LEEDing Tiny House Takes on Big Inspiring Goals

Jacksonville, FL (July 17, 2017) The U.S. Green Building Council Florida (USGBC Florida), Eco Relics and Norsk Tiny Houses are partnering to build the first Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certified tiny home in the U.S. (and maybe the world) by November 2017. To launch this unique effort, the partners are inviting the community to participate in a free and open-to-the-public charrette and help them make history by creating an amazing sustainable tiny house with creative ideas from northeast Florida and beyond. The charrette is on Friday, July 21, 2017, 9am to 5pm, at the LEED Gold Jessie Ball duPont Center, 40 E. Adams Street, Jacksonville, FL 32202. Anyone can attend -- all day or for part of the event -- in person or beam in from outside the area via GoToWebinar by simply registering at www.usgbcflorida.org/calendar.

Goals for this ambitious project include: 1) **Education** -- Create an inspiring project that educates the masses about making a home healthy, high performing, environmentally sustainable and LEED Certified (think 24/7 webcam, open meetings to learn the process, high school and university students helping with ideas and research, road tour ending up at Greenbuild Chicago 2018 ... and more!); 2) **Repurposed Material** -- Our tiny home will be built from as much reclaimed, recycled and repurposed materials as possible thanks to Eco Relics' remarkable warehouse; 3) **Project Experience** -- Provide actual LEED project experience to many so they can learn on a live venture; and 4) **Inspirational Journey** -- Inspire LEED tiny house communities and people to live tinier, easier, meaningful and sustainable lives.

“Eco Relics is just absolutely thrilled to be a part of this project because it embodies the real essence and values of our business,” said Annie Murphy, co-founder of Eco Relics at a recent Jacksonville green social. Jenni Edwards, owner of Norsk Tiny Houses, shared, “What motivated me to become a partner is that I want everyone to benefit from living easier, meaningful lives and avoid all the white noise of stuff and clutter.”

Construction and a kick-off event will occur in August 2017 at the Eco Relics location. There will be speakers from Eco Relics, USGBC and members of the project committee, as well as sponsors on site. The entire project will be documented through a 24/7 webcam, pictures, video, blog posts and various social media platforms. After the completion of construction, the Tiny House and crew members will be attending the 2017 Florida Tiny House Festival in St. Augustine, Florida, before embarking on a one-year educational tour throughout Florida and ending at the Greenbuild conference in Chicago in late 2018.

If you would like more information, logos of partners, and contacts for interviews concerning the LEEDing Tiny House project, please visit www.leedingtiny.org and contact Sarah Boren at 904-535-0055 / sboren@usgbcflorida.org or Tracy Rigdon at 904-563-3452 / tracy@ecorelics.com

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The U.S. Green Building Council Florida Chapter, a nonprofit (501[c][3]) organization, embraces innovative building practices that conserve land, energy, water, resources and materials. Its Mission is to transform the way buildings and communities are designed, built and operated, enabling an environmentally and socially responsible, healthy and prosperous environment that improves the quality of life. USGBC Florida has nearly 20,000 members, volunteers and friends providing educational programs and market transformation services to the Sunshine State from seven Regions -- Central Florida, Florida Capital, Florida Gulf Coast, Heart of Florida, Northeast Florida, Northern Gulf Coast, and South Florida. Contacts: Lee Cooke (Executive Director, 561-373-7367, lcooke@usgbcflorida.org) and Sarah Boren (Director of Policy and Programs, 904-535-0055, sboren@usgbcflorida.org).