



U.S. General Services Administration

# Green Building Advisory Committee

## In A Nutshell

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**GSA Office of Federal**  
**High-Performance Buildings**  
**September 27, 2018**

# Why Federal Advisory Committees?

- Ivory Towers Are Not Sustainable Buildings!



# An American Tradition



1794 Whiskey Rebellion:  
Topic of first Federal Advisory Committee

# Why This Advisory Committee?

- Created by Energy Independence & Security Act of 2007 (EISA):
  - “The Committee shall provide advice and expertise for use by the Federal Director in carrying out the duties under this subtitle”
  - Advises GSA Office of Federal High-Performance Green Buildings on fulfillment of our mission:
    - **To advance federal building innovations in planning, design, and operations to reduce costs, enable agency missions, enhance human health and performance, and minimize environmental impacts.**

# FACA: The Fine Print

- Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972 (FACA):
  - Avoid individual conflicts of interest:
    - Membership limited to individually vetted appointees
    - Avoid appearance of impropriety
  - Keep Committee:
    - Transparent
      - No smoke filled rooms
      - All meetings open to public, announced in Federal Register
      - Committee materials posted at [gsa.gov/gbac](https://gsa.gov/gbac)
    - Balanced in its membership
    - Independent

# How the Committee Gets Its Work Done

- Semi-annual meetings
  - Additional web meetings a possibility
- Crafting advice
  - Committee agrees on topics to pursue
  - Task Groups to research and propose recommendations
  - Committee confirms/revises/rejects
  - Advice Letter to GSA



# Meeting Logistics

- Working meeting of the Committee
- Coffee, tea
- Working lunch here
- Bathrooms: Lobby area → Right → Right
- Break room w/water & vending machines: Lobby → Right → Left → All the way down
- Wireless
  - GSA-Guest
  - Password: wt89FJ93



For More Info & Discussion At Any Time



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