

### **Green Roofs Review Task Force**

City Council Meeting April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018





### **OVERVIEW OF THE AGENDA**

Scope and Authority

The Green Roofs Ordinance

Benefits, Costs, and Unintended Consequences of the Ordinance

Green Roofs Review Task Force, Recap of Discussions to Date



## **SCOPE AND AUTHORITY**



## ORDINANCE AND REGULATIONS





- On November 7, Denver voters passed the Green Roof Initiative ("Initiative 300")
- The initiative generally requires a green roof for:
  - Any new building with a gross floor area of 25,000 SF or more or a building addition that causes the building to become 25,000 SF or more
  - Any existing building over 25,000 SF that is seeking to do a roof replacement
- Initiative allows for some exemptions and variances



#### **Ballot Title**

Shall the voters of the City and County of Denver adopt a measure that requires every building and any roof replacement of a building with a gross floor area of 25,000 square feet or greater, or a building addition that causes the building to become 25,000 square feet or greater, constructed after January 1, 2018, shall include a green roof or combination of green roof and solar energy collection; while also requiring proper permits and maintenance plans, establishing construction standards and a technical advisory group, publishing construction guidelines and best practices; also allowing for exemptions and requiring enforcement with violations and penalties?





- Community Planning and Development (CPD) has harmonized existing laws and policies with this new law, and built its requirements into our permitting and contractor licensing procedures
  - This includes developing rules and regulations to guide the administration of the ordinance.
  - New Green Roof Declaration Form as called for by the ordinance, as well as green roof submittal requirements.



# Applicability: New buildings\*

Size Trigger	Requirement			
New building less than 25,000 sq ft in gross floor area	No green roof required			
New building 25,000 sq ft gross floor area or greater	<ul> <li>a. Residential building up to 4 stories or 50 ft in height – no green roof required</li> <li>b. All other building types – green roof required</li> </ul>			
<ul> <li>a. Existing building under 25,000 sq ft, and building remains under 25,000 sq ft with addition</li> <li>b. Addition increases the building gross floor area from less than 25,000 sq ft to 25,000 sq ft or greater</li> <li>c. Existing building is already 25,000 sq ft or larger prior to the addition</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>a. No green roof required</li> <li>b. Green roof required (unless it's a residential building up to 4 stores or 50 ft in height)</li> <li>c. No green roof required</li> </ul>			

\*New buildings do not include those defined as an industrial building.



#### What's an Industrial Building?

- Industrial building is one that is used for exclusively for manufacturing, producing or processing of goods, warehousing or bulk storage of goods, self-storage facility, distribution center, truck terminal, research and development in connection with manufacturing, producing or processing of goods, and:
  - a.Includes office uses and the sale of commodities to the general public where such uses are accessory to and subordinate to an industrial uses,

#### b.Does not include:

- 1. A building used exclusively for office or administrative purposes unless it is attached to an industrial building as defined above; or
- 2. Warehouse clubs and retail warehouses, including commercial establishments which have as their principal use the sale of goods and merchandise in a warehouse format



# **Applicability:**

THE MILE HIGH CITY	Industrial buildings
Size Trigger	Requirement
New building less than 25,000 sq ft in gross floor area	No green roof required
New building 25,000 sq ft gross floor area or greater	<ol> <li>Provide one of the following:</li> <li>A green roof that is equal to the lesser of 25,000 sq ft or 10% of the available roof space</li> <li>A roof that uses solar energy collection on 80% of the available roof space and retains or collects for re-use at least the first 0.25 inches from each rainfall or 50% of annual rainfall volume falling on the roof</li> </ol>
Building addition  a. Existing building under 25,000 sq ft, and building remains under 25,000 sq ft with addition	a. No green roof required
h Addition increases the building gross floor area from	h No green roof required

- Addition increases the building gross floor area from
- less than 25,000 sq ft to 25,000 sq ft or greater Existing building is already 25,000 sq ft or larger prior to the addition
- No green roof required b.
- c. Green roof required per above



# Applicability: Existing buildings

Trigger	Size/Type	Requirement			
	Building is less than 25,000 sq ft in gross floor area	No green roof required			
	Residential building up to 4 stories or 50 ft in height	No green roof required			
Roof replacement	All others	Combination green roof and solar energy collection so long as it contains no less than 30% green roof and retains or collects for re-use at least the first 0.25 inches from each rainfall or 50% of annual rainfall volume falling on the roof			



#### **Coverage Requirements**

Roof coverage based on the total building square footage

Gross Floor Area (Size of Building)	Coverage of Available Roof Space (Size of Green Roof)
25,000 - 49,999 square feet	20%
50,000 - 99,999 square feet	30%
100,000 - 149,999 square feet	40%
150,000 - 199,999 square feet	50%
200,000 square feet or greater	60%



#### **Exemptions**

#### Ordinance allows for the following exemptions:

- Building alteration or roof repair (but not roof replacement)
- Roof replacement that will result in major structural alterations
  - Evidence must be provided by an analysis by a Colorado licensed engineer documenting:
    - Load capacity of existing roof
    - · Anticipated loads of green roof
    - Major structural alterations that would be required to support green roof
    - Amount of applicable % of coverage of available green roof space that could support a green roof without requiring major structural alteration.
- Commercial greenhouses
- Temporary structures
- Air-supported structures
- Residential building (60% residential) that is no greater than either 50 ft in height or 4 stories
- Addition on a building (that is not industrial) when the original building is 25,000 sq ft or greater
- Building permits received or applied for in 2017 (or earlier) but roofing permit not issued until 2018



## Licensing and Permitting Changes

- Projects seeking any of the following have to be logged in for review:
  - Variance from the requirements
  - A roof replacement of an existing building requesting an exemption due to major structural alterations
  - Compliance with the initiative to install a green roof or green roof combination on a new building or existing building reroof



#### **Submittal Requirements**

- See <u>www.denvergov.org/greenroofs</u>
  - Green roof declaration form contains submittal requirements for each variation of project, variance or exemption
  - Also see the Commercial Permitting Guide

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		Shake-Light		Shake-Medium		Shake-Heavy		Membrane		Other
# of roofing	square	esc		Brand name:		Bra	nd sp	ecification #:		
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#### **Variances**

Ordinance and further clarified in the rules and regs, a variance may be requested to Planning Board for projects that are "unable to provide" a green roof if at least one of the following conditions exist:

- Slope of roof or limited access to roof
- Building is used for seasonal purposes and there are no funds for off-season maintenance
- The proposed roof of a non-residential structure contains an amount of area that is intended for recreational or social use by occupants of the building, and that results in inability to comply
- Building is historic (and not otherwise exempt due to major structural alteration) and the applicant provides documentation that the green roof would threaten, degrade or destroy the contributing historic character or features
- The applicant is able to provide the green roof combination coverage (new and existing buildings) or solar energy collection (industrial buildings), but is not able to meet the retention and re-use requirement due to conflicting state law
- The available roof space does not allow for the required amount of coverage due to the
  existence of rooftop equipment, skylights or other impediments not covered by the
  exemptions in the available roof space definition
- The applicant presents other substantial evidence that shows they are unable to comply





- Requires a posting and a public hearing at Planning Board
- Planning Board may grant a variance but applicant must pay a cash-in-lieu fee of \$25/SF for each SF of coverage of available roof space that is no longer required to provide a green roof or green roof combination



# CHALLENGES WITH IMPLEMENTATION



#### **Implementation Challenges**

- Language copied from another jurisdiction that did not address existing buildings - existing buildings added without sufficiently addressing challenges this poses
  - Available roof space Definition does not allow for the exclusion of rooftop mechanical, electrical or other equipment. Equipment would have to be relocated or this could allow one to request a variance.
- State water law conflict related to the requirement for water retention and re-use



#### **Implementation Challenges**

- Planning Board is not equipped or knowledgeable enough on building code to be the appropriate body to consider variance requests
- Conflict with IFC Section 317.3 which requires a 6 ft separation between equipment and a green roof
- Not all existing buildings can do solar
- Definition of terms that conflict with similar definitions in the City's zoning and building codes



The Dream

## BENEFITS OF THE ORDINANCE



Benefits of the Ordinance

## **URBAN HEAT ISLAND**



#### **Urban Heat Island**

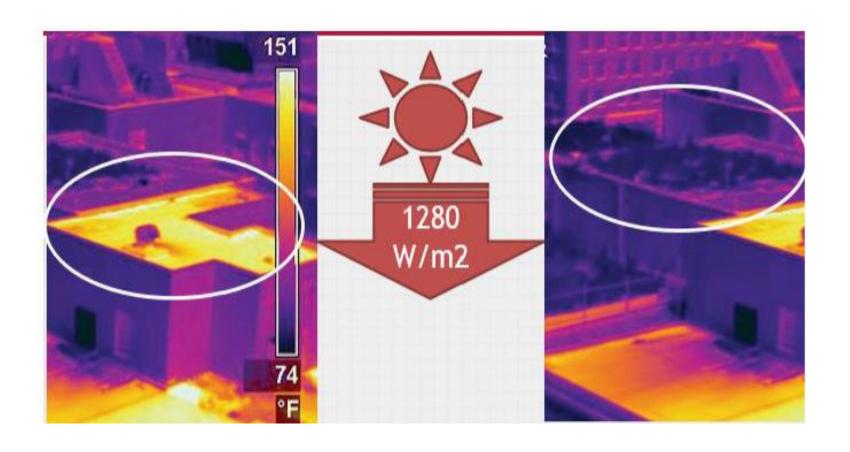


Image Source: Heidarinejad, Ghassem, and Arash Esmaili. 2016. "Assessment of green roof energy savings compared to conventional roof." eSim.

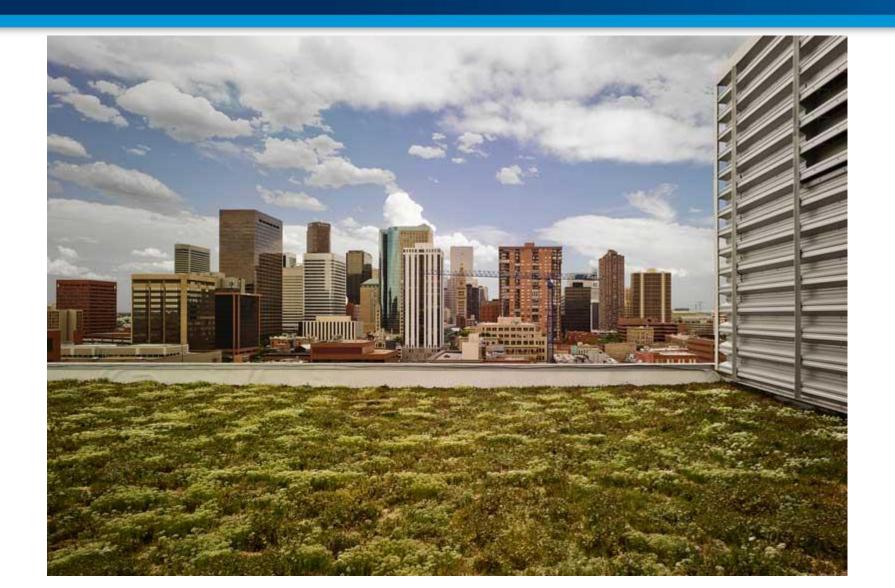




Human Health and Wellbeing

## **GREEN EXPERIENCE**







Benefits of the Ordinance

# WATER AND STORMWATER MANAGEMENT



### **Denver Water Quality Goal**

#### Make all Denver creeks and rivers swimmable and fishable.







#### Perviousness / Imerviousness

Pervious Surfaces	Impervious Surfaces
Grass	Roads and Sidewalks
Dirt, Sand, or Gravel	Roofs
	Parking Lots and Driveways

#### Pervious Surface

- Allows water to soak into the ground.
- Impervious Surface
  - Does not allow water to soak into the ground, instead it creates runoff.



#### **Runoff Reduction**

0.61-inch storm, 531.5-hour antecedent dry period, 16.75-hour duration, and 0.036-inch-per-hour intensity 100 --- Precipitation PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL → Town Hall runoff from rubber roof 80 --- Whipple Annex runoff from green roof 60 40 20 

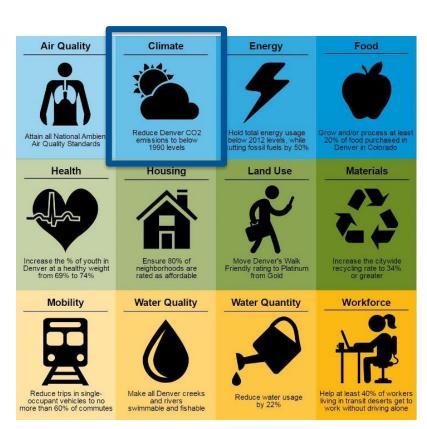


Benefits of the Ordinance

## **CLIMATE CHANGE**



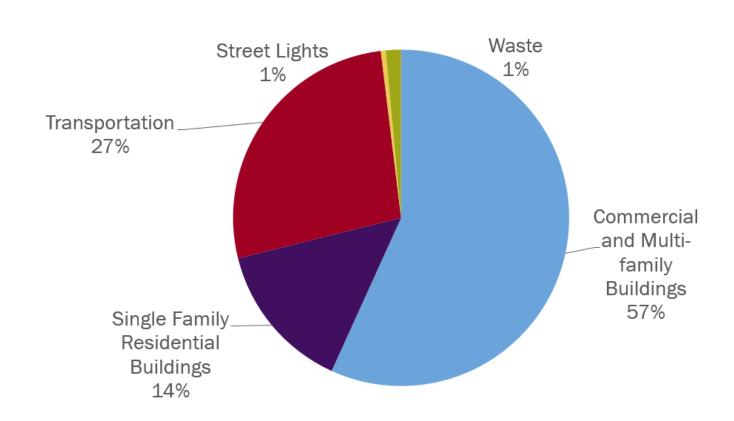
#### **Denver Climate Change Goal**







## Denver's Greenhouse Gas Emissions Sources

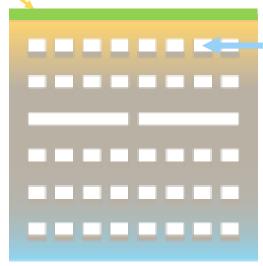




# Green Roof Cooling Energy Savings Greenhouse Gas Emission Reductions



- Lower roof temperatures during the summer months
- Less heat transferred to space below
- Less heat needing to be removed from space below.







## Solar Greenhouse Gas Emission Reductions

#### New Buildings

- Option to do a green roof solar combination
- Option to cover 100% of roof area with solar panels so there is 'no available roof space' for a green roof.

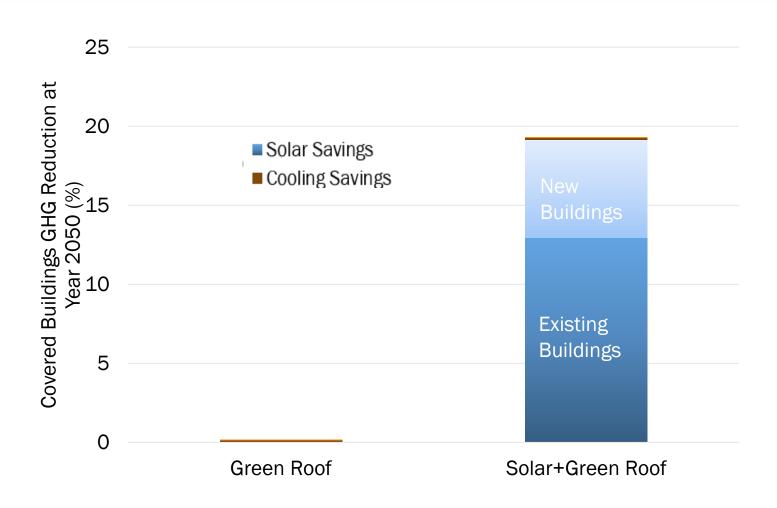
#### **Existing Buildings**

 Required to do a green roof – solar combination. If the building can't support the green roof without major structural modifications, then solar on 70% of the required covered area may still be necessary.





## **Buildings GHG Reduction Comparison at Year 2050**



<sup>~3.1</sup> million mtCO<sub>2</sub>e was emitted in 2017 from the energy used in buildings over 25,000 square feet.



# COSTS AND UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

Denver Buildings Cov	ered by the Green	Roofs Ordinance			1.5% annual growth as	ssumed
Commercial, Office, Schoo	ار, Govt, Church, Hotel, ا	etc				
Gross Sqft Category	Count of Buildings in this category 2014	Sum of Building Gross sqft 2014	Sum of roof sqft 2014	Sum of Building Gross sqft 2050	Sum of roof sqft 2050	Size of green roof required
	III tills category 2014	·	-	·		
25,000-49,999 sqft	624	22,238,736	10,093,708	38,009,103	17,251,555	
50,000-99,999 sqft	448	31,506,676	11,398,145	53,849,306	19,481,020	
100,000-149,999 sqft	200	24,253,442	7,090,332	41,452,517	12,118,367	40%
150,000-199,999 sqft	101	17,612,433	4,544,787	30,102,106	7,767,675	509
200,000 sqft or greater	271	153,477,564	22,289,298	262,314,573	38,095,520	609
Residential (does not appl	ly to residential buildin	g with "a height less t	than or equal to the gr	eater of four stories (	or 50 feet.")	
Gross Sqft Category	Count of Buildings in this category 2014	Sum of Building Gross sqft 2014	Sum of roof sqft 2014	Sum of Building Gross sqft 2050	Sum of roof sqft 2050	Size of green roof required
25,000-49,999 sqft	77	2,875,797	532,014	4,915,138	909,286	209
50,000-99,999 sqft	136	9,831,811	1,604,404	16,803,937	2,742,150	30
100,000-149,999 sqft	49	6,091,488	808,066	10,411,203	1,381,098	40
150,000-199,999 sqft	25	4,319,764	499,047	7,383,079	852,941	50
200,000 sqft or greater	41	17,705,586	1,870,327	30,261,317	3,196,650	60
Industrial						
Gross Sqft Category	Count of Buildings in this category 2014	Sum of Building Gross sqft 2014	Sum of roof sqft 2014	Sum of Building Gross sqft 2050	Sum of roof sqft 2050	Size of green
25,000-249,999 sqft	869	70,575,009	33,968,542	120,622,538	58,056,978	10
greater than 250,000 sqft	165	90,114,205	31,222,077	154,017,751		capped at 25,0



## **Apartment**

Building Size: 55,000 sq ft

Number of Floors: 5

Roof Size: 11,000 sq ft

	Existing	New
Required Roof Coverage	30%	30%
Required Roof Coverage	3,300 ft <sup>2</sup>	3,300 ft <sup>2</sup>
Roof Replacement Cost	\$137,700	N/A
New Construction Cost	N/A	\$6,990,500
Green Only – Cost Increase	N/A	2%
Solar/Green Combo – Cost Increase	68% - 102%	1%
Solar Only*- Cost Increase	40%	4%

<sup>\*</sup>Solar Only: Solar area is same as Solar/Green Combo case for existing buildings. Solar area is 100% of roof area for new buildings.



#### **Industrial**

Building Size: 150,000 sq ft

Number of Floors: 1

Roof Size: 150,000 sq ft

	Existing	New
Required Roof Coverage	10%	10%
Required Roof Coverage	15,000 ft <sup>2</sup>	15,000 ft <sup>2</sup>
Roof Replacement Cost	\$1,539,900	N/A
New Construction Cost	-	\$19,642,500
Green Only – Cost Increase	N/A	2%
Solar/Green Combo – Cost Increase	20% - 32%	2%
Solar Only*- Cost Increase	11%	12%

<sup>\*</sup>Solar Only: Solar area is same as Solar/Green Combo case for existing buildings. Solar area is 100% of roof area for new buildings.





Building Size: 150,000 sq ft

Number of Floors: 1

Roof Size: 150,000 sq ft

	Existing	New
Required Roof Coverage	50%	50%
Required Roof Coverage	75,000 ft <sup>2</sup>	75,000 ft <sup>2</sup>
Roof Replacement Cost	\$1,539,900	N/A
New Construction Cost	N/A	\$15,000,000
Green Only – Cost Increase	N/A	15%
Solar/Green Combo – Cost Increase	87% - 144%	9%
Solar Only*- Cost Increase	44%	13%

<sup>\*</sup>Solar Only: Solar area is same as Solar/Green Combo case for existing buildings. Solar area is 100% of roof area for new buildings.





Building Size: 300,000 sq ft

Number of Floors: 15

Roof Size: 6,000 sq ft

	Existing	New
Required Roof Coverage	60%	60%
Required Roof Coverage	3,600 ft <sup>2</sup>	3,600 ft <sup>2</sup>
Roof Replacement Cost	\$102,750	N/A
New Construction Cost	N/A	\$56,007,000
Green Only – Cost Increase	N/A	0.2%
Solar/Green Combo – Cost Increase	93% - 131%	0.2%
Solar Only*- Cost Increase	59%	0.3%

<sup>\*</sup>Solar Only: Solar area is same as Solar/Green Combo case for existing buildings. Solar area is 100% of roof area for new buildings.



#### **Net Present Value**

The difference between the current value of the future cash flows from an investment and the amount of investment.

#### Positive Value

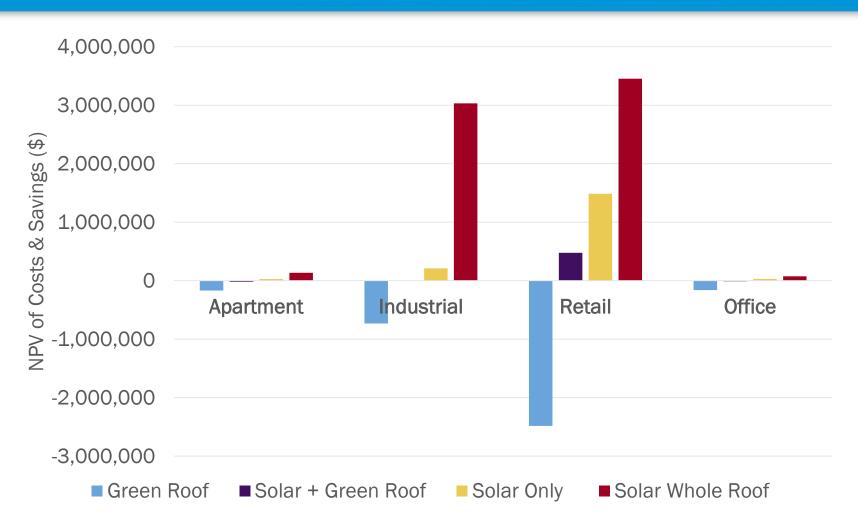
Revenues are greater than the costs

### Negative Value

Costs are greater than the revenues



## Net Present Value for Green Roofs



<sup>\*</sup>Solar Only: solar area is same as in "Solar + Green Roof" case.



### **Unintended Consequences**

- Many existing buildings likely to get an exemption from the green portion because they can't support the load.
- Market adjustment time
  - New buildings waiting to submit a permit until greater clarity on revisions to the ordinance are in place.
  - Existing building are delaying roof replacement.
     Learning curve now while people get used to needing a major structural alteration exemption and solar panels, likely with a power purchase agreement, at the time of roof replacement.



## **OTHER CITIES**



## Cities with Policies that include Green Roofs

San Francisco

**Toronto** 

Seattle

Chicago

 San Francisco, Seattle, and Chicago offer green roofs as just one of many compliance options in a larger green building policy.



## New Construction Policies with Similar Benefits

### New Construction Requirements:

- Green Roofs
- Solar Panels
- Cool roofs
- Green Amenity Spaces
- Stormwater Management e.g. street gardens planters
- Net Zero Energy Building
- Green Building Certifications



## Existing Building Policies with Similar Benefits

### **Existing Building Requirements:**

- Retro-Commissioning
- Energy Audits
- Lighting Upgrades
- Cool roofs



## **Chicago Matrix**

#### Chicago Sustainable Development Policy 2017.01.12



Compliance Options	Dain	ts Required															Cueta	inable C	trategies	Manu															$\neg$
Compliance Options	Poin	is Required															Susta	mable 5	trategies	Menu														_	
			Health				Energy						Stori	nwater				Lands	capes		Green	Roofs	Wa	nter			Tr	ansporta	tion			Solid Waste	Work Force	Wil	dlife
						Choo	se one		Choos	se one	Ĺ,	Choose on	e								Choos	se one	Choo	se one										Choos	se one
		derate Rehab									, 25%	20%			buldings					ation			·					strial							
Compliance Paths	Starting Points	Number of Optional Points Required	1.1 Achieve WELL Building Standard	2.1 Designed to earn the Energy Star	2.2 Exceed Energy Code (5%)	2.3 Exeed Energy Code (10%)	2.4 Exeed Energy Code (25%)	2.5 Exeed Energy Code (40%)	2.6 Onsite Renewable Energy (3%)	2.7 Onsite Renewable Energy (5%)	3.1 Exceed Stormwater Ordinance by	3.2 Exceed Stormwater Ordinance by	3.3 100% Stormwater Infiltration	3.4 Sump Pump Capture & Reuse	3.5 100-year detention for lot-to-lot bu	3.6 100-year Detention for Bypass	1.1 Working Landscapes	r.2 Natural Landscapes	L3 Tree Planting	4.4 Achieve Sustainable Sites Certificatio	5.1 Green Roof 50-100%	5.2 Green Roof 100%	3.1 Indoor Water Use Reduction (25%)	3.2 Indoor Water Use Reduction (40%)	7.1 Proximity to Transit Service	7.2 Bikeshare Sponsorship	7.3 Bike Parking Residential	.4 Bike Parking Commercial & Indus	.5 EV Charging Stations	.6 EV Charger Readiness	7.7 CTA Digital Displays	3.1 80% Waste Diversion	3.2 Workforce Development	3.1 Bird Protection (Basic)	3.2 Bird Protection (Enhanced)
Options Without Certification				ì	ì	ì	ì	, i	Ĭ,	11	,,		, i i	, i	, i	, i				1	- 1	T.		,								,		, i	
All Options Available	0	100 / 50 / 25	40	30	20	30	40	50	10	20	10	20	40	5	5	5	5	5	5	20	10	20	10	20	5	5	5	5	10	5	5	10	10	5	10
Options With Certification	95	5/0/0	40	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	10	20	40	6	5	5	NA	NA	NA	20	10	20	NA	NA	NA	5	NA	NA	NA	5	E	NA	10	5	10
LEED Gold	90	10/0/0	40	NA	NA	NA	NA	50	10	20	10	20	40	5	5	5	5	NA	5	20	10	20	NA.	NA	NA.	5	NA	NA	10	5	5	10	10	5	10
LEED Silver	80	20/0/0	40	NA	NA	NA	40	50	10	20	10	20	40	5	5	5	5	5	5	20	10	20	NA.	20	NA	5	NA	NA	10	5	5	10	10	5	10
Green Globes 4-Globes	90	10/0/0	40	NA	NA	NA	NA	50	10	20	10	20	40	5	5	5	5	NA	5	20	10	20	NA	NA	NA	5	NA	NA	10	5	5	10	10	5	10
Green Globes 3-Globes	80	20/0/0	40	NA	NA	NA	40	50	10	20	10	20	40	5	5	5	5	NA	5	20	10	20	NA	NA	NA	5	NA	NA	10	5	5	10	10	5	10
Green Globes 2-Globes	70	30/0/0	40	NA	NA	NA	40	50	10	20	10	20	40	5	5	5	5	5	5	20	10	20	NA	20	NA	5	NA	NA	10	5	5	10	10	5	10
Living Building Challenge	100	0/0/0	40	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	10	20	40	5	5	5	NA	NA	NA	20	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	10	5	NA	NA	10	5	10
Living Building Challenge Petal	90	10/0/0	40	NA	20	30	40	50	NA	NA	10	20	40	5	5	5	5	NA	5	20	10	20	10	20	NA	5	NA	NA	10	5	5	10	10	5	10
Enterprise Green Communities*	80	20 / 0 / 0	40	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	10	20	10	20	40	5	5	5	5	5	5	20	10	20	10	20	5	5	NA	NA	10	5	5	10	10	5	10
PassiveHouse *only available to affordable bouring	70	30/0/0	40	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	10	20	10	20	40	5	5	5	5	5	5	20	10	20	10	20	5	5	5	5	10	5	5	10	10	5	10

<sup>\*</sup>only available to affordable housing projects funded by DPD's Housing Bureau

Compliance Options	Poin	ts Required																
			Health															
		lab				Choo	se one		Choos	se one								
Compliance Paths	Starting Points	Number of Optional Points Required New Construction / Substantial Rehab / Moderate Rehab	1.1 Achieve WELL Building Standard	2.1 Designed to earn the Energy Star	2.2 Exceed Energy Code (5%)	2.3 Exeed Energy Code (10%)	2.4 Exeed Energy Code (25%)	2.5 Exeed Energy Code (40%)	2.6 Onsite Renewable Energy (3%)	2.7 Onsite Renewable Energy (5%)	3.1 Exceed Stormwater Ordinance by 25%							
Options Without Certification		400 100 100	- 10				10		40		- 10							
All Options Available	0	100 / 50 / 25	40	30	20	30	40	50	10	20	10							
Options With Certification LEED Platinum	0.5	E / O / O	40	NIA	NΙΔ	NIA	NIA	NIA	NIA	NIA	40							
LEED Gold	95 90	5/0/0 10/0/0	40	NA NA	NA NA	NA NA	NA NA	NA 50	NA 10	NA 20	10							
LEED Silver	80	20/0/0	40	NA	NA	NA NA	40	50	10	20	10							
Green Globes 4-Globes	90	10/0/0	40	NA	NA	NA	NA	50	10	20	10							
Green Globes 3-Globes	80	20/0/0	40	NA	NA	NA	40	50	10	20	10							
Green Globes 2-Globes	70	30/0/0	40	NA	NA	NA	40	50	10	20	10							
Living Building Challenge	100	0/0/0	40	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	10							
Living Building Challenge Petal	90	10 / 0 / 0	40	NA	20	30	40	50	NA	NA	10							
Enterprise Green Communities*	80	20/0/0	40	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	10	20	10							
PassiveHouse	70	30/0/0	40	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	10	20	10							

<sup>\*</sup>only available to affordable housing projects funded by DPD's Housing Bureau



## THE TASK FORCE





"To develop recommended modifications, clarifications, and improvements to the initiative through a collaborative, consensusbased process that will honor the vote."



#### Who is on the Task Force

#### **Council Members**

Jolon Clark

Mary Beth Susman

#### **City Staff**

Katrina Managan

Scott Prisco

Adam Hernandez

Jon Novick

#### **Green Roof**

#### **Proponents**

Brandon Rietheimer

Jennifer Bousselot

**Andy Creath** 

#### Real Estate

Tami Door

Kathie Barstnar

Mark Windhager

Joe Havey

**Grant Nelson** 

Amy Mayhew

Jeannie Renne-Malone

#### **Additional Experts**

**Austin Krcmarik** 

Chris Parr

Christine Brinker

Jamaca Berman

John Bringenberg

**Lindsey Arell** 

Prem Sundharam

Tyler Smith



## **Task Force Meeting Timeline**

