

Santa Clara County Cities Association Green Building Collaborative
Phase II Policy Recommendations

Type of Project	Green Standard*
Residential, New Construction	
Single-family & Multi-family < 9 homes	GPR Rated** or LEED Certified
Multi-family => 9 homes	GPR Rated or LEED Silver
Residential, Remodels	
Single-family <\$100,000 permit valuation or, <500 square foot addition or FAR increase <50%. This category also includes maintenance items that require a permit	BIG's Elements checklist or LEED Checklist
Single-family w/\$100,000-200,000 permit valuation, or 500-1,000 square foot addition	BIG's Elements 25-49 or LEED Certified
Single-family w/\$200,000+ permit valuation, or 1,000+ square foot addition or FAR increase of 50%	GPR Rated or LEED Certified
Small Multi-family projects (TBD)	Applicable GPR Checklist or applicable LEED checklist
Large Multi-family projects (TBD)	Applicable GPR 50 or applicable LEED level of certified

Type of Project	Green Standard
Nonresidential, New Construction	
Small, <5,000 square feet	LEED Checklist
Mid-size, 5,000-25,000 square feet	LEED Certified
Large, >25,000 square feet	LEED Silver
Nonresidential, Remodels/Tenant Improvements	
Small projects	LEED Checklist
Large w/o HVAC: 2 of four systems are touched*** + >10,000 square feet + > \$1 million permit valuation	LEED Certified w/o prerequisites
Large w/HVAC: 2 of four systems are touched, one being HVAC + >10,000 square feet + > permit valuation of \$1 million	LEED Certified

* The latest applicable version of the U.S Green Building Council’s LEED® Rating System – New Construction (which includes major remodels); Commercial Interiors; Existing Buildings; Core & Shell; etc.

** It is understood that GPR Rated currently requires a minimum level of 50 points. It is also understood that Build It Green will continue to adjust its checklist to reflect code changes and that 50 points today may be equivalent to something different in the future. However, the “Rated” term equates to BIG’s minimum green standard, which again, is currently 50 points.

*** The four systems are envelope, lighting, interior services and HVAC.