

MEMORANDUM

December 6, 2011

TO: Planning, Building and Zoning Committee

FROM: David Husemoller, Senior Planner
Planning, Building and Development

RE: Promoting Sustainable Building and Development Practices in Lake County Report and Presentation

Upon direction from the County Board Strategic Plan in 2009 to “promote a sustainable environment”, the Planning, Building and Development Department sought funding to assist in surveying regionally-relevant sustainable best practices that promote a sustainable environment. The County subsequently applied for and received from the US Department of Energy an energy efficiency community block grant to fund consulting services for a sustainable best practices study. In April 2010 the County Board adopted a joint resolution to enter into a contract with The Lakota Group, Chicago IL to carry out such study and prepare a report.

The “Promoting Sustainable Building and Development Practices in Lake County” report highlights various regionally-relevant sustainable building and development best practices. These best practices were developed through consultant research and with the input from staff, officials, and key stakeholders from across Lake County in several feedback sessions during the drafting of the report. The findings of this report will provide necessary background for an upcoming sustainability update to the Regional Framework Plan, ultimately leading to the introduction of ordinances and programs that promote a sustainable environment in Lake County.

On Dec. 6, 2011, The Lakota Group will lead a presentation of the Sustainable Practices report. Staff recommends acceptance of the report and direction to distribute it to municipalities and other key stakeholders in Lake County following County Board action at its Dec. 13 meeting.