

I-300, Denver Green Roof Initiative



Denver

- Ranked 3rd in Urban Heat Island (UHI) effect by Climate Central
- Ranked 11th worst in Air Quality by American Lung Association
- Significant Urban Flooding and drainage issues
- Hail damage claims will rise with climate change

Green Roofs

- Absorbs and Slows stormwater (UDDFCD BMP)
- Increases waterproofing life span
- Lowers buildings effect on UHI
- Protects rooftops from hail damage
- Saves energy and water
- Provides space for urban agriculture
- Increases solar panel efficiency
- Beautifies spaces and aids biodiversity
- Creates jobs

Green Roofs

- Do NOT raise property taxes or rent
- Do NOT cause leaks on rooftops
- Do NOT increase fire danger
- Do NOT cause dust/smog issues

I-300, Denver Green Roof Initiative

- Mandates Green Roofs and Solar for buildings larger than 25,000 sf (volume)
 - New construction and Roof renovations
- Covers a percentage of rooftop based on building sf, not the entire roof
- Exempts buildings with conditions to not allow for green roofs or solar
- Mayor will appoint a technical advisory council to ensure proper implementation and management
- Aids in 2020 sustainability goals for clean air and water

History of I-300

- 2009 - 2012 - GrowWest's Green Roofs for the West conference
- 3/2015 – Housing Subcommittee votes down Cool Roof Ordinance
- 11/23/16 Began Reaching out to City Council - Referred to sustainability and planning departments
- 12/14/16 Met with Scott Prisco and Jill Golich of CPD - no support for mandate and that building code won't be revised another 5 years.
- 12/15/16 Spoke With Jerry Tinianow CSO Sustainability - Deferred to CPD
- 01/27/17 Met with the city attorney and executive director of city council to begin Citizen Initiative, Reviewed ordinance language and revisions were recommended.
- 01/30/17 Submitted revisions
- 02/24/17 Granted approval to begin collecting signatures
- 08/14/17 Submitted 8,000 signatures. All collected by unpaid volunteers
- 09/10/17 Approved for the ballot
- 11/7/2017 – Vote to Make Resilient and Sustainable Rooftops mandatory!

Green Roof Costs

- Higher upfront cost with expected ROI of 6.2 years
- Additional maintenance for rooftop vegetation
- Lower building operational costs
- Lower energy charges
- Lower stormwater fees
- Increase value of building and surrounding area









