

2009-2010 Green Policy Priorities

Enterprise has worked to advance legislation and regulations that promote healthy, energy-efficient, water conserving and environmentally responsive housing for low-income families. Enterprise supports policies that will provide resources and new technical assistance so all affordable housing can deliver significant health, economic and environmental benefits.



Enterprise Community Partners
President and CEO Doris Koo
testifies on behalf of green,
affordable housing.

JOIN THE ACTION

As part of the next generation of Enterprise Green Communities, Enterprise calls for a new national commitment by the public, private and nonprofit sectors to make all affordable housing – new and existing – green by 2020.

Specifically, we will work with Congress and the Administration to:

- Pass a comprehensive climate and energy bill that includes financing mechanisms with provisions to meet the needs of low-income families and communities. Such financing mechanisms may include a modified loan guarantee program or a green bank.
- Pass the GREEN Act in the Senate and sign the bill into law. This will provide new resources and program incentives, aligned with the Enterprise Green Communities Criteria, to ensure that millions of low-income Americans can live in smarter, healthier and more water-conserving and energy-efficient homes.
- Pass the Expanding Building Efficiency Incentives Act of 2009 (S. 1637) so that more green multifamily housing can be built with tax credits.
- Fund the HUD Sustainable Communities Initiative and Energy Innovation Fund, and give HUD a mandate to plan and develop sustainable, energy-efficient communities. This will ensure that public housing, HOPE VI and other HUD-assisted stock will be built and retrofitted in accordance with comprehensive green housing and smart growth goals.

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- Make transit-oriented development an important part of the Transportation Bill, and create incentives for the building of affordable housing near public transportation and infrastructure.
- Provide resources and establish criteria and technical assistance to green affordable housing built or preserved with tax credits.
- Create an interagency council to ensure coordination among HUD, DOE, DOT and other federal agencies that can contribute to green communities.

About Enterprise

Enterprise is a leading provider of the development capital and expertise it takes to create decent, affordable homes and rebuild communities. For more than 25 years, Enterprise has introduced neighborhood solutions through public-private partnerships with financial institutions, governments, community organizations and others that share our vision.

Enterprise has raised and invested more than \$10 billion in equity, grants and loans to help build or preserve more than 250,000 affordable rental and for-sale homes to create vital communities. Enterprise is currently investing in communities at a rate of \$1 billion a year.

THREE REASONS TO BUILD GREEN

- 1** Building sustainably will reduce energy costs for low- and moderate-income families, who often live in older, less energy-efficient housing and are disproportionately burdened by rising energy costs.
- 2** Green homes improve the health of low-income families. Studies demonstrate that healthier living environments reduce asthma in adults and children, thereby reducing emergency medical trips.
- 3** Green building reduces energy use and greenhouse gas emissions. Residential housing accounts for 22 percent of the nation's energy use and accounts for more than 20 percent of greenhouse gas emissions.

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