Better Buildings Summit for State and Local Communities
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The Curtis Hotel in Denver, CO

New Better Buildings Challenge Partners

New Local Community Partners

**Partner: City of Arvada, CO**
Pledge: 20% reduction in energy intensity by 2020 in 410,000 square feet
The City of Arvada is committed to reducing energy intensity 20% by the year 2020 as a Better Buildings Challenge Partner. The city’s Sustain Arvada effort is continuing work to conserve resources, foster economic prosperity, environmental stewardship, and community vitality. As part of the Better Buildings Challenge, Arvada will continue to upgrade and retro-commission facilities to meet best practice standards and will engage commercial businesses to educate the community on the benefits of energy efficiency. Arvada is also hoping to build the city’s first LEED certified building in the near future.

**Partner: City of Beaverton, OR**
Pledge: 20% reduction in energy intensity by 2020 in 210,000 square feet
The City of Beaverton is committed to reducing the energy intensity of its buildings by 20% by 2020 as part of the Better Buildings Challenge. This goal will be achieved through the implementation of a variety of strategies, including retro-commissioning buildings and participating in a pioneering pilot program made available by NorthWrite and the Energy Trust of Oregon. Recent Beaverton Sustainability Division efforts include the nationally-recognized Solar Beaverton program, energy efficiency improvements in five city buildings, a loan program to help weatherize Beaverton homes, and retrofits of over 750 street lights to energy-efficient LEDs and induction technology. Beaverton is also partnering with local organizations to promote the positive effects of reduced energy intensity throughout the community.

**Partner: City of Cleveland, OH**
Pledge: 20% reduction in energy intensity by 2020 in 4,500,000 square feet
The City of Cleveland works to leverage the city’s wealth of assets by collaborating with the community to improve the economic, environmental, and social well-being of its citizens. As part of its partnership with the Better Buildings Challenge, the city has committed to reducing energy intensity 20% by 2020 across its 4.5 million square foot building portfolio. Through the Sustainable Cleveland 2019 initiative, the city is developing a thriving and resilient Cleveland region, while “Building an Economic Engine to Empower a Green City on a Blue Lake.” To lead by example, the city develops and implements policies and practices within its own operations to embrace a culture of sustainability. Meeting the Better Buildings Challenge commitment is a key element of this leadership.

**Partner: City of Columbia, MO**
Pledge: 20% reduction in energy intensity by 2020 in 550,000 square feet
The City of Columbia, Missouri, has taken a proactive approach to reduce its carbon footprint by altering methods of transportation, energy consumption, urban planning, and sustainable architecture to preserve the city for future generations. Through its partnership with the Better Buildings Challenge, the city has committed to reduce energy intensity 20% by 2020. The city created an internal team, City Operators Reducing Energy (CORE), to coordinate energy reduction and conservation efforts throughout all departments. Improvements will include upgrading lighting to more efficient fixtures, re-commissioning HVAC systems, and improving HVAC controls for optimum efficiency.
Partner: Town of East Hartford, CT
Pledge: 20% reduction in energy intensity by 2020 in 1,630,000 square feet
The Town of East Hartford, located directly east of the capital City of Hartford on the bank of the Connecticut River, is taking a town-wide approach to energy efficiency. Through its participation in the Better Buildings Challenge, East Hartford will establish a town-wide energy use benchmark and will improve the energy intensity of its portfolio at least 20% by 2020. To reach this goal, East Hartford will engage in energy performance contracts as well as address priority projects like replacing streetlights, installing energy efficient windows at a local middle school, and incorporating energy efficiency measures in a library expansion project. The town will also communicate strategies to local private sector stakeholders, working closely with them to fulfill the goals of the Better Buildings Challenge.

Partner: City of El Paso, TX
Pledge: 20% reduction in energy intensity by 2020 in 2,500,000 square feet
As a partner in the U.S. Department of Energy’s Better Buildings Challenge, the City of El Paso pledges to implement retrofits across its 2.5 million square foot portfolio of facilities and improve energy efficiency a minimum of 20% by 2020. El Paso is currently implementing energy upgrades in 78 facilities and over 8,000 street lights as part of its City-wide Operational Savings Program. The city will continue to use a combination of incentives and energy savings performance contracting to complete energy efficiency upgrades in additional buildings towards meeting the goal of their Challenge commitment.

Partner: City of Fort Worth, TX
Pledge: 20% reduction in energy intensity by 2020 in 5,700,000 square feet
The City of Fort Worth’s commitment to resource conservation has expanded to include Fort Worth’s Community Partnership with the Better Buildings Challenge. As part of the partnership, Fort Worth is sharing its insights and best practices with the U.S. Department of Energy and communities across the country. Fort Worth continues to use performance contracting to better manage local energy, water, and budget resources while improving the performance of their buildings. Fort Worth is working to address broader energy concerns in the community, including fleet vehicles, street and traffic lighting, and water production services. This has led the way for “Green Team” efforts within the Library Department, a central education and outreach link within the community, as an energy policy is considered for the city.

Partner: City of Gillette, Wyoming
Pledge: 20% reduction in energy consumption by 2020 in the City’s portfolio of six buildings representing 190,000 square feet
The City of Gillette is known as the “Energy Capital of the Nation” as a result of the energy resources distributed throughout the country. The City’s goal is to demonstrate to its citizens, utility customers, and communities around the state that it values natural resources. In addition, the City of Gillette wishes to demonstrate to its tax payers its commitment to fiscal responsibility as it relates to operational costs. Therefore, the City of Gillette seeks to reduce energy consumption by at least 20% by 2020, consistent with the Better Buildings Challenge goals.

Partner: Hall County, GA
Pledge: 20% reduction in energy intensity by 2020 in 990,000 square feet (across County buildings)
In partnership with the U.S. Department of Energy’s Better Buildings Challenge, Hall County seeks to reduce energy use intensity in its public buildings by at least 20% by 2020. To achieve this goal, Hall County will identify and implement cost effective energy upgrades across its portfolio of public facilities, which totals over 985,000 square feet. The effort is already underway with retrofits completed through the county’s Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant-funded projects. The Buildings Maintenance Department will work closely with other agencies and departments to implement energy management improvements in 41 public buildings towards meeting the goal of Hall County’s Challenge.
**Partner: Town of Huntington, NY**
Pledge: 20% reduction in energy intensity by 2020 in 1,000,000 square feet
The Town of Huntington’s participation in the Better Buildings Challenge builds on the measures taken and lessons learned from the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) program. As a Better Buildings Challenge Community Partner, the town has committed to reducing the energy intensity of its municipal properties 20% by 2020. The town will also seek to solicit project partners from local business and institutional communities and encourage new participants to take up the energy efficiency retrofit challenge. Huntington will continue its leadership role in the field of energy efficiency by sharing information and insights and interfacing with others in the Better Buildings Challenge network to foster innovation and achieve the nation’s goal of energy independence.

**Partner: Kitsap County, WA**
Pledge: 30% reduction in energy intensity by 2020 in 860,000 square feet (across County buildings)
Kitsap County is working to reduce energy use and save taxpayer dollars as part of a cohesive effort to improve energy efficiency in county facilities while raising awareness about energy conservation throughout the community. Through its partnership with the Better Buildings Challenge, the county has committed to reduce energy use 30 percent by 2020 across more than 860,000 square feet of its building portfolio. In 2011, Kitsap’s Board of County Commissioners adopted an Energy Efficiency & Conservation Plan, an Energy Conservation Policy for county facilities, and a comprehensive Resource Conservation Management program to reduce energy use, water use, and waste generation in county operations. Using federal Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant funding, Kitsap County has retrofitted more than 40 buildings representing over 298,000 square feet since January 2010.

**Partner: City of Knoxville, TN**
Pledge: 20% reduction in energy intensity by 2020 in 2,060,000 square feet
Through Knoxville’s Energy and Sustainability Work Plan, the city has mapped out policies and programs that will reduce excess energy consumption and standardize environmentally sustainable best practices. Working with senior staff and the U.S. Department of Energy, the City of Knoxville’s Better Buildings Challenge goal is to improve energy efficiency a minimum of 20% by 2020 in 2,063,961 square feet of its public buildings. This commitment represents Knoxville’s entire portfolio and will build off of an ongoing energy savings performance contract initiated by the city’s Finance and Purchasing Departments. Future projects will focus on improving the energy efficiency of additional city-owned facilities and sharing implementation successes and challenges with the community.

**Partner: City of Medford, MA**
Pledge: 20% reduction in energy intensity by 2020 in 1,370,000 square feet
The City of Medford, Massachusetts, will pursue a 20% energy intensity reduction in its 1.4 million square feet of building space in the Better Buildings Challenge. As one of the original Green Communities in Massachusetts, Medford will integrate this building portfolio work into its overall goal of achieving 20% energy savings across all sectors. Since before 2009, Medford has initiated many energy efficiency projects, including lighting retrofits, oil-to-gas conversion, and energy management systems in city school buildings. Based on school building audits conducted by the municipal utility, the city plans substantial work on its 1970s-era, 500,000-square-foot high school, including lighting replacement and upgrading the heating and cooling systems and the integration of a new energy management controls system.

**Partner: New Castle County, DE**
Pledge: 20% reduction in energy intensity by 2020 in 1,040,000 square feet
As part of its commitment to the Better Buildings Challenge, the county has set a goal to reduce energy intensity 20% by 2020 across over one million square feet of buildings. New Castle County government provides services and facilities including sewers, parks, libraries, police, paramedics, land use planning and permitting, community development and...
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housing, economic development, and more. The county has already taken substantial measures to reduce energy use, including installing energy savings measures in 21 buildings and two solar arrays on facility roofs. All county buildings built in the last five years have been constructed using energy efficient principles, and future buildings will also be designed and built to maximize energy efficiency. The county also has plans to develop solar facilities on a former landfill and on other land owned by the county.

Partner: Town of North Smithfield, RI
Pledge: 20% reduction in energy intensity by 2020 in 290,000 square feet
The town of North Smithfield is pursuing an integrated Green Community policy involving residents in recycling, energy conservation, and environmental stewardship. As part of the U.S. Department of Energy’s Better Buildings Challenge, North Smithfield is committed to reducing energy intensity in its building portfolio 20% by 2020. The town is continuing to engage energy services contracting as its core method of energy intensity reduction and funding independent in-house projects as energy savings generate new economic investment opportunities.

Partner: City of Omaha, NE
Pledge: 20% reduction in energy intensity by 2020 in 4,000,000 square feet
The City of Omaha is taking a strategic approach to managing energy use and encouraging their community to tackle this very important issue. The city is committed to continuing to reduce energy use by 20% by 2020 in several key city buildings, including fire stations, police stations, libraries, community centers, and public works facilities. In total, the City of Omaha is committing 212 facilities, totaling approximately four million square feet, to the Challenge. In addition, Mayor Jim Suttle is extending this challenge to private building owners, the non-profit sector, churches, and schools. Many of these entities are eligible to receive technical assistance toward achieving their goals from the city’s reEnergize Program.

Partner: City of Pittsburgh, PA
Pledge: 20% reduction in energy intensity by 2020 in 2,200,000 square feet
The City of Pittsburgh’s partnership with the Better Buildings Challenge and its goal to reduce portfolio-wide energy intensity 20% by 2020 strengthens the city’s existing commitment to sustainability. The Green Initiatives Trust Fund, which dedicates utility savings from bulk electricity purchases and reduced consumption to further energy efficiency projects, was established through legislation in 2008. As of June, 2012 the revolving Trust Fund has been put to work to retrofit the City-County Building with energy efficient HVAC and electrical equipment, replace 10% of the city’s 40,000 streetlights with LEDs, install five solar thermal and one photovoltaic project, and purchase 25% of all electricity needs through green sources. Through the Better Buildings Challenge, the city is continuing the commitment it has made to make Pittsburgh an even more green and sustainable city.

Partner: Placer County, CA
Pledge: 20% reduction in energy intensity by 2020 in 5,000,000 square feet
As a Better Buildings Challenge Partner, Placer County is committed to reducing its building energy usage 20% by 2020 in five million square feet of building space. The County will achieve this through continuous energy efficiency improvements across a combination of local government, school, and private sector facilities. Through mPOWER Placer, the County’s Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) program, property owners can access financing to install energy efficiency, water conservation, and renewable energy retrofits. The program was launched in 2010 and will continue to provide education and information to private property owners regarding energy efficiency. mPOWER Placer will also work with schools and other municipal building owners to facilitate the installation of energy efficiency improvements using local municipal financial resources.
**Partner: City of Roanoke, VA**  
Pledge: 20% reduction in energy intensity by 2020 in 1,160,000 square feet  
Roanoke, the largest city in the Commonwealth of Virginia west of Richmond, has committed to a 20% reduction in energy intensity by 2020 through its partnership with the Better Buildings Challenge. The city has received two Platinum Awards for sustainability from the Virginia Municipal League for successfully implementing environmental policies and reducing carbon emissions and attained first place in the Virginia Recycling Association’s “Outstanding Municipal Recycling Performance” award. Additionally, Roanoke has committed to reducing municipal greenhouse gas emissions by 12.5% over a five year period. The city will focus on updating/retrofitting HVAC systems and lighting to reduce energy use in public buildings. Roanoke is also implementing a program titled “Energy Reduction Initiative for Businesses,” which encourages businesses to track and reduce their energy consumption.

**Partner: City of Rochester, NY**  
Pledge: 20% reduction in energy intensity by 2020 in 4,040,000 square feet  
The City of Rochester recognizes that sustainable practices are critical to its future economic development and long-term financial stability. Through its Better Buildings Challenge Partnership, the city has committed to reduce energy intensity 20% by the year 2020 across a building portfolio of approximately four million square feet. In conjunction with city operations, the city’s Office of Energy and Sustainability is using its recently completed greenhouse gas inventory, municipal operations climate action plan, and city facility energy audit data to identify opportunities for energy efficiency retrofits. The city plans to implement projects such as lighting upgrades, HVAC improvements, and renewable energy installations. By demonstrating leadership in energy efficiency and through outreach to potential stakeholders, the City of Rochester will encourage local businesses and institutions to commit to reducing energy use across the community.

**Partner: City of Santa Fe, NM**  
Pledge: 20% reduction in energy intensity by 2020 in 880,000 square feet  
The City of Santa Fe is striving for a 20% reduction of energy use in all of its buildings by 2020. The city is working to reduce energy demand, promote renewable energy, and improve the efficiency of city facilities and operations through a multi-pronged approach. As part of their Better Buildings Challenge commitment, Santa Fe is working with the Santa Fe Chamber of Commerce to engage private sector business owners. The city is also committed to making improvements in its facilities through lighting retrofits, installing computer software to automatically turn off all computers each evening, upgrading HVAC equipment, installing high efficiency boilers, and upgrading the building envelopes.

**Partner: Sonoma County, CA**  
Pledge: 20% reduction in energy intensity by 2020 in 1,610,000 square feet  
Sonoma County has a community-wide goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 25% below 1990 levels by 2015. As a part of this goal, County buildings will achieve a maximum efficiency and renewable generation profile, and at best a net zero carbon footprint, by 2050. Also by 2050, Sonoma County electrical base load will be supplied by local renewable generation sources. Lastly, the Sonoma County Water Agency has a goal of “Carbon Free Water” by 2015. Sonoma County will partner with the Sonoma County Water Agency to achieve the Better Buildings Challenge commitments by improving the energy efficiency of the building portfolio by at least 20% from 2009 levels by 2020. A County energy policy including many progressive initiatives related to installing additional energy efficiency equipment and renewable energy systems, reduction in plug loads, and educating occupants to conserve water and energy is currently under development.
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Partner: Thurston County, WA
Pledge: 20% reduction in energy intensity by 2020 in 680,000 square feet
The Capital County of Washington State, established in 1852, Thurston County, Washington is located at the southern end of Puget Sound bordering the beautiful Pacific Northwest. Through the Resource Conservation Manager Program with local utility, Puget Sound Energy, Thurston County has committed to a 13% reduction in utility use over the next 3 years. In addition, Thurston County intends to meet the Better Buildings Challenge by reducing energy intensity 20% by 2020. Thurston County plans to partner with Puget Sound Energy and build on their previous success with the U.S. Department of Energy’s Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant. Thurston County will continue to reduce energy intensity by making operational and maintenance changes, encouraging staff behavior adjustments, and identifying cost-saving retrofit projects.

Partner: City of Toledo in partnership with the Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority
Pledge: 20% reduction in energy intensity by 2020 in 7,500,000 square feet
The City of Toledo (City) and the Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority (Port) are committed to saving 20% of energy usage by 2015 to over 7.5 million square feet of public and private buildings. With the help of Better Buildings Northwest Ohio and the Toledo Ohio Advanced Energy Improvement Corporation, over 100 public and private commercial buildings are targeted to receive energy efficiency improvements and selected alternative energy integration. The City and Port will challenge building owners and leaders to implement energy efficiency plans in virtually every type of building, including commercial, industrial, educational, and municipal buildings throughout Toledo and 27 counties in Northwest Ohio. Expanding the Energy Improvement Corporation to all of Lucas County and surrounding communities will enable businesses to utilize special assessments to pay for energy efficiency improvements. By working collectively, the City and Port will seek additional partnerships and pool resources, best practices, and expertise to meet the energy reduction goals of the Better Buildings Challenge.

Partner: City of West Palm Beach, FL
Pledge: 20% reduction in energy intensity by 2020 in 1,160,000 square feet
Through its partnership with the Better Buildings Challenge, the City of West Palm Beach will build on existing initiatives to achieve its portfolio-wide energy intensity reduction goal of 20% by 2020. The city recently adopted “Rethink Paradise: West Palm Beach, Sustainability Action Plan”, which targets greenhouse gas emission reductions, energy/water conservation, and community empowerment (www.wpb.org/sustainability). West Palm Beach is currently implementing a municipal operations energy services performance contract aimed at reducing energy consumption by 14% while saving over $10 million during the contract term. In addition, West Palm Beach has partnered with neighboring cities to establish a commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) financing program that will help businesses defray the up-front costs of energy efficiency upgrades. Participants of the PACE program will be encouraged to join the city as community partners in the Challenge.

Partner: Will County, IL
Pledge: 20% reduction in energy intensity by 2020 in 510,000 square feet
Will County has established a Green Team comprised of department heads and elected officials. The Green Team has adopted an Energy Management Policy and Green Action Plans to help Will County reduce energy consumption by 20% by 2020. In 2012, Will County drafted its first Energy Efficiency & Conservation Plan (EEC), organized a task force that reviewed the EEC Plan, and forwarded the document to the County Board. Will County anticipates County Board approval in June 2012, which includes a commitment of reducing energy consumption countywide by 20% by 2020. To finance future energy efficiency projects, Will County has created a fund from its renewable energy facility. This renewable energy facility began powering an equivalent of 3,000 homes in December of 2011 and, once fully built, is anticipated to power as many 8,000 homes while generating more than $1.2 million annually.
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**Partner: City of Worcester, MA**
Pledge: 20% reduction in energy intensity by 2020 in 5,000,000 square feet
Worcester has had a long-standing commitment to climate protection, energy efficiency and sustainability. Examples include the City’s curbside recycling program (1993), its resolution to join the Cities for Climate Protection Campaign (2003), its Clean Energy resolution (2005), its membership to Local Governments for Sustainability – ICLEI (2006), its adoption of a Climate Action Plan (2007), its designation as a MA Green Community (2010), and its recently launched Worcester Energy program - www.worcesterenergy.org (2012). The City will reduce energy usage and intensity by 20%, primarily through the implementation of a $26 million energy efficiency and capital improvement project to upgrade 92 municipal facilities, including public school buildings. In addition to creating local jobs and saving approximately $1.4 million in energy savings annually, this project will reduce municipal carbon emissions by more than 6,000 tons annually.

**New State Partners**

**Partner: State of Delaware**
Pledge: 20% reduction in energy intensity by 2020 in 8,010,000 square feet
With the full implementation of Executive Order 18 “Leading by Example towards a Clean Energy Economy and Sustainable Natural Environment,” Delaware is committed to benchmarking and tracking all state buildings and reducing their energy consumption. The Executive Order 18 Workgroup continues to implement the energy reduction plan via various means including benchmarking and tracking using EPA’s Portfolio Manager, performance contracting, state-funded energy efficiency and renewable energy projects and state employee behavior change campaigns.

**Partner: Commonwealth of Massachusetts**
Pledge: 20% reduction in energy intensity by 2020 in 65,000,000 square feet
This year, the commonwealth’s Division of Capital Asset Management (DCAM) launched a new Accelerated Energy Plan (AEP) that intends to initiate energy efficiency efforts at 35 million square feet of buildings by the end of 2014. Concurrent with the AEP, both DOER and DCAM are working closely with electric and gas utilities to develop comprehensive and streamlined audit and incentive processes that will address energy use in state buildings as well as other areas, such as outdoor lighting, tunnel lighting and ventilation, skating rinks, traffic lights, etc. Additionally, both DOER and DCAM are in the process of developing new standards for construction and major renovation projects that will create accelerated performance targets for new and existing buildings, as well as expand efforts to rate and label all appropriate state buildings. Through the Enterprise Energy management system, a real-time metering effort at 25 million square feet of state buildings, day to day management of energy use should improve, resulting in significant energy reductions.

**Partner: State of North Carolina**
Pledge: 30% reduction in energy intensity by 2015 in 123,000,000 square feet
North Carolina has been very active in improving facility efficiency through their Utility Saving Initiative (USI). In 2011, the North Carolina USI was responsible for $96 million in avoided energy and water utility costs for state agencies and universities. This number increases to $133 million when community colleges are included. USI is one of the nation’s premier public sector building programs. The U.S. Department of Energy Better Buildings Challenge Partnership will help North Carolina build on that success. North Carolina’s strategy includes the use of performance contracting and training programs to assist participants. USI provides services to all public governmental units including state agencies, UNC system institutions, community colleges, K-12 public schools, county and municipal governments. USI is partnering with ENERGY STAR to advance the use of Portfolio Manager to allow monthly tracking of energy use in all public sectors. The USI program requirement to reduce energy intensity by 30% by 2015 will surpass the Better Buildings Challenge goals.
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**Partner: State of Maryland**
Pledge: 20% reduction in energy intensity by 2020 in 10,000,000 square feet
Maryland strives to promote affordable, reliable and clean energy. The state’s programs and policies help lower energy bills, fuel the creation of green collar jobs, address environmental and climate impacts, and promote energy independence. Governor O’Malley’s 15 Strategic Policy Goals include reducing per capita electricity consumption in Maryland by 15% by 2015, increasing Maryland’s renewable energy portfolio by 20% RPS by 2022 and reducing Maryland’s greenhouse gas emissions by 25% by 2020. Maryland will achieve a 20% reduction in electricity and natural gas consumption across the state building portfolio by 2020 through efforts to 1) improve on the ECap database, 2) facilitate state agencies to undertake Energy Performance Contracts, 3) train and coach state agencies on energy efficiency upgrades, 4) increase energy savings through a web-based competition among state agencies and 5) establish and report internal agency milestones and goals.

**New School Partners**

**Partner: Camas School District, WA**
Pledge: 20% reduction in energy intensity by 2020 in 990,000 square feet
Camas School District located in the beautiful Evergreen State of Washington, serves over 6,000 students and includes nine schools totaling approximately 990,000 square feet across school buildings and support facilities. As a Better Buildings Challenge Partner, Camas School District is committing to a 20% energy reduction goal by 2020. The Camas School District adopted a Resource Conservation Management Program policy in the spring of 2009 and has since been working on reducing energy consumption district-wide. Their approach to conserving energy through cultivating behaviors and partnerships promotes responsible stewardship of natural resources while providing educational opportunities about alternative clean energy. The district’s next project is a full renovation including efficiency equipment upgrades to an elementary school.

**Partner: Dysart Unified School District No. 89, AZ**
Pledge: 20% reduction in energy intensity by 2020 in 3,000,000 square feet
The Dysart Unified School District No. 89 is one of the fastest growing school systems in Arizona and covers 140 square miles. Serving part of El Mirage, Glendale, Surprise, Youngstown and Maricopa County in the Northwest Valley, the district provides a high quality education to over 24,000 students. As a Better Buildings Challenge Partner, the Dysart Unified School District is committing to a 20% energy reduction goal by 2020 and will be working across 25 schools totaling three million square feet to improve energy efficiency. The district is in the process of a $1.4 million energy efficiency project to reduce electricity and water consumption across all facilities. The district has also partnered with the local utility company, APS, to reduce demand loads within a few hours’ notice to help reduce the need for rolling black outs.

**Partner: District of Columbia Public Schools**
Pledge: 20% reduction in energy intensity by 2015 in 12,500,000 square feet
The District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS) serves approximately 45,000 students and is committed to making the school district one of the highest performing urban school districts in the nation. The District is committing to a 20% energy reduction goal by 2015 and will retrofit approximately 12.5 million square feet as a Better Buildings Challenge Partner.

**Partner: Fort Atkinson School District, WI**
Pledge: 20% reduction in energy intensity by 2020 in 700,000 square feet
Fort Atkinson School District is located in Jefferson County, WI and is an open enrollment school committed to delivering the quality opportunities and services each student needs to achieve his or her academic and personal potential. The district serves approximately 2,800 students and consists of six buildings totaling approximately 703,572 square feet. The
School District of Fort Atkinson is committing to a 20% energy reduction goal by 2020 across its facilities in order to lessen the environmental impact of its operations, provide learning experiences for students, and reduce costs. Some of the current goals of the School District are to have all six schools ENERGY STAR certified with onsite renewable energy generation, to be one of the most energy efficient school districts in Wisconsin, and to serve as an example for other districts to follow. Fort Atkinson was recently named a Green Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education.

**Partner: Mesa County Valley School District 51, CO**  
**Pledge: 20% reduction in energy intensity by 2020 in 2,830,000 square feet**  
Mesa County Valley School District 51 (MCVSD51) is the 12th largest district in the State of Colorado and serves just over 22,000 students and covers approximately 2,000 square miles. There are 39 schools and four administrative sites totaling approximately 3 million square feet across District 51 buildings. MCVSD51 commits to the continuing reduction of overall energy consumption through the installation of solar power systems, building envelope maintenance and improvements, building automation scheduling, water conservation measures, and the replacement of aging equipment with energy efficient equipment as time and budget allow.

**Partner: Portland Public Schools, OR**  
**Pledge: 20% reduction in energy intensity by 2020 in 9,000,000 square feet**  
Portland Public School District, founded in 1851, is an urban k-12 school district located in Portland, Oregon. Serving approximately 47,000 students in 81 schools, it is the largest school district in the Pacific Northwest. The district manages 105 educational and support facilities comprising over 9 million square feet and more than 6,000 employees. As a Better Buildings Challenge Partner, Portland Public School District is committing to a 20% energy reduction goal by 2020 and will be working across all of the 105 facilities totaling over nine million square feet to improve energy efficiency under the Challenge. Portland Public Schools will strive to maximize energy savings and building energy efficiency by making effective and strategic use of Oregon’s SB1149 energy efficiency funds, recovery zone bonds, state and federal energy incentives and rebates, energy savings performance contracts, behavioral conservation, and a focus on improved building operations.

**Better Buildings Challenge Partners**

**Local Community Partners**

**Partner: City of Atlanta, GA**  
**Pledge: 20% reduction in energy intensity by 2020 in 33,000,000 square feet**  
The City of Atlanta has united with the metropolitan business and nonprofit community to implement a comprehensive energy upgrade of participating buildings across Atlanta, with a primary focus on a 400-block area in the city’s downtown central business district. Working with the U.S. Department of Energy, the goal of the Atlanta Better Buildings Challenge is to improve energy and water performance a minimum of 20% by 2020. The effort is already underway with a benchmarking and assessment initiative of enrolled buildings. Over 30 property owners totaling over 30 million square feet have taken the Challenge since its official launch in November 2011 as part of a strategic partnership between the city and Central Atlanta Progress, Atlanta’s downtown improvement district. Project partners will work with banks, funds, Energy Service Companies (ESCOs), and others to enable substantive retrofits of university, healthcare, municipal, and commercial buildings.

**Partner: City of Chicago, IL**  
**Pledge: 20% reduction in energy intensity within 5 years in 24,000,000 square feet**  
As a partner in this national leadership initiative, Chicago is committing to reduce building energy use by 20% in 24 million square feet within the next five years. This commitment stems from a citywide program called Retrofit Chicago and extends the program to commercial buildings. Fourteen buildings (totaling almost 14 million square feet) have already
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signed on to join Retrofit Chicago’s Commercial Buildings Initiative, which will save more than $5 million a year in energy costs.

**Partner: The City and County of Denver, CO**

**Pledge: 20% reduction in energy intensity by 2020 in 6,640,000 square feet**

The City and County of Denver has made energy efficiency a core tenant of the Greenprint Denver sustainability initiative. Through its partnership with the Better Buildings Challenge, the city has committed to reducing energy use by 20% by 2020 across its building portfolio, which totals more than six million square feet. Mayor Michael B. Hancock plans to use the city’s leadership to challenge private building owners, the non-profit sector, and schools to pledge similar energy reduction goals. Denver will undertake a number of energy savings projects within its own buildings, educate external partners through outreach programs, and showcase significant projects throughout the community, including a deep retrofit of the Alliance Center and the Living City Block program.

**Partner: District of Columbia**

**Pledge: 20% reduction in energy intensity by 2020 in 90,000,000 square feet**

Through its partnership with the Better Buildings Challenge, the District of Columbia is committing to a multi-pronged action plan to reduce energy consumption in over 90 million square feet of city and privately held buildings in the downtown core by at least 20% by 2020. DC has set forth an energy efficiency and renewable energy agenda and has invested in long-term incentive programs that will support public-private collaboration and ensure it is a national leader in the energy efficiency economy. DC made a series of commitments on its own 300+ buildings that will demonstrate leadership from the top, among them completing energy audits, implementing a showcase retrofit and investing at least $4 million in the next five years on energy efficiency measures. DC has long-term commitment to energy efficiency programs and policies that support the Better Buildings Challenge, including a benchmarking and disclosure regulation for over 3,000 private commercial buildings, making the Sustainable Energy Utility (SEU) a one-stop shop for DC energy efficiency solutions and resources and the creation of energy efficiency financing tools targeted at commercial building owners. These financing tools and products will provide at least $225 million in competitively-priced capital to commercial owners over the next nine years to fund energy efficiency improvements. The DowntownDC Business Improvement District (“BID”) and the DowntownDC ecoDistrict have accepted the Better Buildings Challenge in partnership with the District of Columbia and Mayor Vincent Gray.

**Partner: City of Houston, TX**

**Pledge: 20% reduction in energy intensity by 2020 in 30,000,000 square feet**

The City of Houston takes a holistic approach to energy management by tackling efficiency through its performance contracting program, green building policies, demand response, retro-commissioning, and behavior change programs. As of 2012, nearly 80 city-owned buildings have been retrofitted, representing over 5.2 million square feet. Through its partnership with the Better Buildings Challenge, the City of Houston has committed to reducing energy use by 20% by 2020 across 30 million square feet of public and private buildings. The city engages with its local partners through the Houston Green Office Challenge (HGOC), which invites commercial office owners/managers and tenants in Houston’s business districts to increase their environmental and economic performance in the areas of energy and water efficiency. Together, the Houston Green Office Challenge and the Better Buildings Challenge will help the city meet its energy reduction goals.

**Partner: City of Los Angeles, CA**

**Pledge: 20% reduction in energy intensity by 2020 in 30,000,000 square feet**

Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa and the City of Los Angeles have launched a comprehensive array of programs to reduce energy consumption in existing buildings both public and private, from retrofitting city-owned facilities, to making loans to modernize affordable housing stock, to working with commercial property owners to develop and finance energy efficiency and water efficiency upgrades in commercial buildings. Los Angeles has set a goal of 20% minimum overall
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savings on 30 million combined square feet of projects supported through the three programs, and will work with and recognize private sector property owners who make commitments of their own to reduce energy consumption by at least 20% by 2020, consistent with the Better Buildings Challenge goals.

Partner: City of Sacramento, CA
Pledge: 20% reduction in energy intensity by 2020 in 12,000,000 square feet
As the capital of California, Sacramento’s vision is to transform itself into the greenest region in the country and become a hub for clean technology through strengthening the regional economy, creating green jobs, adopting innovative policies and raising the region’s Green IQ. As a Better Buildings Challenge Community Partner, the city, through its Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) program, has committed to reducing energy use 20% by 2020 in over 12 million square feet of building space through energy efficiency improvements. The PACE program will tap private investment to stimulate retrofitting of commercial buildings throughout Sacramento. In parallel, the City of Sacramento is establishing programs in support of the region’s “Greenwise Action Plan” and is creating a suite of services for the commercial sector.

Partner: City of Seattle, WA
Pledge: 20% reduction in energy intensity by 2020 in 23,000,000 square feet
The Seattle 2030 District is a nonprofit organization of more than 60 civic leaders, including building owners and professionals, utilities, Architecture2030, the City of Seattle, and King County, creating the first large-scale, high performance building district in the country. The 2030 District follows along an existing history of progressive energy efficiency action by the city, and includes a set of aggressive reduction goals for building energy use, water use, and greenhouse gases. By committing more than 23 million square feet of building space to the Better Buildings Challenge, the Seattle 2030 District will continue to grow as a model of public-private collaboration that will reduce energy use, generate local economic activity, and provide others with a roadmap for a sustainable future.

State Partners

Partner: State of Iowa
Pledge: 20% reduction in energy intensity by 2015 in 17,000,000 square feet
The Iowa Department of Administrative Services (DAS) is committed to identifying and implementing cost effective energy management improvements in public and non-profit facilities in Iowa. As a Better Buildings Challenge Partner, the DAS has committed to reducing energy consumption in over 17 million square feet of buildings by at least 20% by 2020. This commitment includes reducing energy in the 2.4 million square foot Capitol Complex by 20% by 2015. The DAS also manages the Iowa Energy Bank, a $35 million revolving loan program to finance energy saving programs in state and local governments, schools, hospitals and colleges. As part of their Better Buildings Challenge commitment, the Energy Bank will finance projects that reduce energy consumption at least 20%.

Partner: State of Minnesota
Pledge: 20% reduction in energy intensity by 2020 in 22,000,000 square feet
The Minnesota Department of Commerce works to ensure state residents, businesses and public sector entities have the resources needed to make smart decisions about their energy use, in both private and public-sector buildings. Commerce promotes energy conservation and energy efficient building retrofits as primary means to reduce energy use and costs. In support of Commerce’s efforts, Governor Dayton enacted Executive Order 11-12 that directed all state agencies to set an aggregate energy reduction goal of 20% and to leverage deep energy building retrofits using Guaranteed Energy Savings Contracts as a means to achieve the energy reduction goal. In addition, Senator Al Franken launched “Back To Work Minnesota,” an initiative to unlock financing for commercial and public building retrofits that boost energy savings while creating jobs and economic development throughout the state. As a partner in the Better Buildings Challenge, the State will be working to achieve these goals of improving energy efficiency across its 22 million square feet of buildings.
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**School Partners**

**Partner: Douglas County School District, NV**
Pledge: 20% reduction in energy intensity by 2020 in 945,000 square feet
The Douglas County School District (DCSD) serves the communities of Gardnerville, Minden, Genoa and Zephyr Cove at Lake Tahoe, nestled among the 751 square miles of the Sierra Nevada Mountains and Carson Valley. DCSD is the 6th largest in the state of Nevada, and provides a high quality education to over 6,200 students. Douglas County School District is committing to a 20% energy reduction by 2020, and will retrofit approximately 944,000 square feet across eleven schools and multiple support facilities. DCSD has recently completed an energy savings performance contract targeting facility upgrades and infrastructure repairs in all eleven of its schools and as additional improvements are made through bond initiatives, energy efficiency standards are implemented to continue reaping the benefits of energy savings. DCSD will be highlighting their energy efficiency upgrades at the Gardnerville Elementary School, which is currently under renovation.

**Partner: Houston Independent School District, TX**
Pledge: 30% reduction in energy intensity by 2015 in 24,000,000 square feet
The Houston Independent School District is the largest school District in the state of Texas. The district provides a quality K-12 education to over 200,000 students in the City of Houston. The district is implementing a large scale, comprehensive energy efficiency project that will include behavioral initiatives, retro-commissioning, capital asset upgrades and water conservation measures. The district is committing to a 30% energy reduction by 2015 and will retrofit approximately 24 million square feet. Not only will this project decrease energy consumption, it will significantly improve learning by creating a more comfortable and conducive learning environment.

**Partner: Poudre School District, CO**
Pledge: 20% reduction in energy intensity by 2020 in 4,000,000 square feet
Poudre School District (PSD), located in Fort Collins, Colorado, serves approximately 25,000 students and includes 50 schools. PSD is the ninth largest school district in Colorado and covers 1,856 square miles in northern Colorado. Poudre School District is committing to a 20% energy reduction goal by 2020 and will be working across 50 schools totaling four million square feet, to improve energy efficiency under the Challenge, and will be highlighting their deep retrofit work at the Poudre High School.