El Paso, Texas:
the Chamizal neighborhood

The Enduring Challenge of Concentrated Poverty in America:
Case Studies from Communities Across the U.S.
What is El Paso doing?
City of El Paso Vision Statement:
“To establish El Paso as the premier community of the Southwest”

City of El Paso Mission Statement:
“To create a more vibrant, harmonious and sustainable city by building on existing strengths, exploring new opportunities, fostering regional partnerships and responding to change”
Sustainability Plan

• Strategic Plan
• City-Wide (and deep)
  – Air
  – Buildings & Development
  – Community
  – Energy
  – Transportation
  – Waste & Materials

Sample Goals

- Develop a plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to meet Kyoto protocol guidelines by 2011
- Establish green building practices as standard business practice in El Paso by 2015
- Reduce City total energy consumption by 30% by 2014
- Implement 20 renewable energy projects by 2015
- Transition 20% of City energy use to renewable sources by 2020
- Achieve residential waste diversion rate of 25% by 2013 to become a leader among Texas cities
What have we already done?

- Curbside recycling
- Alternative fuels
- LEED Silver buildings
- SMART code for development
- Energy efficiency retrofits
- Transit terminals
What will we be doing soon?

- $5.8M Energy Block grant
  - Energy retrofits
  - Landfill gas system
  - Green fleet
  - Appliance rebates
  - Solar outreach project
  - Recycling outreach
  - Solar photovoltaic power project
  - Virtual meeting room
Renewable Energy Plans

- City
  - 3rd providers (PPA or lease) for City buildings
  - Solar power for desalination plant
  - Landfill gas to energy system
  - Wastewater digester gas system
- Community
  - Property tax financing for energy improvements (PACE)
  - Streamlined permitting
  - Clarify interconnection requirements
Energy Efficiency Plans

• City
  – $3.5M State ARRA funding – Street Lighting
  – Implement new LEED standards
  – Continue building retrofits

• Community
  – “Retrofit Ramp Up” Grant ($75M)
  – Low Income Weatherization ($6,500 per house)
  – Workforce development collaboration
  – PACE finance district
Next Step - Implementation

- Stakeholders
  - Army
  - UTEP
  - Private sector

- Key Questions
  - What are the synergies that can be used to pursue our sustainability goals?
  - What are private industry’s plans to utilize sustainable technologies and practices?
  - What resources are available? Needed? How do we create the needed resources?
Summit Results

• Relationships and networks
• Action plans in common goal areas
• Action plans to address areas of need
  – With commitments from stakeholders
Questions?

http://www.elpasotexas.gov/econdev/greensummit.asp