

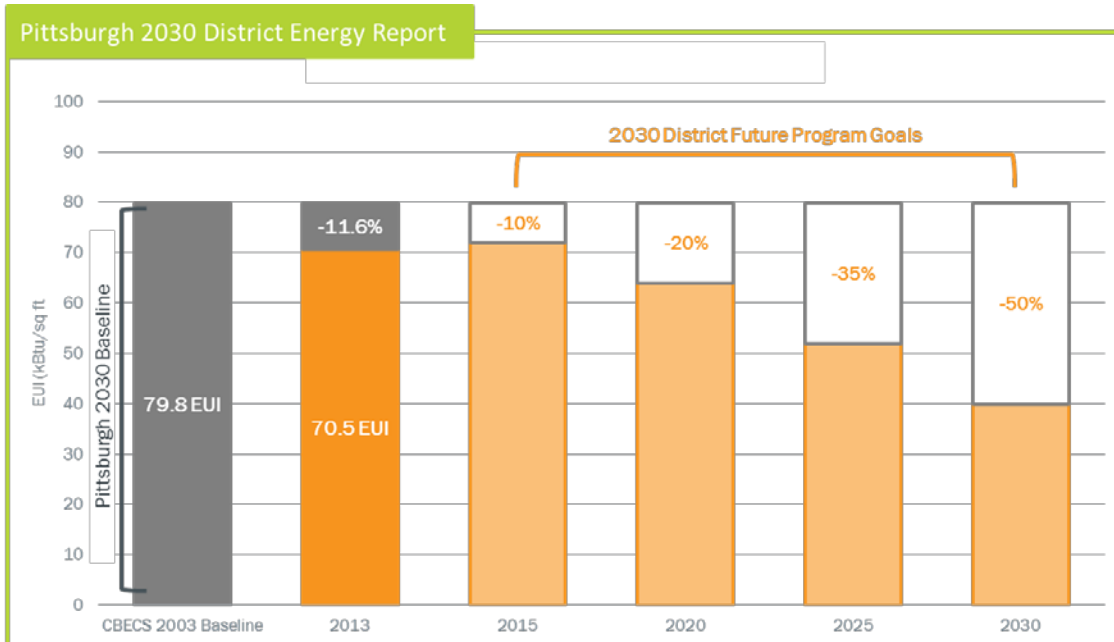


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Green Building Alliance Announces that Pittsburgh 2030 District is Ahead of Schedule

Rich Fitzgerald and Downtown Property Owners Celebrated the Release of District Progress Report

April 17, 2014 – (Pittsburgh) On Wednesday, April 16 nearly 100 downtown building owners, policymakers, and community partners gathered to hear Green Building Alliance release its first ever Progress Report for the [Pittsburgh 2030 District](#) (an initiative which calls for downtown building owners to reach 50% reductions in energy and water use, and transportation emissions by 2030). The Report yields great news for our region’s economic development, its infrastructure, and its environment: **downtown energy reductions are ahead of schedule!**



** The energy reductions in the above graphic translate to 286,508,179 kBtu avoided, which is equivalent to removing 7,748 homes from the grid!

The Progress Report is attached for review, but here are some impressive highlights:

- **Forty** Property Partners have committed **109** downtown buildings to the Pittsburgh 2030 District
 - These partners work towards the reduction goals, and agree to share annual building performance information with Green Building Alliance, which then aggregates the data.
- **Thirty** Community and Resource Partners assist the building owners in achieving District goals.
- Of the more than 58 million square feet in the District boundary, nearly **35 million square feet** have been committed to the district, or **58 percent**.
- **Fifty-two percent** of buildings committed to the District are reporting their building performance data.
- The District’s 2015 goals aim for 10% reductions in energy, water, and transportation emissions. Currently, **energy reductions are currently at 11.6% - ahead of schedule!**
- While there is a national average for energy use in existing buildings, there is no such average for water, so the Pittsburgh 2030 District team had to calculate its own baseline. Working with the



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Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority, a baseline was created using historic water consumption. While many buildings are above that baseline, **four properties are well below their 2015 water reduction goals.**

- GBA is currently working to create a transportation baseline with help from the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission, and is working with the Mascaro Center for Sustainable Innovation at the University of Pittsburgh to develop a pilot indoor air quality metric.

What this Means for our Region:

The success of the Pittsburgh 2030 District contributes to our region's reputation as a national leader in sustainability, resilience, and economic development. Pittsburgh was one of the first three cities to launch a 2030 District, and has also become the fastest growing. This voluntary initiative offers many benefits to the city and region. According to the Report, energy demand reduction can:

- Maximize utilization of current power plants (no new coal/gas plants needed)
- Improve air quality
- Allow for easier integration of renewable energy
- Improve the city's economic competitiveness

Meanwhile, working towards potable water use reductions can:

- Increase capacity in the combined sewer system;
- Allow for better handling of major stormwater events; and
- Increase the reliability of potential future "green infrastructure" investments.

All of these things will result in a more livable, resilient, and competitive city in the years to come.

Note: While the Progress Report offers aggregate building data, Green Building Alliance can point reporters towards some of the highest performing buildings for interviews and performance data. Please contact Leslie Montgomery for more details.

About the Pittsburgh 2030 District

The Pittsburgh 2030 District, a Green Building Alliance strategic innovation – presented by The Efficiency Network and supported by the EcoCommercial Building Network powered by Bayer– is a collaborative, nationally recognized, but local community of high performance buildings in Downtown Pittsburgh that aims to dramatically reduce energy and water consumption, reduce transportation emissions, and improve indoor air quality while increasing business competitiveness and owners' returns on investment. Launched in August 2012, the Pittsburgh 2030 District is convened and facilitated by Green Building Alliance. Learn more at www.2030district.org/pittsburgh.

About Green Building Alliance

Green Building Alliance (GBA) is a nonprofit organization that inspires the creation of healthy, high performing places for everyone. Founded in 1993 as one of the first U.S. Green Building Council affiliate organizations, and now a USGBC chapter, GBA is headquartered in Pittsburgh and serves the 26 counties of Western Pennsylvania. GBA's main initiatives include the Pittsburgh 2030 District, the Green Schools Academy, DASH, and the Knowledge Network. Learn more at www.go-gba.org.

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