

7-Point Challenge Continues to Strike a Chord with Local Governments

LOCAL GOVERNMENTS ACROSS THE COUNTRY continue to see the value in BOMA International's 7-Point Challenge, an innovative energy reduction plan to achieve market transformation in the commercial real estate industry. In May, Orlando Mayor Buddy Dyer and Orange County Mayor Richard Crotty announced their endorsement of the Challenge at the Green Cities Florida

Conference. During their announcement, the mayors encouraged other local governments in the state to sign on. Commenting on the endorsement, Mayor Dyer said, "We are challenging businesses and commercial property owners to take the BOMA 7-Point Challenge. Together, we can dramatically reduce our energy consumption, continue to promote the use of renewable energy sources and position the Orlando area for long-term sustainable growth."

In conjunction with its industry partners, BOMA/Orlando will be providing education and training offerings to both the City and County as a way to apply the successful energy-saving techniques used by the commercial real estate industry in government buildings. "We

are very excited to partner with Mayor Buddy Dyer of the City of Orlando and Mayor Rich Crotty of Orange County on the BOMA 7-Point Challenge," said Diane Sitzer, BOMA/Orlando's president. "This endorsement confirms the commitment by both the City of Orlando and Orange County in making improved energy performance a priority."

More than 100 companies and BOMA local associations have endorsed the 7-Point Challenge. Two other local governments, Phoenix and Albuquerque, have also endorsed the Challenge. The goals of the Challenge include decreasing energy consumption by 30 percent across portfolios by 2012 (in comparison to an "average" building scoring a 50 on ENERGY STAR), benchmarking energy performance and water usage and providing education to building owners and operators and others involved in building operations to ensure that equipment is properly operated and maintained.



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