

CITY OF SUMMIT ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Green Building Objectives & Checklist for Site Plan Review

In accordance with the 2006 Master Plan Re-exam Report to “encourage sustainable building practices, energy conservation, recycling and educational outreach on relevant topics,” Summit’s Action Plan for a Sustainable Summit recommends building practices with the following objectives:

- Encourage and promote green building practices, defined as high performance and energy efficient design and construction methods relating to site conditions, water quality, energy use, material selection and indoor environment, which promote the health and well-being of residents and occupants;
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions and energy loss in new homes and other new buildings;
- Reduce energy use by increasing energy efficiency and conservation; increase the percentage of energy derived from renewable sources;
- Increase use of recycled and renewable materials in new construction and renovation projects; reduce construction waste.

As part of the technical review process, the City of Summit Environmental Commission examines site plans submitted to the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Adjustment and makes recommendations to these boards on environmental matters, including elements of environmental sustainability.

To expedite this process and to assist developers in understanding criteria the Commission will use to evaluate the project, the Commission has developed the following list of sustainable practices that will be considered during the technical review process.

◦ Is the project designed to preserve or improve the existing vegetation, especially mature trees?	YES	NO
◦ Does the landscaping plan incorporate any or all of the following?		
Diversity of vegetation	YES	NO
Native plant species	YES	NO
Low maintenance plants or xeriscaping (drought-tolerant species)	YES	NO
◦ Does the project design encourage alternate modes of transportation?	YES	NO
◦ Does the project manage all storm water on site?	YES	NO
If no, how does the project plan manage storm water?		
◦ Is the project designed to earn the Energy Star label?	YES	NO
If yes, how will that status be achieved?		
If no, what does the project propose to improve energy efficiency?		
◦ Are any of the following EPAs Watersense partnership label products that meet water conservation criteria included in the project design?		
Bathroom Sink Faucets	YES	NO
High-Efficiency Toilets or urinals	YES	NO
Landscape Irrigation with weather- or Sensor-Based Irrigation Control Technologies	YES	NO
Showerheads	YES	NO
◦ Are “green” or recycled building materials proposed to be used in the project?	YES	NO
If yes, what materials are proposed to be used?		
◦ Is there a plan to recycle or reuse construction and demolition waste?	YES	NO
If yes, how will that goal be accomplished?		
◦ Is there adequate space designated for storage of recyclables?	YES	NO
◦ Is the project designed to earn LEED certification?	YES	NO
If yes, what checklist is being used?		
If yes, what level of LEED is being sought?		
◦ Please explain any other green building practices that are part of the project design.		

If a developer requests a meeting with the Environmental Commission to explain the project and further address the technical review process, the Commission will accommodate such a request at one of its monthly meetings on the third Monday of each month.