

**Wednesday, May 14, 2008**

## **Mayor Nutter Appoints Mark Alan Hughes As Director Of Sustainability**

*Philadelphia, May 14* – Mayor Michael A. Nutter has appointed Dr. Mark Alan Hughes as Director of Sustainability for the City of Philadelphia. Mark joins the Nutter Administration from the University of Pennsylvania’s Fox Leadership Program where he has been a Distinguished Senior Fellow since 1999. He will also serve as a Senior Advisor to the Mayor.

At a press conference to announce his pick Mayor Nutter urged all organizations and sectors in Philadelphia to lead by example in their sustainability efforts:

“If we are going to become the greenest city in the United States, then all of us in Philadelphia need to be working towards that common goal,” said Mayor Nutter. “Whether city government, private industry, non-profit organizations, or private citizens, we all need to make every effort to conserve resources, to reduce waste, and to promote sustainable methods of living and doing business.”

Mark Alan Hughes commented: “Local governments are on the front lines when it comes to dealing with climate change and environmental issues. Our goal, here in Philadelphia, is to move the sustainability agenda further and faster than in any city in the United States.”

As Director of Sustainability, Mark will be situated in the Mayor’s Office and will be responsible for developing, implementing and overseeing the City’s environmental policies and initiatives. He will report directly to the Mayor and Chief of Staff and will work closely with the Managing Director, Deputy Mayors and other heads of Departments to coordinate sustainability policies across government. Priorities include:

- Creating and leading a Sustainability Cabinet comprised of department heads and senior administration officials
- Coordinating the sustainability efforts of City agencies and departments and working with a wide range of partners through a Sustainability Advisory Group
- Expanding green building initiatives and the creation of green collar jobs
- Developing a comprehensive plan for auditing and reducing energy use in city owned buildings

The announcement was made outside of the Friend’s Center in Philadelphia. This venue is an example of an organization demonstrating leadership in the area of sustainability. The Center is currently undergoing a renovation that includes the drilling of geothermal wells and the installation of solar panels, a green roof, high efficiency glass and high efficiency lighting. The goal is for the Center to be a LEED Platinum certified renovated

building that will reduce energy consumption by 25% per year.

Patrick Starr, Vice President of the Pennsylvania Environmental Council, welcomed the appointment, saying, "Sustainability is as much about supporting families with good jobs, quality homes, and clean transportation alternatives as it is traditional environmental issues. Mark's policy background and practical experience in these fields will enable him to blend land use planning, housing and green-collar job opportunities into a compelling sustainability agenda for a competitive Philadelphia."

Bruce Katz, Vice President of the Brookings Institution and Director of the Metropolitan Policy Program said, "The appointment of Mark Alan Hughes is a major coup for Mayor Nutter and his team. Mark is one of the most creative urban thinkers in the US today and focusing his attention on sustainability matches the right person to the right challenge."

"Mark is brilliant and indefatigable, and will bring tremendous vision and energy to this critically important new role," said University of Pennsylvania President Amy Gutmann.