

County Executive  
Terry Schutten



## County of Sacramento

Board of Supervisors  
Roger Dickinson, District 1  
Jimmie Yee, District 2  
Susan Peters, District 3  
Roberta MacGlashan, District 4  
Don Nottoli, District 5

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### **BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ENDORSES ENERGY EFFICIENCY FINANCING PROGRAM**

#### *Stimulus Funds to Pave the Way for Property Improvements*

Sacramento County Supervisors today gave their unanimous support to a program that will help business owners and homeowners finance energy-saving improvements on their property. Approving the plan today signals the County's intent to serve as a regional leader, and to partner with other local governments to make the program easy for residents to use.

Property owners will be able to access funding for a wide range of improvements, from upgrading heating and air systems to replacing inefficient windows and doors and adding solar panels, without having to pay up front. Making it even more attractive to property owners is the payback mechanism for the retrofits. The repayment of the loan will be through the property tax billing system. The debt will stay with the property, meaning those who benefit from the energy improvements over time will pay for them, rather than placing the whole cost on the current owner.

Supervisor Roger Dickinson applauds Sacramento County's effort to push for a program that has winners on both the jobs and environmental front. "We have a great opportunity to leverage federal stimulus dollars to create a program that will have regional economic and environmental benefits," Dickinson notes. "By making existing homes and buildings more energy efficient, we can lower energy bills while putting people back to work."

County Sustainability Program Manager Cecilia Jensen adds that this novel approach dispels the myth that it costs more to go green. "Saving money and improving energy efficiency can go hand in hand. This program will directly improve the environment while reducing energy costs for property owners. It's an excellent use of stimulus funds."

The Board's action today authorizes the County to legally develop the program using federal stimulus money set aside for this purpose under the terms of California Assembly Bill 811. Sacramento County is set to receive more than \$5 million in federal stimulus grant funds under the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program, and will use a portion of this funding to develop this program.