

September 17, 2008

Dear Colleague,

Local governments are on the front lines of combating climate change as they work towards dramatically reducing greenhouse gas emissions while simultaneously pursuing robust economic growth. To help meet the challenges of climate change and sustainable growth, the City of Oberlin, Oberlin College, the International Council on Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI), and the Metropolitan Architecture Studio are hosting a conference, “Ohio: Green & Growing—Local Governments Fostering Economic Development and Sustainability,” on October 10, 2008, at Oberlin College. We extend to you a special invitation to attend this exciting event!

The goals of the conference are to share local, regional and statewide sustainability best practices, to connect economic development ventures with Ohio sustainability opportunities, and to brainstorm and learn how to apply conference ideas within attendees’ local communities.

We have invited experts from a wide range of regional, state and local backgrounds who will share success stories of economic development and sustainability initiatives. David Orr, Paul Sears Professor of Environmental Studies at Oberlin College, and an internationally recognized expert on sustainability issues, will give the opening plenary address connecting the global issue of climate disruption with local solutions. Brad Whitehead, President of the Fund for Our Economic Future, a non-profit organization promoting sustainable economic growth in Northeast Ohio, will deliver the afternoon keynote address. Other panelists and speakers include David Beach, director of the GreenCityBlueLake Institute, and Amy Malick, Midwest Regional Director of the ICLEI.

The “Ohio: Green & Growing—Local Governments Fostering Economic Development and Sustainability” conference is an important step in bringing together local government, education, economic development and sustainability leaders. We encourage you to visit our website: www.oberlin.edu/iclei/ to learn more and to register for this important event.

We hope to see you there!

Sincerely,



Marvin Krislov
President, Oberlin College



David Sonner
Mayor/City Council President, City of Oberlin