

Babette Josephs on Environmental Issues...

Parks & Urban Greening

- Helped secure a federal TIGER grant for the expansion/completion of the Schuylkill River Trail and the East Coast Greenway.
- Secured \$300K for Hawthorne Park at 12th and Catharine.
- Secured \$50K for Grays Ferry Memorial Park (Lanier Playground) at 29th & Tasker.
- Provided grant funding to Franklin's Paine Skatepark Fund.
- Provided grant funding to Friends of Seger Park Playground.
- Provided tree planting and the installation of biodegradable dog waste bags in Schuylkill River Park.
- Provided grant funding for Cianfrani Park at 8th and Fitzwater.
- Provided grant funding for Center City Residents' Association Tree Planting Program.
- Provided a grant to Schuylkill River Development Corporation (SRDC) to fund two electric vehicles for trail maintenance.
- Provided a grant to the Girls' Leadership Camp so 8-14 year-old urban girls can experience the outdoors.

Sustainable Food

- Member of the Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee (2003--Present).
- I eat low on the food chain by keeping a vegan diet.
- Provided a grant to The Food Trust to bring a farmers' market in Grays Ferry.
- Provided a grant to the Garden of the Arts Community Garden at Broad and South Streets.
- Provided a grant to the Schuylkill Park Community Garden at 25th & Spruce Streets.
- Provided a grant to the Logan Square Neighborhood Association to build a community garden.

Energy Conservation

- Urged our federal lawmakers to support federal clean energy/climate legislation (2010).
- Voted for HB2405 strengthening state commitments to renewable energy & enabling consumers to generate their own electricity (2010).
- Urged Governor Rendell to support the Energy Coordinating Agency's Green Collar Jobs Training Center at 106 West Clearfield Street, West Kensington (2009).
- Urged federal lawmakers to support a strong energy and climate bill in the U.S. Senate (2009).
- Voted for HB1200 allowing PA to develop alternative energy incentives, the sale of alternative energy credits, & rebate programs to lower the cost of alternative energy products and technology (2007).
- Held Energy Conservation workshops in the district offering free weatherization supplies to constituents.
- Supports Urban Green Partnership initiatives and participates in UGP's GreenFest Philly every year.
- Helped secure a \$504,550 grant from the Pennsylvania Energy Development Authority grant to the Friends Center to develop a demonstration green building at their building in downtown Philadelphia.
- Founder and first Executive Director of Citizens Coalition for Energy Efficiency (C2E2) 1980-1981

Recycling

- I am an avid recycler in both my professional and personal life. I urge all of my office staff to reuse everything possible in the office, including paper, envelopes, containers, plastic bags, and more.
- Voted for HB708 expanding the recycling of electronic materials by requiring companies to recycle a share of their own electronic waste as well as that of their consumers (2010).
- Provided a grant to support the Recycling Alliance's campaign to ensure that commercial buildings in Philadelphia are recycling and have taken a leadership role in my building to make sure we have a strong recycling program.
- Provided a grant to support the Recycling Alliance's campaign to bring single stream recycling to Philadelphia.
- Started the pilot program for backyard composting in Philadelphia.

more on other side...

Transportation

- Urged the U.S. DOT to allow PA to toll I-80 so we could properly fund PA's public transportation system. (2010)
- Urged the U.S. DOT to support the Crescent Corridor Intermodal Freight Program—the best program to divert long-haul commercial truck traffic from the state and nation's highways (2009).
- Voted for HB1590 so revenue generated from I-80 tolls could be used for public transportation (2007).
- Voted for HB1202 requiring the use of biodiesel and ethanol in transportation fuels (2007).
- First legislator to both support and implement office use of PhillyCarShare.
- Only legislator non-reliant on private passenger vehicles.
- Regular user of SEPTA and proud card-holder of the senior citizen's pass allowing free use of SEPTA.

Air Quality

- Urged the EPA to finalize an ozone standard in line with the suggestions of their science advisors and increase maintenance of old coal-fired power plants & other large sources of ozone pollution (2007)

Water Quality

- As a member of the Coastal State Caucus, Babette supported its letter to President Obama urging him to hold BP fully accountable for the oil spill; insisting BP create a Gulf Coast and Estuaries Restoration Fund, and direct government policy and security to the maintenance and safety of marine and coastal life.
- Supporter of Greenfield Elementary's efforts to "green" the school and develop a stormwater management demonstration, a weather station and other tools for environmental learning.
- Voted for & wrote a letter of support for the recently passed wastewater & stormwater rules requiring forested buffers of specified sizes for stream protection (2010).
- Urged legislators to support President Obama's proposed National Oceans policy, which includes the Great Lakes (2009).
- Urged federal lawmakers to regulate the use of the toxic chemical, bisphenol-A
- Work to raise awareness about the detriment of the bottled water industry and the importance of protecting public water systems (2007).

Memberships

- Environmental Legislators Caucus (aka The Green Dogs Caucus)
- Urban Sustainability Caucus
- Sustainable Business Network of Philadelphia
- PennEnvironment
- PennFuture
- Sierra Club
- Clean Air Council
- Bicycle Coalition of Greater Philadelphia
- Pennsylvania League of Conservation Voters
- Advisory board member of Paine's Park Project
- Friends of Seger Park Playground Task Force
- Advisory Board of Greening Greenfield Elementary
- Ambassador to the Sisters on the Planet project run by the League of Women Voters & Oxfam America

Awards

- Greenfield Home School Association, Honorable Contribution for Phase 1 Greening Greenfield, 2009
- PennEnvironment, Environmental Champ Award, 2008
- Clean Air Council, Environmental Leadership Award, 2007
- Smokefree Pennsylvania, Distinguished Achievement Award, 2003

For more information about Representative Josephs' record, contact the district office at 215-893-1515, the Harrisburg office at 717-787-8529, send an email to RepJosephs@pahouse.net, or visit www.babette.org.