

Green Building Update

an Allen Matkins
market intelligence
publication

Allen Matkins
attorneys at law

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[Clean Energy Ministerial sparks 11 U.S. initiatives](#)

Energy Boom - Jul 22

The world's first international Clean Energy Ministerial sparked the U.S. to launch 11 clean energy initiatives such as cutting energy waste, deploying a smart grid, using electric vehicles, and implementing carbon capture technologies. The initiatives hope to eliminate the need for 500 new mid-sized power plants in the next 20 years.

GREEN BUILDING FOCUS

[Forecast: green growth despite economy](#)

GreenBiz Blog - Jul 19

Steady growth in environmental initiatives was observed in GreenBiz' semi-annual "Green and the Economy" survey. Since late 2009, most companies with over \$1 billion in annual revenue moved forward with environmental policies despite the economic downturn while smaller firms held back.

[P3s to boost green building](#)

Green Biz - Jul 22

Public-private partnerships (P3s) provide green construction despite tight public budgets. P3s between public agencies and private entities unify skills, assets, risks and rewards to deliver a public service or facility. For example, the General Services Administration recently entered into a P3 arrangement for the LEED Gold National Nuclear Security Administration's new campus in Kansas City.

[Report: 26% see no added cost for green building](#)

Sustainable Rhythm - Jul 26

A study by the Northeast Ohio chapter of the USGBC and Sustainable Rhythm found 62% of respondents perceived a significant cost difference between green buildings and standard buildings, 26% perceived no significant cost difference, and 12% were unsure.

[USGBC's new Building Performance Partnership](#)

USGBC - Jul 22

The USGBC launched a voluntary Building Performance Partnership to see if older LEED projects are performing as designed.

Related: [USGBC to measure LEED post-certification](#)

[MIT plus 8 firms start global building efficiency project](#)

GreenerBuildings - July 20

MIT, 3M, Cleveland Clinic, Dow Chemical, Grubb & Ellis, Marriott International, Nissan, Target Corporation and Walmart launched the [Global Superior Energy Performance Partnership](#) to speed efficient building improvements throughout

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[EPA's toolkit for green building laws](#)

GreenBiz - Jul 23

The EPA launched its Sustainable Design and Green Building Toolkit to assist local governments to remove permitting barriers to sustainable design and construction. The toolkit can be found [here](#).

[DOE's cool roof initiative](#)

Reuters - Jul 21

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) launched a cool roof initiative to reduce emissions and demonstrate the benefits of cool roofs on DOE facilities.

[E&Y Report: Canada a top 10 green infrastructure country](#)

The Vancouver Sun - Jul 22

Canada remains among the top 10 most attractive countries for renewable-energy infrastructure investment. The Ernst & Young report ranked Canada ninth out of 27 countries surveyed despite the planned termination of Ottawa's ecoenergy tax-credit program and cuts to the rates it pays solar energy producers.

GREEN BUILDING PROJECTS

[Marriott leads industry with first LEED hotel prototype](#)

PR Newswire - Jul 23

The Marriott Courtyard Charleston will be the first hotel built using a green hotel prototype pre-approved by USGBC's LEED Volume program.

[Australia's Pixel building is greenest down under](#)

Greener Buildings - Jul 22

Australia's Pixel building is the country's first carbon neutral office building and includes rooftop wind turbines, sun-tracking photo photovoltaic panels, sun-shade systems, smart windows and vacuum toilets.

[Irvine's first park gets green makeover](#)

OC Register - Jul 30

University Community Park, a 16-acre park first build in 1976, will reopen after an 18-month, \$6.5 million green retrofit. The LEED certified park features: (1) recycled materials, including recycled denim jean insulation in the community building, (2) solar panels providing 5% of energy needs, (3) stainable materials including bamboo exercise flooring, (4) drought tolerant plants with recycled rubber mulch, (5) high-efficiency irrigation, (6) shade trees near heat absorbing paved areas, and (7) rainwater capture. City leaders had adopted a green building program five years ago that included renovating or building any municipal buildings larger than 5,000 square feet to top environmental standards



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