COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF LA PLATA
Resolution No. 08-2

Introduced By: Mayor Gene Ambrogio
Date Introduced: February 26, 2008
Amendments Adopted:
Date Adopted: February 26, 2008
Date Effective: February 26, 2008

A RESOLUTION concerning

Adoption of a Policy Requiring that All New Construction and
Major Renovations of Town-Owned or -Funded Buildings Meet
Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Certification

FOR the purpose of adopting a policy requiring that all new construction and major renovations of
Town-owned or -funded buildings meet Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design
(LEED) certification; and all matters relating thereto.

WHEREAS, the Town wishes to encourage new construction or redevelopment projects to
include sustainable design and building practices; and

WHEREAS, the Town supports standards for construction that result in buildings that are
environmentally responsible, energy efficient, and healthy places to work; and

WHEREAS, reliable studies have shown that buildings consume approximately 70% of the
electricity produced in this country and create about 30% of all greenhouse gas emissions in the
United States; and

WHEREAS, it is in the community’s best interest to curb building energy consumption and
emissions; and

WHEREAS, it is in the community’s best interest to protect water resources and reduce
water waste; and
WHEREAS, conservation of resources will reduce long term utility costs; and
WHEREAS, the Town has already demonstrated leadership with Charles County’s first LEED certified building, the La Plata Town Hall;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF LA PLATA THAT:

SECTION 1. All new construction and major renovation projects to be owned, occupied, or funded in whole or in part by the Town of La Plata that are of 5,000 square feet in floor area or greater shall be certified to the U.S. Green Building Council’s LEED standards at the most appropriate level. For purposes of this policy, any renovation project estimated to cost twenty-five percent or more of the current value of the structure to be renovated shall constitute a major renovation project.

SECTION 2. All new construction and major renovation projects to be owned, occupied, or funded, in whole or in part, by the Town of La Plata that are less than 5,000 square feet will strive for inclusion of all feasible sustainable practices.

SECTION 3. The Town of La Plata recommends that all new buildings and major renovations undertaken by private entities meet LEED certification standards. Toward this end, the Town shall work in concert with other interested parties, toward educating property owners on these standards and their value.

SECTION 4. The requirement of LEED certification may be waived in an emergency situation or under documented circumstances showing that compliance with this requirement would be cost prohibitive and/or create an unreasonable burden on the construction project or Town; have a negative impact on an historic structure; or, if due to specific circumstances, would defeat the intent of LEED certification. Any request for waiver of LEED certification must be accompanied by specific reasons for the waiver and approved by the Town. Under these circumstances, a reasonable effort must still be made to maximize the number of LEED points attained by the project.

ADOPTED this 26th day of February, 2008.

SEAL:  

COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF LA PLATA

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Gene Ambrogio, Mayor

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James Goldsmith, Councilman