

# Green Business Certification Program

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# Overview of Presentation

- OCSD Overview
- Origin and Goals of Green Business Certification Program
- Why You Should Participate
- Becoming a Certified Green Business
- Case Study: Two East Congress
- GBC: The Next Generation



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# City of Tucson Office of Conservation and Sustainable Development (OCSD)

- OCSD created in 2006
- Goals:
  - Help City Departments implement sustainability principles
  - Enhance quality of life for residents
  - Support residents and business' efforts to become more sustainable
  - Help community recognize that Tucson's future is in our hands!



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# Why a Green Business Certification Program?

- Regional Greenhouse Gas Inventory (2008)
  - Commercial and industrial energy use constitutes 39% of the greenhouse gas emissions in Tucson (24% residential)
  - Commercial and industrial water use accounts for 44% of the water distributed in Tucson



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# Green Business Certification Program

- Funded through City of Tucson Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) funds
- Project began November 2009
- Currently 52 businesses signed up
- Twelve businesses fully certified



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# GBC Program Goals

- Establish a credible benchmark for sustainable business practices
- Provide technical support to businesses
- Promote the implementation of strategies for energy and water conservation, and waste reduction



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# GBC Program Goals

- Connect businesses to financial resources for efficiency upgrades
- Recognize businesses for their leadership in sustainable practices



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# Why Should You Become a Certified Green Business?

- Receive technical expertise through free energy, water, and waste audits
- Get connected to resources to help pay for efficiency upgrades
- Save money on utility and waste bills by reducing consumption
- Public recognition for taking steps to operate more sustainably
- No up-front costs!



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# GBC for BOMA Members

- What does GBC certify?
  - We will certify your business for any building in your portfolio
- What does this mean for building owners/managers?
  - You will work with your tenants to enact the items in your action plan



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# GBC Program Components

- Energy and Transportation
- Water
- Waste Reduction and Recycling



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# GBC Process

- **Step 1:** Apply/Verify Eligibility
- **Step 2:** Complete Energy, Waste, and Water Audits
- **Step 3:** Complete Action Plan
- **Step 4:** Take Action!
- **Step 5:** Get Recognized!
- **Step 6:** Annual Reporting



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# GBC Process

- **Step 1: Application and Verification of Eligibility**
  - Complete application form, business agreement, and Customer Information Release form
  - Only buildings within City of Tucson boundaries are eligible
  - Complete checklist of actions already taken
    - Credit given for up to two actions in each category
  - Engage your tenants in your efforts



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# GBC Process

- **Step 2: Complete Energy, Waste, and Water Audits**
  - Done by City of Tucson employees or contractors
  - Receive reports once completed



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# GBC Process

- **Step 3: Complete an Action Plan**
  - Work with OCSD staff to finalize action plan
  - Action plan items generated from audits and OCSD staff recommendations



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# GBC Process

- **Step 4: Take Action!**
  - Complete action plan items over the course of one year
  - 3-5 items in each category
  - Staff will check in occasionally and assist when needed



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# GBC Process

- **Step 5: Get Recognized!**
  - Window decals
  - Wall plaque
  - Listing in green business directory
  - Promotion through GBC Facebook page



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# GBC Process

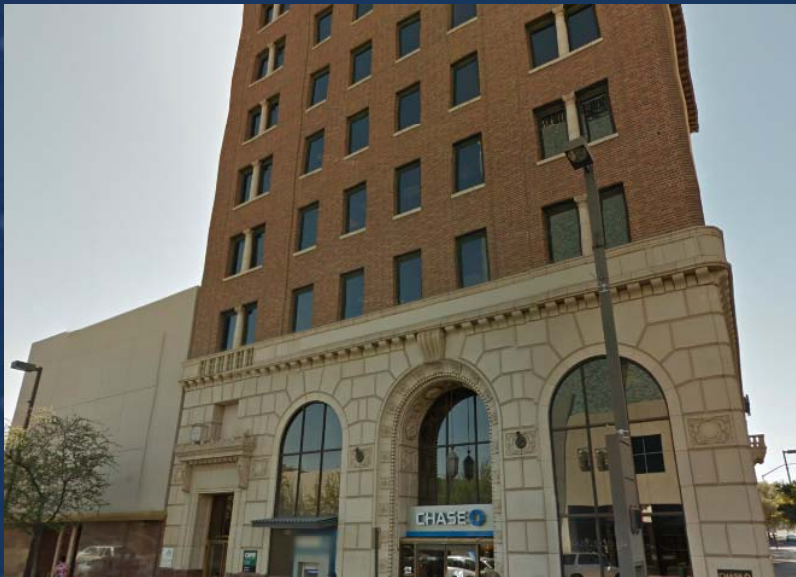
- **Step 6: Annual Reporting**
  - Update energy, water, and waste use each year to quantify savings



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# Case Study: Two East Congress



- Building Profile:
  - Ten-story office building
  - 85,713 sq. ft. building constructed around 1929
  - Operates M-F 8 a.m.-6 p.m., Sat. 8 a.m.-2 p.m.
  - Building could have qualified for Energy Star designation even before joining GBC program



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# Case Study: Two East Congress



- Energy Use Recommendations
  - Improved hot water pipe insulation
  - Vending machine “miser”
  - Behavioral changes



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# Case Study: Two East Congress

- Water Use Recommendations
  - Replace aerators
  - Replace toilets and urinals
  - Educate employees/tenants regarding water efficiency and checking for leaks



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# Case Study: Two East Congress

- Waste Reduction & Recycling Recommendations
  - Place recycling containers in each room/office
  - Provide recycling education to tenants
  - Increase recycling pick-ups and reduce trash pick-ups



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# GBC: The Next Generation

- Current funding set to expire in June
- Moving to a web-based tool
  - Format will be a nine-month “challenge” to see which building/company is the greenest!
  - Businesses will complete a “scorecard” and receive recognition based on their scores
- Tentatively set to launch early September 2013



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# Questions?

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