

**Green by Design Conference**  
**Responses from attendees at workshop on Minnesota GreenStep and Healthy Green**  
**Communities Partnership process in Pine River, MN**

June 11, 2009

**Question 1:**

**If you were the State of Minnesota and wanted to create a program to assist local Governments in taking the next step to implement carbon reductions and other environmental actions what are some of the things you would include or focus on in such a program?**

- Education and training
- Environmental soil enrichment
- Grant \$
- Renovate
- Land use planning/zoning
  1. Solar easements
  2. Compact development
  3. Adaptive/reuse of buildings
- Remove barriers
- Transportation
  1. Bikes – reduce miles driven
- Technical assistance
- Partnerships
- Info – retrofit public utilities
- Incentives and requirements
- Best practices
- Give back local aid
- Alternative/renewable energy
- Easy and cost savings
- Round table for all to understand how we use energy
- Heat pump co-ops
- State planning agency
- Regional approach

**Question 2:**

**If you were considering implementing a process like GreenSteps at a local community level what are some of the elements you would want to include in order to help assure community success?**

- Wise use of stimulus money
- Education – (why/how) fact sheet to include why do it and possible outcomes
- Political sustenance
- Good representation
  1. Cross section of community stake holders
    - Businesses

- Government
- Cost/benefit analysis
- Win-Win for business and environment
- Inclusive/open/transparent process
- Format priorities from start
- Feedback
- Technical assistance
  1. Websites
  2. Local cable
- Have early wins and celebrate them
- Communication between groups statewide
- Adding vegetation/forests
- Leverage federal grants
- Matrix/baselines to measure progress
- Reduce incentives for selling water
- Solar easements
- Infill easier
- Kiss my ax
- Identify needs – modify as you go
- Access and resources
- Best practices