

## Collaborative Dialogue on ARRA Equity Summary Document

### **Purpose of the Collaborative Dialogue:**

*To incorporate equity as a principle and outcome more fully-from early on-into the planning and action around the ARRA funding being sought by the community collaborative Pittsburgh Green Innovators.*

Our collective goal was to begin to create a structure for developing community-driven, sustainability based priorities for the region, and recommendations to City and County officials for American Reinvestment & Recovery Act (ARRA) funding, beginning with Department of Energy (DoE) funds. We encouraged broad community participation, particularly by organizations engaged in sustainable practices, community and constituency based work, and missions related to ARRA funding priorities.

Beginning with this initial focus on ARRA funding, we sought to share resources and information among participants, and to begin to establish a long-term collaborative effort to help build a more sustainable and equitable Pittsburgh region.

### **Process used to achieve the Purpose:**

*A series of facilitated, open public planning sessions focused on identifying community-driven, sustainability-based priorities for portions of the ARRA funding.*

### **Stakeholders involved in the Dialogue:**

*Over 60 people from across Pittsburgh and Allegheny County participated in the sessions, representing the for-profit, not-for-profit, academic, government, grass roots, labor, and community development sectors.*

#### Conveners:

- Pittsburgh Green Innovators (PGI)
- Black Political Empowerment Project's Regional Equity Monitoring Project (REMP)
- Penn State University's Extension Service (PSU)

#### Participants:

- Various independent members of the community
- Local representatives of government offices, academic institutions, civic organizations, neighborhood groups, and others.

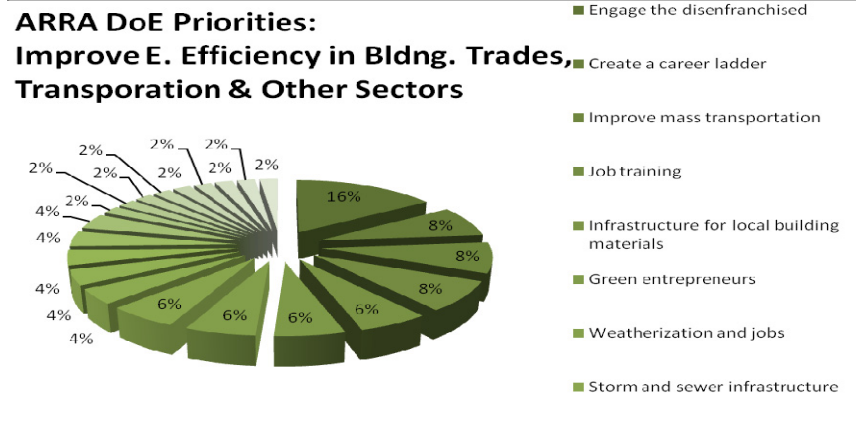
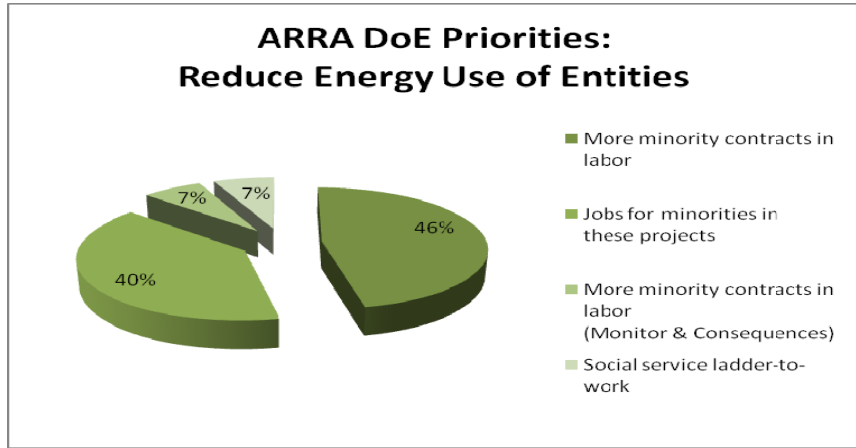
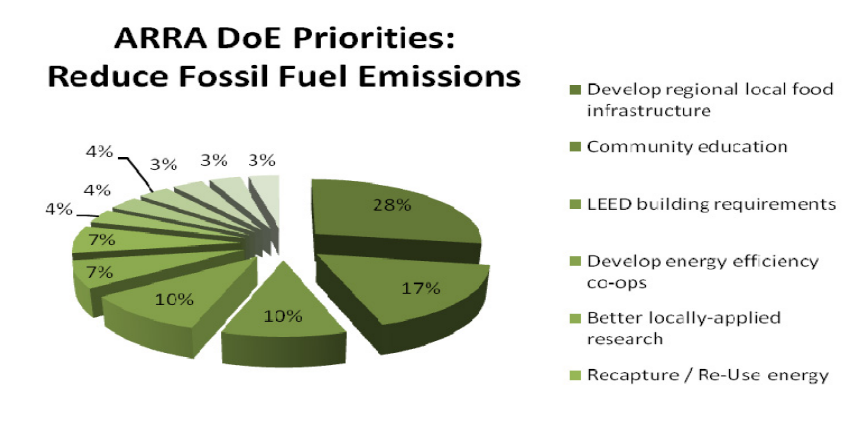
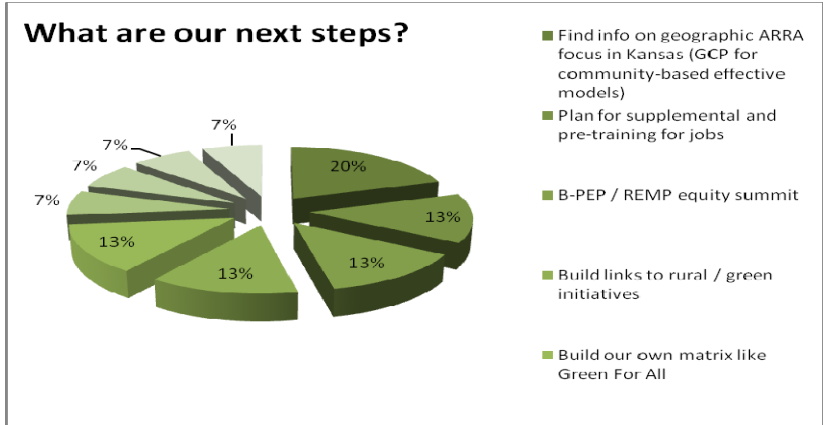
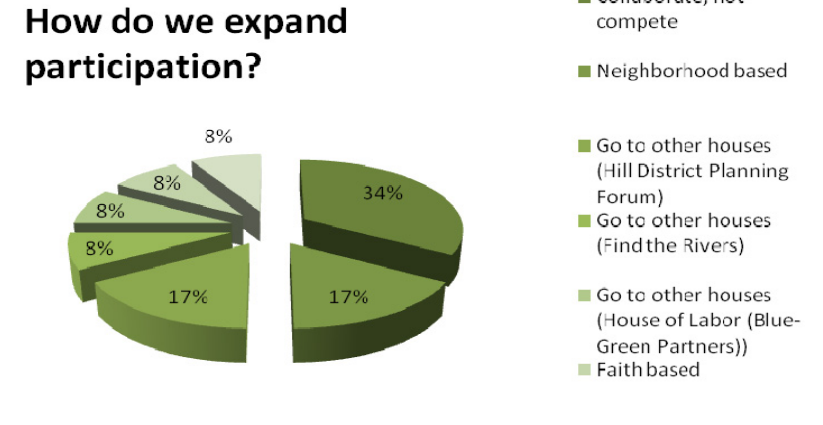
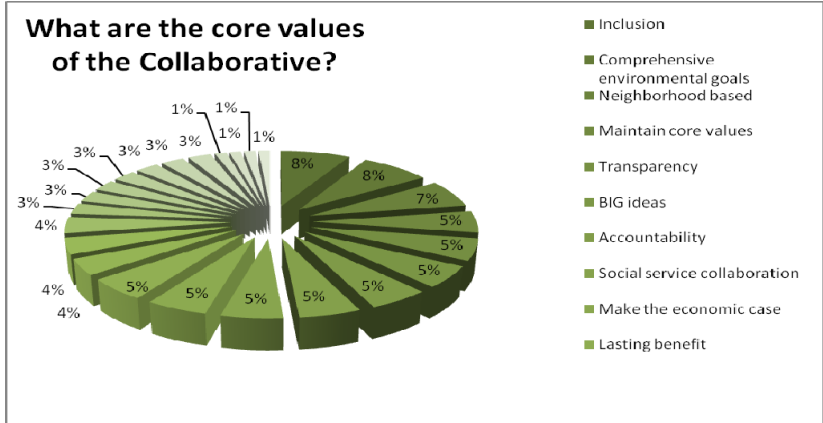
### **Outcomes of the Process:**

*Event participants established core collaborative values and shared priorities to begin capitalizing on the opportunities offered by ARRA funding, and to help set up a shared, open process for establishing recommendations and increasing access to funding that can have a real impact on our Pittsburgh neighborhoods and communities across Allegheny County.*

- Building Collaboration → Core Principles  
Economy + Equity + Environment = Our Bottom Line
- Topic Areas discussed:
  - o Our Community & Sustainability:
    - What are the core values of the Collaborative?
    - How do we expand participation?
    - What are our next steps?
  - o Our Community & ARRA:
    - Measurables → ARRA Core Requirements + Our Own
    - DoE's 3 main funding priorities via the ARRA

# Collaborative Dialogue on ARRA Equity - Summary Document

~ Priorities identified within those areas discussed ~



\* Legend entries in each chart are listed in descending order (most votes to least), listing all entries through at least the top 50% (a legend entry indicates a data label within the pie boundary).  
 \*\* Percentages reflect the number of people who voted for particular item (legend entry) over the total number of votes cast in that area.