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# Green Building Update

an Allen Matkins  
market intelligence  
publication

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## [Permit Revoked for Solar Decathlon to save the lawn?](#)

*Arch Daily - Jan 18*

The biennial Solar Decathlon showcases innovative and affordable energy-efficient homes built by competing student teams from around the world. The Decathlon is traditionally hosted on Washington, D.C.'s National Mall, but recently the Department of Interior (DOI) revoked the permit to host the competition on the Mall. It is unclear why the permit was revoked, but many are speculating that it has to do with possible damage to the lawn. However, the Mall is subject to a \$600 million restoration project that will occur well after the Solar Decathlon is over. The battle over the location of the event is heating up. Senator Bob Menendez of New Jersey sent a letter to Secretaries Ken Salazar of the DOI, Steven Chu of the Department of Energy and Jon Jarvis of the NPS to support restoring the Decathlon to the Mall:

Secretary Salazar, you have spoken of your eagerness to be involved in crafting an 'energy moon shot.' Secretary Chu, you have recently called upon America to recognize that China's recent gains in clean energy industries should serve as a new 'Sputnik moment' for America to reclaim its clean energy leadership. The students who have worked for two years toward this year's Solar Decathlon have listened and responded to these calls to arms. These students deserve to showcase their talents at our country's center stage and to be part of the great history of the Mall.

*Solution: reinstate the Decathlon and replant any damaged sod.* Twenty student teams are currently designing and building solar-powered homes that are affordable, innovative and energy-efficient. Our Nation should encourage and support their inventive efforts by showcasing them on the National Mall.

### **Related articles:**

- [Read plea for reconsideration from participating universities.](#)
- [Ousted Solar Decathletes Amp Up Pressure to Stay on the Mall](#)
- [Solar Decathlon Booted From the National Mall?](#)
- [Solar Decathlon Bumped from National Mall](#)
- [Engineering Teams Groan as Solar Competition is Moved Off Nat'l Mall](#)
- [Solar Decathlon Gets Booted From the Mall, National Park Service Applauds Report: 2011 Solar Decathlon To Move Off National Mall](#)

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### Green Building Survey

Our survey results provide the latest information on green and sustainable construction, addressing current attitudes toward green building, its risks, costs, certification processes and trends. The survey was completed by more than 1500 respondents last year. The survey only takes five to ten minutes to complete.

**TAKE THE SURVEY NOW**

The results will be presented in the *Green Building Insider* newsletter and in the *Green Building Update*.

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### California's green jobs jump

*Orange County Register - Jan 18*

A [study](#) from Next 10 finds green jobs increased in the Bay Area between 1995 and 2009 by 109%. Sacramento was second with green employment jumping 103%, and Orange County was third with a 67% jump in the number of green jobs. The report says that California now has around 174,000 jobs directly related to the core green economy.

### Hines: All its buildings conform to green standards

*Business Wire / Hines - Jan 19*

Hines announced that all 203 of its buildings conform to HinesGO standards of environmental sustainability. HinesGO is an in-house certification program that ranks buildings based on criteria in seven categories: (1) Energy Efficiency, (2) People and Atmosphere, (3) Travel and Commuting, (4) Reduce, Reuse, & Recycle, (5) Cleaning, (6) Remodeling and Construction, and (7) LEED certification.

### San Bernardino awarded for green schools

*Press-Enterprise - Jan 18*

The San Bernardino City Unified School District earned the Green Building Leadership Award for its commitment to building environmentally-friendly, highly efficient schools. The district has undertaken 53 green projects so far, including 14 schools.

### USGBC-OC reveals mandate for 2011

*Green Technology World - Jan 18*

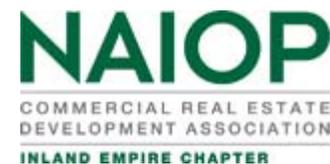
U.S. Green Building Council – Orange County Chapter will focus on community partnerships, broker/tenant education, and mentorship in the upcoming year.

#### **Related News:**

[USGBC announces new board members](#)

### Green building criteria for apprentices

*PR Newswire - Jan 20*



All construction apprentices in California will receive instruction on green building practices starting in 2012 as part of an initiative from the California Apprenticeship Council for 23 trades. Criteria lists for the trades are available on DIR's [website](#).

## [Factoring location into green building projects](#)

*L.A. Times - Jan 18*

Green building experts are increasingly factoring the distance occupants have to travel. The Center for Neighborhood Technology has developed a [calculator](#) and other tools designed to show users the environmental cost of commuting.

## [Making green building cost-effective](#)

*ecoHome - Jan 18*

Steve Bertasso says the perceived added cost of green building can be kept to a minimum by using four simple rules: (1) reduce waste, (2) improve operation efficiencies, (3) install cost-effective materials, and (4) trim administration costs. Bertasso noted that builders following these steps should be able to build a basic green home for the same cost as a code-built home.

## [Demand for eco-friendly hotels](#)

*San Francisco Gate / PR Web - Jan 19*

Mindclick SGM's [study](#) finds that using eco-friendly furniture, fixtures and equipment will allow hotels to cash in on executives who demand green building standards. The report gathered data on the travel habits of executives at Fortune 1000 companies, finding that 65% were in the process of creating green travel guidelines for their employees. Also, 80% of executives choose hotels that use green products and 75% pay as much as 5% more for rooms if they receive proof of the success of the hotel's green products.

### **Related News:**

[Hotel group's green room program receives LEED endorsement](#)

## [FedEx adopts all-LEED policy](#)

*Supply Chain Digital - Jan 22*

FedEx announced that all of its new buildings in the U.S. will be LEED-certified just as the company's recently-completed Las Vegas facility earned LEED Gold and its under-construction Memphis headquarters is being built to LEED Gold specifications. Also, FedEx launched a program to help employees make environmentally sound decisions.

### **Related News:**

[FedEx adopts LEED standard for all new buildings](#)

## **GREEN BUILDING PROJECTS**

### [Irvine Company earns four LEED awards](#)

*World Interior Design Network - Jan 19*

The Irvine Company earned LEED Silver, Gold and Platinum awards for four of its buildings in the U.S. Two of the company's office buildings in Orange County earned LEED Gold, its Symphony Tower in San Diego earned LEED Silver, and its 48-story Hyatt Tower in Chicago earned LEED Platinum.

### [Sacramento utility plans 51-acre LEED Platinum facility](#)

*Environmental Design & Construction - Jan 18*

Sacramento Municipal Utility District, the sixth largest public utility in the U.S., selected Turner Construction-Stantec to design / build its 51-acre East Campus-Operations Center. The six-story, 203,000 square-foot facility will be net zero, meaning it will generate as much energy as it consumes. The building is planned to use solar panels to

generate the bulk of its energy needs, and will employ low-energy temperature control and lighting to further conserve energy. The Utility built a Customer Service Center in 1996 that earned a LEED Platinum ranking.

### [World's first LEED Platinum frozen-food plant](#)

*The News Star - Jan 21*

A \$156 million Con-Agra sweet potato processing plant in Delhi, Louisiana, earned LEED Platinum and features: (1) biogas-from-wastewater production capability, (2) natural storm water control, (3) on-site recycling and energy controls, and (4) equipment that is 40% more energy-efficient than that used at a comparable factory.

### [UCSB's Marine Science Building earns LEED Gold](#)

*Edhat Santa Barbara - Jan 20*

The Marine Science building at the University of California's Santa Barbara earned LEED Gold-EB and features: (1) efficient lighting systems, (2) extensive metering to monitor energy use and air quality, (3) waterless urinals and low-flow sinks, (4) reclaimed water for landscaping, (5) passive ventilation in perimeter offices, and (6) renewable materials in carpet, wood fixtures, and concrete. The changes are believed to have reduced the building's energy consumption by 44%.

### [NC's Botanical gardens earns LEED Platinum](#)

*Garden News - Jan 17*

The North Carolina Botanical Garden's Education Center at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill is the first state-owned structure to achieve a LEED ranking of Platinum and features: (1) sourcing much of its construction materials from within a 500-mile radius, (2) using 96% recycled construction materials, (3) installing a system that recycles rainwater for irrigation, (4) installing high-efficiency elevators, and (5) installing a PV solar system that generates 7.5% of the building's electricity.

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