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Green Building Update

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publication

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[Green building standards on agenda for California city](#)

Times-Herald - Jul 18

The city council of Benicia, California, is in the process of deciding whether to implement green building standards on the city that are stricter than the state's CalGREEN building code, according to the Times-Herald. City public works official Charlie Knox said the rules being considered would only apply to residential buildings, are inexpensive, and will result in energy savings for homeowners. The rules would apply to home additions over 600 square feet, as well as home construction projects costing \$20,000 or more.

GREEN BUILDING FOCUS

[SF mayor introduces gold standards](#)

SF Green Living Examiner - Jul 19

San Francisco Mayor Edwin Lee introduced a bill to the city's Board of Supervisors that updates the Municipal Green Building Code to mandate that all construction and renovation projects in the city receive at least LEED gold certification as of Sept. 1. Previously, the code required a minimum of LEED Silver certification. San Francisco is the tenth municipality in the country to adopt the green construction requirement, according to SF Green Living Examiner.

[California city mulls green building ordinance update](#)

Poway Patch - Jul 18

City officials in Poway, California, will consider an ordinance that would mandate the adoption of the state's most recent building code, which includes updated green building standards. The ordinance would replace the city's 2007 edition of the California Building Standards Code with the 2010 version, which includes CalGREEN. Council will first hear the ordinance at an upcoming meeting.

[Task force releases recommendations for green data centers](#)

Data Center Metrics Task Force - Jul 15

A task force comprised of top green building industry leaders has released recommendations on measuring and reporting the energy efficiency of data centers. Members of the Data Center Metrics Task Force include: ASHRAE, Silicon Valley Leadership Group, the DOE's "Save Energy Now" Program, the EPA's ENERGY STAR Program, the USGBC, and the Uptime Institute. The recommendations include: (1) use of power usage effectiveness (PUE) as the preferred metric for measuring data center energy efficiency; (2) use of several categories of measurement; and (3) after the PUE is calculated, companies should determine the energy cost-savings by improving data center efficiency.

[Legislation will help NY reach green building goals](#)

New City Patch - Jul 21

New York Sen. David Carlucci said the Power NY Act of 2011 he worked to develop will save families money, create jobs, and benefit the environment by motivating them to make their homes and businesses more energy-efficient.

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The law will direct the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority to implement an on-bill financing program for energy efficiency upgrades to be administered through the state's Green Jobs-Green New York program.

[Chicago rolls out green building retrofit initiative](#)

Sustainable Business - Jul 18

Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel announced the launch of the city's Guaranteed Energy Performance Contracting program, which aims to give 100% of the city's buildings a retrofit to make them more energy efficient. The retrofits are expected to cover 6.5 million square feet, save taxpayers between \$4 million and \$5.7 million each year, and create 375 direct jobs and 1,100 related jobs.

GREEN BUILDING PROJECTS

[CA senior housing development earns LEED Platinum](#)

PR Newswire - Jul 20

Magnolia Court, a senior living complex in Manteca, California, has earned LEED Platinum for its eco-friendly features. The development's 52 apartment homes are rented out to people aged over 55 who earn 30% to 60% of the region's median income. Some of its sustainable features are: (1) low-lead paint and other environmentally-friendly products; (2) locally-sourced construction materials; (3) ENERGY STAR lighting and appliances; (4) energy-efficient windows; and (5) a solar water heating system.

[Data center earns Green Globes certification](#)

ZDNet - Jul 19

A data center in Santa Clara, California, managed by Internap Network Services has earned Green Globes certification from the Green Building Initiative. The building's environmentally-friendly attributes include: (1) use of reclaimed water that is expected to save 27.8 million gallons of water each year; (2) recycling of construction waste; (3) energy-efficiency measures that make the building 50% more efficient compared to other data centers; and (4) a green power purchasing plan that requires the structure to use electricity generated by renewable sources.

[Yale University Health Centre garners LEED Gold](#)

World Interior Design Network - Jul 20

The 140,000 square-foot Yale University Health Centre in New Haven, Connecticut, has earned LEED Platinum. The structure's sustainable features include: (1) tinted windows that allow for optimal use of natural light; (2) energy-efficient lighting fixtures and controls; (3) reduced water usage through the use of low-flow wetrooms; (4) a rooftop meditation garden featuring self-sustaining plants; and (5) eco-friendly indoor construction materials for improved air quality.

[LEED certifies first multi-family residential apartments](#)

Reuters - Jul 22

The Blair Towns apartment in Silver Spring, Maryland, have become the first multi-family residential project to be certified LEED Platinum under the Existing Buildings: Operations and Maintenance (EBOM) ratings system by the U.S. Green Building Council. Some of the features that earned Blair Towns their certification include its location near a transit hub, and the building is 32 percent more energy efficient than an equivalent building.



[Chattanooga fire station earns LEED certification](#)

News Channel 9 - Jul 25

The Chattanooga Fire Department's newest fire station at Enterprise South is being recognized for achieving LEED Gold Certification. Station 7 was designed by Franklin Architects to achieve LEED certification for energy use, lighting, water and material use as well as incorporating a variety of other sustainable strategies.

[Colorado self-storage facility garners LEED Gold](#)

Extra Space Storage - Jul 18

Northgate Self-Storage, a 675-unit storage facility in Colorado Springs, Colorado, has earned LEED Gold certification. The four-story building's sustainable features include: (1) automated lighting and electrical outlet monitoring to allow for improved energy efficiency; (2) use of low-VOC indoor construction materials; and (3) an HVAC system designed to improve indoor air quality by 30%.

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