Sustainability: The Untapped Value of New York Enterprise

Thoughts on Policy and Programming for Urban Republicans (Repurblicans)

About Koetz and Duncan

- Former Acting Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Installations, Environment, and Logistics (Chief Sustainability Officer)
 - •166 Active Air Force installations worldwide on 10 million acres
 - •\$200+ Billion PRV for built infrastructure
 - •\$25+ Billion annual operating budget for IEL
 - •Largest energy user in the Federal Government
- •Policy Director, Nuclear Energy Institute
 - •Negotiated Kyoto Protocol
 - •Created first system to Inventory and Appraise air emission avoidance value
- •Counsel: US Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee; US Air Force; US EPA
- •Lieutenant, US Navy JAGC
- •Native of Queens, Descendant of Energy Refugees from Brooklyn

What is Sustainability?

- · Growing the Economy and Opportunities with a view to the Future
- UN/Brundtland Sustainability Policy
 - "Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."
- Queens Sustainability Policy
 - •Don't waste (aka Conserve)
 - Protect and provide natural assets for your children to enjoy a healthy, productive life
 - Protect and provide natural assets for other living creatures (e,g, Jamaica Bay)

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Why Do We Care About Sustainability?

- Static Supply of Planet (Air, Land, and Water)
- Increasing <u>Demand</u> for Air, Land, and Water Capacity (growth in population and economy)
- Increasing costs for restoration/mitigation
- Habitat Losses/Extinction
- Food Supply
- Conflict/Political Destabilization
- Security Spending

Sustainable New York

- New York City were granted statehood, it would rank fiftyfirst in per-capita energy use
- The most energy efficient residences in the world: Apartment Buildings
- Density the essential component of Sustainability
- But:
 - •Subways 1.8B kwh/yr
 - •Streetlights 300M kwh/yr

Sustainable New York, cont'd

- Schools, Hospitals, Sewage, Drinking Water, Food Supply all public enterprise that requires steady, high-volume energy supply
- 57% of energy used in NYC is Natural Gas (power plants, on-site; ICF)
- In 2013, New York had the fourth highest average electricity prices in the United States
- •Bottom Line:
 - •New York not Fully Converting it's Sustainability Value
 - •Repurblicans Not Capitalizing On Conservation Success

More Sustainable New York

- Lowest rate of Industrial Primary Energy Use per unit of GSP
- Lowest level of Industrial Energy Expenditures per unit of GSP
- 42% of electrical generation emission free
- NYS Products likely environmentally preferable for green market advantage
- Water use also highly efficient compared to US averages
- UnSustainable: Tax and pricing policies that subsidize competing states

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Sustainable Repurblicans: Policy Elements

- Value and Manage Scarce Natural Assets
 - Pay a fair price for use
 - Reward Conservators/Eco-efficiency (credits, market share)
 - Develop City-wide Natural Capital Inventory
- •Support In-State Energy Recovery and Production (Locafuel)
- Identify and support true Sustainable Urban Technology (e.g. mass transit, sewage treatment, baseload power, shipping, rail)

A man is rich in proportion to the number of things he can afford to let alone.

Henry David Thoreau