



Thursday, August 6th, 2009

www.charlestongreen.us

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The Green Connection

Green Committee Meeting

Tuesday, August 11th

8:00 am

John Wesley United Methodist Church

626 Savannah Highway

[\(CARTA Route 30\)](#)

Energy Info Through GreenQuest

GreenQuest is a free personal energy information website sponsored by earth-friendly organizations. Get info on spending, weather data, greenhouse gas emissions, and energy use for your building. In addition, you can learn how your energy use is affecting the environment, anticipate future energy use and cost thru weather data, and see how you compare with your neighbors. You can measure the effects of energy projects like new windows or air conditioners, and then submit your commercial building data to ENERGY STAR for an energy rating. The process is simple. First, get your utility bills. You can enter up to three types of bills for one building. For example, electric, natural gas, and water. Next, enter the requested information about these bills. Repeat this every time you receive a utility bill. Soon you'll build up a history, so you can easily view usage and cost trends (how much you're using and how much you're spending). Click [here](#) to get info on your energy usage!



Shelley Potica Appointed to U.S. Dept of Housing and Urban Development

President and CEO of the national nonprofit organization "Reconnecting America", Shelley Potica has been appointed Senior Advisor for Sustainable Housing and Communities. HUD's Office of Sustainable Housing and Communities will advance housing and communities that promote



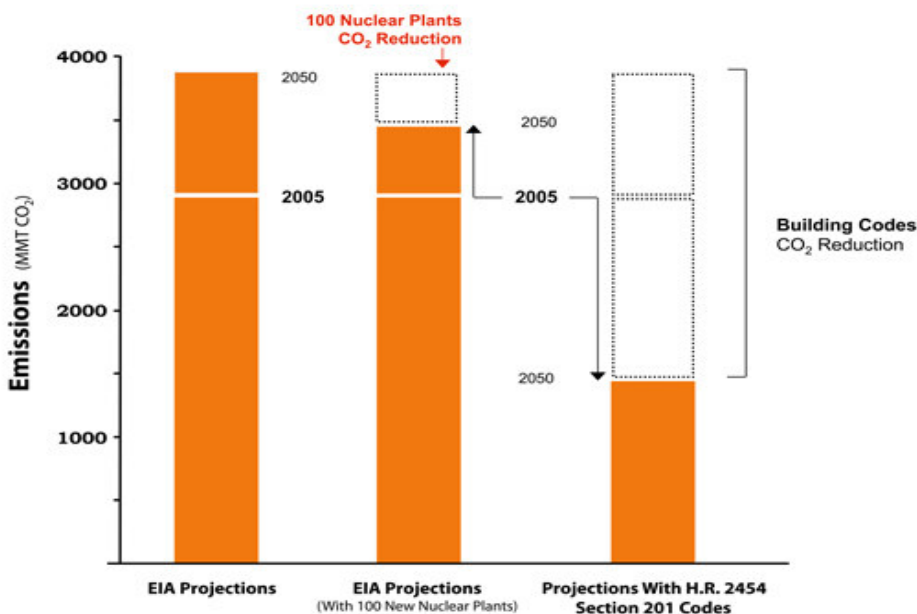
affordable, livable and sustainable living environments. The office will provide technical and policy support for energy, green building and integrated housing and transportation



programs. Shelley also co-chairs the Transportation for America campaign, a broad coalition of 350 organizations ranging from AARP to the National Association of Realtors that is working with Congress to ensure that transportation policy and investments support sustainability, affordability and livability. While at Reconnecting America, Shelley had helped forge an interagency partnership between HUD and the Federal Transit Administration to link transit and land use policy and funding, and study the interplay between housing and transportation costs. There are high expectations that she will fill her new position equally as well. You can get more info by following the link to the announcement of her appointment here: <http://www.hud.gov/news/release.cfm?content=pr09-130.cfm&CFID=17884784&CFTOKEN=57600313>

Oh, Those Sexy Building Codes

A bill entitled “American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009”, passed by the House and now on the Senate floor, includes one section which can make a huge impact on energy usage and the resultant greenhouse gases emitted in our future. That section is 201, and it covers building energy codes. Section 201 requires updating energy codes to meet the following targets: In 2010, all new buildings and renovations must achieve a 30% energy reduction below the current baseline energy code. In 2014-2015, all new buildings and renovations must achieve a 50% energy reduction below the current baseline energy code. Every three years after, until 2030, there must be an additional 5% energy reduction. To emphasize the impact that this new code would have, the chart below shows a study that was done comparing the resultant CO₂ reductions of this new building code vs. those from the addition of 100 new nuclear power plants. The results are clear. This new building code could have a greatly positive impact on reducing our energy usage, and thus reducing our GHG emissions. Click [here](#) for more information.



U.S. BUILDING SECTOR CO₂ EMISSIONS PROJECTIONS 2005-2050

Source: ©2009 2030, Inc. / Architecture 2030

Data Source: CO₂ Emissions and Projections: U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA); U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). CO₂ Reduction Analysis: Architecture 2030.

