For Immediate Release

City of Philadelphia Selects Green Building United as Implementation Support Consultant for Philadelphia’s Building Energy Benchmarking Program

In this role, Green Building United will provide technical support and strategic direction for how to improve building performance citywide

Philadelphia, PA, June 12, 2018 – The City of Philadelphia today named Green Building United, the Implementation Support Consultant for the City of Philadelphia’s Building Energy Benchmarking Program for the 2017 energy data compliance season. Through this partnership, Green Building United will utilize its technical expertise and strategic insights to help the City meet the energy, climate and energy affordability goals outlined in Philadelphia’s comprehensive sustainability plan, Greenworks.

“We are pleased to work with the City of Philadelphia to support its overarching sustainability initiatives in order to help create a healthier, more sustainable city for all citizens,” said Alex Dews, Executive Director of Green Building United. “By collaborating to track energy usage and building performance, we can make a substantial impact on the city’s ability to adapt to climate change while helping Philadelphia become one of the greenest cities in America.”

Under Philadelphia’s Energy Benchmarking and Disclosure Law, all large commercial and multifamily buildings 50,000 square feet and larger are required to report their energy and water usage annually to help owners assess energy use, gauge performance in comparison to others in the marketplace and better understand how energy-efficiency can offset usage. Although the City’s median ENERGY STAR score of 60, on a scale of 1 to 100, exceeds the national average, Philadelphia still falls short when compared to other cities with mandatory building benchmarking and disclosure policies.

As Implement Support Consultant, Green Building United will utilize its technical expertise in ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager to help building owners compare the energy efficiency of their buildings to similar facilities and provide them with recommendations on how to optimize the energy performance of their buildings in order to improve ENERGY STAR scores and overall building performance.

Due to Green Building United’s recent experience leading the Philadelphia 2030 District and advocating for 2018 commercial building code adoption, we feel they will serve a strong partner and consultant on for the City’s benchmarking program,” said Richard Freeh, Senior Program Director with the Office of Sustainability. “By embedding themselves in the sustainable building community, Green Building United has the background and technical expertise needed to help the building community improve energy performance and contribute to the City’s overarching sustainability goals.”

Along with serving as the City’s Implement Support Consultant, through a grant from the Sustainable Development Fund, Green Building United was also selected to work closely with the City of Philadelphia’s Department of License and Inspections to provide technical training and support for the transition into 2018 Commercial Building Codes. Compared to the 2009 code, the update to the 2018 code has the potential to lower commercial building energy use by more than 30 percent. To help ease the code adoption process, Green Building United will provide building trade professionals with the
training and education needed to take advantage of this opportunity, while also evaluating additional training needs for key stakeholders.

To learn more about Green Building United and its sustainability leadership in the Greater Philadelphia region, please visit: www.greenbuildingunited.org.

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**About Green Building United**
Green Building United, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, is committed to promoting sustainable building in Greater Philadelphia, the Lehigh Valley and Delaware. Through education and advocacy, Green Building United aims to create a sustainable, healthy and resilient built environment for all. Green Building United offers its members and partners a wide variety of resources, tools and events to help them stay informed of the latest green building news and trends. For more information, visit www.greenbuildingunited.org and connect with us on Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn.

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