Proposal: An ISWG Health and Wellness Group

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Presentation to ISWG
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What’s at Stake

• The Federal government’s civilian workforce of 2.2 million workers:
  • Receive $215 billion in total compensation (FY16)
    • Including health insurance, of which government pays ~70% of premiums
    • Have an absenteeism rate due to illness or injury of 2.6%
  • Thus, the economic value of keeping Federal workers healthy is huge
  • Building features & conditions impact worker health & performance – even if hard to quantify
Healthy is HOT in Buildings Industry

User-Friendly Stairwell: GSA: Battin Courthouse, Billings, MT (Fitwel certified)

Herb Garden: ASID HQ, Washington, DC (WELL certified)
2016 Guiding Principles

• Occupant Health and Wellness:
  • Promote opportunities for voluntary increased physical movement of building occupants such as making stairwells an option for circulation, active workstations, fitness centers, and bicycle commuter facilities; and support convenient access to healthy dining options, potable water, daylight, plants, and exterior views.

• Plus long-time IEQ goals:
  – Ventilation and Thermal Comfort
  – Daylighting and Lighting Controls
  – Indoor Air Quality:
Advisory Committee Health & Wellness Recommendations

• Maintain & build on health focus in Guiding Principles, other guidance
• Incorporate health into integrated design processes
• Support research to fill knowledge gaps
• Guidance Crosswalk to assist agencies
• Leasing provisions
Synergy with ISWG

• History of sustainability champions coming together to raise building performance
• Broad base of Federal high performance building expertise & connections to tap
• Commitment to Guiding Principles

Open plan, daylit workspace: GSA: Central Office (Washington, DC)
Proposed Group Agenda

- Educating & informing each other
  - Current agency policies
  - Industry programs and best practices
  - Case studies
  - Latest research results
- Making progress together
  - Enhancing Federal standards & guidance
  - Testing & improving metrics
  - Expanding & sharing info on Federal pilots
Next Steps

- Identify interested participants (underway)
  - **Please let Ken know if you’re interested and/or would like to discuss more:** ken.sandler@gsa.gov, 202-219-1121**

- Develop a core group to begin meeting, develop charter and agenda

- Keep the ISWG regularly updated
Your Questions, Comments, Ideas?