

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Mayor and City Commissioners  
**FROM:** Cynthia S. Barber, Environmental Policy & Energy Resources  
**SUBJECT:** Tallahassee Neighborhood Energy Challenge  
**DATE:** January 15, 2009

The following is provided as an update regarding the City's partnership with the Council of Neighborhood Associations (CONA), to launch the Tallahassee Neighborhood Energy Challenge (TNEC). The goals of the TNEC are consistent with the City's commitment to encourage and facilitate energy efficiency, water conservation, and other sustainable practices.

The Tallahassee Neighborhood Energy Challenge (TNEC) will be a fun and exciting way for neighborhoods to help combat global warming and promote sustainability through energy conservation, while helping individuals save money on their utility bills. The program is designed to demonstrate that a collection of small actions can make a big difference. Using a team sports model to achieve a collective goal for the common good, neighborhoods will engage in a good-natured competition for a variety of energy conservation titles and awards.

Any neighborhood served by Your Own Utilities (to facilitate scoring) may be represented in the Challenge. To be included on a team, individuals must pledge to work to reduce their energy consumption through heating and cooling, lighting and appliances, water use/heating, refrigeration activities, and other applicable changes. Teams can be formed either through a coordinated neighborhood effort or as a result of individuals from the neighborhood signing up independently of one another. Individuals will sign up at the Challenge website and identify their neighborhood.

In addition to serving on the TNEC Steering Committee, the City is providing assistance to CONA and the TNEC in scoring the competition, developing educational materials, providing free energy audits as requested, providing space for forums and training sessions, preparing educational information that encourages sustainable and energy efficient practices, and marketing and publicizing the Challenge. The Department of Environmental Policy & Energy Resources is coordinating the City's participation, and is working with Communications, Your Own Utilities, StarMetro, and Parks, Recreation, and Neighborhood Affairs.

Mr. Stephen Hogge, President of the Council of Neighborhood Associations (CONA), will provide a brief presentation regarding the Challenge during the January 28, 2009, City Commission Meeting. In the meantime, please let me know if you have any questions regarding the Tallahassee Neighborhood Energy Challenge.

cc: Anita Favors Thompson, City Manager  
Executive Team  
Leadership Team