

Presentation to:

Eat Smart, Move More NC Leadership Team Meeting

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NC Department of Environment and Natural Resources

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History of My Role

- **Background:** Hazardous waste
 - Risk assessment, impact on human health
 - Brownfields, community revitalization



- **Land Conservation:**

Executive Director NHTF

- **Climate Change:** CAPAG & now DENR's Climate Plan Steering Committee – focus comm. design



First Formal Interaction with DHHS

Active Living Leadership Forum – August 2010

- Daniel Rodriguez's talk - reduced future health care costs



Sustainable Communities = Active Living

1. Industrial Site Remediation/revitalization
2. GHG Reduction/Climate Change
3. More sustainable/alignment with feds/\$
4. Reduce Health Care Costs



Current Involvement



SCTF

- Led for first 6 months until hired staff; now DENR resource
- Work closely with DHHS– threading health issues into the joint work - **HIA major recommendation**

- *Triad Piedmont* - DENR a partner, providing green infrastructure mapping resource

•HEC

- Recent member ~ Feb 2011
- Impressed with policy analysis and focus
- Understand/aware of goals - Greenways, LUP, HIA



Recent Intersections



2011 Environmental

Summit theme = Sustainability

- Chaired workgroup on built environment, steered to sustainable communities – recommending HIAs

Interagency Climate Change Initiative



- Vulnerabilities Assessment – much of impacts will be on health and less political to talk about



Future Intersections

- **Interagency Sustainability Initiative**
 - DENR, DOT, DHHS, Commerce
 - Others to be added (Ag, Cultural Resources), federal agencies, NGOs (new Sustainability Center), businesses, academia
 - New, more than just sustainable communities

Opportunity for new projects/initiatives



STATE'S Role in Sustainability

- DENR's goal is to protect natural resources; Commerce to grow economy/jobs; DHHS to protect health of the citizens, etc. Collaborate to improve health of environment, the people and the economy
- Coordinate efforts to support job/economic expansion while:
 - Reducing use of natural resources and carbon footprint
 - Position NC as the premier destination for sustainable businesses/entrepreneurs
 - Assist businesses in achieving sustainability scores required by customers



Future Intersections

- **NC Business Sustainability Network** *A self-help network of North Carolina commercial and industrial businesses in partnership with local government and academia to increase sustainability thinking and action in business practices*
 - *WorkWell NC* – worksite wellness
 - HEC
 - SCTF



Future Intersections

I'm a good advocate and I look for opportunities
– send them my way!

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end