INDIANAPOLIS – Mayor Greg Ballard and the Office of Sustainability announced today the release of a comprehensive report of suggested next steps and priorities aimed toward converting the Indianapolis City-County Building (CCB) into a greener, more energy efficient structure.

The report, Opportunities and Innovation: Indianapolis City-County Building, documents the outcomes of an Opportunity and Innovation Workshop held by the City of Indianapolis Office of Sustainability in conjunction with Rocky Mountain Institute® (RMI) on June 9-10th of 2009. The intent of the workshop was to analyze the potential retrofit of the CCB, including clarification of an overarching goal to make Indianapolis a national forerunner in sustainability.

More than thirty regional professionals with varying areas of expertise attended the workshop. In addition to documenting the outcomes of the workshop, the report includes recommendations for next steps and priorities.

“The work of the Green CCB Development Team has provided us with a solid set of goals and clear direction as we work to transform the decades-old City-County Building into a reflection of our commitment to making municipal government leaner and greener,” said Mayor Ballard. “This report reflects significant public input. Both the quality and volume of ideas brought forward throughout this process reflect the level of enthusiasm in our community about working together to make Indianapolis a more sustainable city.”

The report provides the framework for developing and implementing a CCB Comprehensive Master Plan for a whole systems design process. In addition to describing the various work groups required to produce this plan, the report also denotes which aspects can be funded immediately, which can be implemented with existing funds, and which elements will require capital funding.

A Core team, including staff from the Office of Sustainability and the Indianapolis/Marion County Building Authority will be primarily responsible for coordinating and implementing the CCB Master Plan.

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A copy of the report is available at www.sustainindy.org.

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The CCB was constructed in 1962, an era when energy was perceived as abundant and glazing technology was in its infancy. Despite that, the Indianapolis/Marion County Building Authority has operated the building as efficiently as possible - reducing energy use to 80 percent of the national average for a building of this age and size. This remains, however, 63 percent higher than the average energy use of a LEED certified office building.