



SUBJECT: Corporate Sustainable Building Policy
Report Number: CSI-04-10

April 19, 2010

Chair, members of the committee, staff

BurlingtonGreen is pleased with the recommendations in this report.

I am somewhat puzzled by the overlap between this report and report PB 32/10. This report deals with “new commercial and multi-unit residential development in the City”. PB 32/10 speaks to” -----future private sector building projects in the City of Burlington” Perhaps staff can explain.

I am concerned about excluding buildings smaller than 500 M² (5400 sq ft). I could not find the reasoning for this. If LEED has a standard developed for residential applications where the area is generally less than 5400 sq ft, why should we exclude these buildings?

The main purpose of adopting more stringent standards is to become more sustainable as a community. Whether it is LEED certified or some other standard such as Green Globes should not matter. There are two condominiums I know of in Burlington, Appleby Woods, already completed and Ironstone Condominiums, which is not completed, neither have any formal certification, but both use some innovative energy efficient ideas such as ground source heating. The application of sustainable practices is more important than the plaque on the wall.

I understand there will be a workshop dealing with the issue of LEED versus non-LEED, but incorporating sustainable features, at the Take Action Burlington summit on May 6.

The report addresses major renovations. I am not clear how one defines “major renovations”. The city may have a system in place to address non-major renovations to increase such things as energy efficiency. This could be as simple as replacing old T12 with T8 fluorescent fixtures, resulting in a 40% energy saving. If there is no system in place I recommend investigating the BOMA (Building Owners and Managers Association) BEST for its existing stock of buildings.

Thank you.

Kurt Koster
President
BurlingtonGreen