

**Government of the District of Columbia
Office of the Chief Financial Officer**

Natwar M. Gandhi
Chief Financial Officer



MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Vincent C. Gray
Chair, Council of the District of Columbia

FROM: Natwar M. Gandhi
Chief Financial Officer 

DATE: MAR 7 2008

SUBJECT: Fiscal Impact Statement: "Green Building Act Regulations Approval Resolution of 2007"

REFERENCE: Draft Resolution – No bill number available

Conclusion

Funds are sufficient in the FY 2008 through FY 2011 budget and financial plan to implement the proposed resolution.

Background

The proposed resolution would adopt rules that are intended to assist the District Department of the Environment (DDOE) implement the requirements of the Green Building Act of 2006¹ (GBA). The proposed rules would:

1. Adopt the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design ("LEED") Green Building Rating System for Schools as the standard for new and substantially renovated public schools; and
2. Establish the basis and process for granting exemptions from the GBA's requirements. The exemption rules were the result of consultation with the Green Building Advisory Council, created by the GBA.²

¹ Effective March 8, 2007. D.C. Official Code § 6-1451.11.

² DDOE notes that the specific language in section 3(b) of the GBA only requires school buildings to meet the LEED certification level, unlike other District government buildings which must meet the LEED silver certification level.

The proposed rules also establish an internal DDOE expedited permit review provision for all projects that DDOE determines offer exemplary environmental benefits. The Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA) is in the process of establishing a complementary expedited review process.

Financial Plan Impact

Funds are sufficient in the FY 2008 through FY 2011 budget and financial plan to implement the proposed resolution.

DDOE would not require additional resources to implement the proposed rules. The proposed rulemaking *only* covers authority granted to DDOE under Mayor's Order 2007-206. Other agencies delegated authority under the GBA will be promulgating rules separately.
