



Office of the City Manager

May 17, 2013

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers

FROM: Christine Daniel, City Manager 

SUBJECT: New Report on Increasing Energy Efficiency in Existing Multifamily Buildings

The Office of Energy & Sustainable Development, in partnership with staff counterparts at the cities of Oakland and Emeryville, produced a report titled *Getting to Scale – Recommendations for Stimulating Investment in Energy Upgrades in Existing Multifamily Buildings* (attached). The report is the final component of the Multifamily Building Energy Efficiency Solutions (BEES) project. The purpose of the project was to advance efforts in Berkeley and beyond to develop local solutions to the barriers tenants and multifamily building property owners face when trying to lower energy consumption and the associated costs.

Staff is now engaged in the following near-term next steps:

- 1) *Inform the design of new PG&E and Bay Area Regional Energy Network (Bay REN) multifamily energy efficiency incentive programs.* PG&E and the ABAG-led Bay REN are launching new multifamily programs in 2013. The programs are informed by the recommendations in the attached report and staff continues to advise on program design and implementation. The PG&E and Bay REN programs will provide energy efficiency incentives to Berkeley property owners.
- 2) *Engage local property owners and tenants in energy efficiency efforts.* Staff is conducting outreach to property owners and tenants to help them take advantage of emerging multifamily energy efficiency programs.
- 3) *Improve access to multifamily building-level energy data and to data on outcomes of multifamily energy programs.* The BEES final recommendations report emphasizes the need for data that enables building owners, tenants, and local governments to better understand the energy performance of multifamily buildings. Staff is participating in a California Public Utilities Commission rulemaking focused on improving the provision of building-level energy usage data.

For more information contact Timothy Burroughs, 510.981.7437, or visit www.cityofberkeley.info/bees.

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