also confirmed that an additional option for projects that are not building upon any prime agricultural land.

Two proposals regarding Option 4 were reviewed. Proposal A contained more stringent requirements for mitigation of prime agricultural land that a project develops on, in recognition of the seriousness of destroying prime or unique soils. Proposal B was slightly more lenient, in recognition of the realities faced by growing small towns in the Midwest, where almost all land is prime farmland. The committee voted: 8 for proposal A (including two by proxy) and 7 for proposal B (including two by proxy). The proxy votes were confirmed verbally or via email later. John Norquist then offered an amendment which would provide different requirements for projects in Metropolitan Statistical Areas of a certain size, which everyone on the call accepted.

*b. NDPc3: Diversity of Uses*

Sophie Lambert led the committee in discussion of a few outstanding issues in this credit. The following decisions were made: requirement language should reflect the fact that a project may contain more than one neighborhood center; the first public comment spacing requirements for clustered diverse uses should be reinstated; the intent should mention car-free living; and the reference to SLLc3: Reduced Automobile Dependence should specifically mention Option 1.

*c. NPDc11: Universal Accessibility*

Daniel Hernandez reviewed the recent changes to the credit, and committee members pointed out a few small clarifying changes. Daniel will send these changes to Meghan later for inclusion in the draft rating system.

*d. NPDp2: Compact Development*

John Dalzell requested clarification from the committee regarding the calculation methodology for Option 1. The committee decided that projects should meet the higher Option 1 thresholds within the specified pedestrian walksheds, and should meet the lower Option 2 threshold for the lands outside of the pedestrian walksheds.

*e. SLLc3: Reduced Automobile Dependence*

The committee decided to retain the language regarding projects larger than 500 acres, understanding that the language may become unnecessary if a maximum project size is set.

*f. NDPc8: Transportation Demand Management*

The committee decided to alter the 18 month commitment for car-share vehicles to 2 years.

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g. *NPDc12: Community Outreach and Involvement*
The committee agreed to accept Kaid Benfield's revisions to the intent section, which he will send to Meghan after the call. The committee also agreed to edit out the word "conceptual" in several paragraphs of the credit to avoid confusion.

h. *NPDc4: Mixed-use Diverse Communities*
Daniel Hernandez and Ted Bardacke explained the rationale behind the threshold changes in the affordable housing section of the credit so that other committee members can adequately explain them to their respective constituencies.

**4. Next call is scheduled at 3:00 pm Eastern on May 5, 2009.**