

Action/Research Plan

Action/Research Team's Sector: Housing

Working Title for this Initiative or Business Opportunity: Housing Replacement Initiative

Overview of Initiative (a brief description): Plug the leak created by importation of mobile homes manufactured outside of SLC – Development of a mobile home replacement program maximizing use of locally produced materials - Integration of a home buyer training program emphasizing home maintenance and repair
Potential Market: People who reside in mobile homes. In SLC, 13.7% of the year-round housing stock is comprised of mobile homes. Well above the NYS rate of 2.7%.
Groups/Organizations/People with whom to connect: SLC Housing Council, Raquette Valley Habitat for Humanity, Saint Lawrence County Planning Office, Clarkson University's Shipley Institute for Entrepreneurship, Community Energy Services
Information needed to enhance this opportunity: Location of mobile homes and the condition of those homes
Potential research projects to gather needed information: Determination of the economic impact of plugging this leak – Market study of demand for alternatives to mobile housing – Evaluation of economic impact of using local materials – Determination of the long-term value of mobile homes compared to traditional stick-built homes
Additional resources and support needed for this opportunity: Contact/recruit wood processors for local forest products – Expand SLC Housing Council's home owner education and training initiatives – Develop linkages with local financial institutions – Acquire building design assistance

Additional ideas for Initiatives and Businesses in this sector – prioritized, especially for 2003-2004

1. Wood processing plant	5. More competitive lending by local financial institutions
2. Tutoring program for home maintenance	6. Architectural salvaging and recycling
3. Equity pool to facilitate use of low-income and historic preservation tax credits	7. More competitive pricing of construction materials
4. Intergenerational housing	8. Improve financial literacy of potential homebuyers

Team Convener for 2003-2004: Kathy Mullaney

Proposed Date/Time for next meeting to develop agenda: June 2003