



ENERGY COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY:

Meetings held from June 1 - November 30, 2007

Beginning June 1, 2007, the Mayor created the City's Energy Committee, a task force formulated to create clean energy initiatives and "green" guidelines for the City, its businesses and its residents. The following is a summary of the discussions during meetings held June 1 - November 30, 2007.

All agreed that the public participation in this ongoing "Go Green" initiative will be fundamental. To help build a stronger green community, the Mayor expressed his hopes of reaching out to residents through various programs and services. Over the past year and a half, the City of Long Branch has instituted a variety of sustainability initiatives and programs. Currently, these include:

- Installation of LED lights on City traffic signals (all green and red lights in 2004; yellow lights as needed)
- City-wide participation in the Energy Star Clean Energy "Save a Light" campaign
- Creation of a Master Plan Committee to re-evaluate the City's Master Plan and Zoning Ordinances
- "Green Pages" on the City's website with links to environmental and energy saving sites and resources
- Council adoption of the City's Master Plan Re-Examination Report February 2007
- Eco-friendly books, flyers and continuous movies in the public library for residents and businesses
- Participation in the Clean Power Choice Program by the NJ Board of Public Utilities
- Employee participation in sustainability, energy efficiency, and LEED workshops
- Incorporating City-Wide Recycling Plans and Energy Programs
- Incorporation of Energy Star and ASHARE rated materials, appliances, and utilities in municipal buildings and structures

To enhance the City's green initiative and plan for a successful, environmentally friendly future, the following ideas were discussed:

- Energy Audits
- Hybrid Vehicles
- Artificial turfs for newly constructed parks
- Discussions and lectures presented by "green" experts
- Incorporate a "Plant A Tree" program
- Public participation and education
- Business sponsorship
- LEED certified municipal building and a LEED accredited employee
- Bike paths/racks/shelters
- Inter-City Inter-modal public transportation services

These efforts will continue to help build a greener tomorrow in Long Branch. As city progresses in creating a greener, cleaner, cooler, energy-efficient municipality through its monthly Energy Committee meetings and developments, the Green Pages will be updated with ideas and ways that the city and its residents can work together towards this goal.