

Land Use, Built Environment, and the Great Lakes Regional Economy

Essential Elements and Networks of Activities

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Essential Elements: Goals

- Water quantity in the Great Lakes is managed as though water was scarce in our region
 - Water-centric cities as an integrative model
- Need to address social inequities in:
 - Health outcomes
 - Access to quality education
 - Access to jobs
 - Distribution of affordable housing
 - Transportation options



Essential Elements

- Energy efficiency in buildings as near term goal
 - Transformation over time to include:
 - Energy efficiency in urban form
 - Energy production in buildings
- Enhanced feedback loops
 - Lifecycle impact assessment
 - Adaptive management



Networks of Responsibility

- Need all hands on deck
- Decentralization is likely to be a trend
 - Consistent with resilience concepts
- Need to support local communities
 - At the level of neighborhoods and clusters of neighbors
 - New funding models that allow federal funds to flow to local groups without excessive red tape
 - Sticking point: financial and political accountability



Examples of Successes

- DOE Solar America Cities and Milwaukee Shines
 - Empowering nonprofit sector and neighborhood groups
 - Building a local market
 - Skilled workforce
 - Manufacturers and installers
 - Market demand
 - Financing innovations
- Detroit River
 - International Wildlife Refuge
 - Waterfront redevelopment



Examples of Success

- Sweet Water (Southeastern Wisconsin Watersheds Trust, Inc.)
 - Watershed-based permitting
 - New guidance on integrated stormwater and wastewater permitting
 - Good step toward breaking down silos
 - Again, the hard nut to break: accountability
 - Transitions Milwaukee example