

The background features abstract, overlapping geometric shapes in various shades of green, ranging from light lime to dark forest green, set against a white background. The shapes are primarily triangles and polygons, creating a modern, layered effect.

Legislative Update to The Green Buildings Act

Green Buildings Advisory Committee

August 16, 2022

Updates to Standards

- ▶ The Green Buildings Act was updated through [H-7278](#) SubA/S-2700
- ▶ Legislative findings for the GBA now identifies it as a strategic tool to achieve GHG reduction targets as set by the 2021 Act on Climate
- ▶ Now applies to building construction projects larger than 10,000 square feet (previously was 5,000 square feet)
- ▶ Public renovation size remains at 10,000 gross square feet
- ▶ "All public major facility projects of the state, public agencies, municipalities and political subdivisions shall be designed and constructed to at least the LEED, LEED for Neighborhood Development, and SITES, as provided herein, certified or an equivalent high performance green building standard"
- ▶ "Public agency" now specifically includes municipalities and public institutions of education
- ▶ Standards now apply to public facility projects that haven't entered the design phase prior to July 1, 2023

Administrative Updates

- ▶ Department of Administration must update the GBA regulations to reflect these new standards by January 1, 2023
- ▶ Changes made to composition of the Green Buildings Advisory Committee

Green Buildings Advisory Committee Updates

- ▶ Green Buildings Advisory Committee will now be composed of 19 members
 - ▶ 11 from the public
 - ▶ 8 from public agencies
- ▶ Fields represented by the public seats (9 specified):
 - ▶ Architecture, engineering, landscape architecture, energy, labor (through AFL-CIO), general construction contracting, building product and materials industries, urban municipality, non-urban municipality
- ▶ Public Agencies represented:
 - ▶ Administration, Environmental Management, Education, Transportation, Labor and Training, Building Code Commissioner, Infrastructure Bank, and the League of Cities and Towns

GBAC Appointments Updates

- ▶ 5 of the public members will be appointed by the Governor
- ▶ 3 of the public members will be appointed by the President of the Senate
- ▶ 3 of the public members will be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives
- ▶ Public agency appointments shall be made by the directors or chief executives of the specified agencies
- ▶ The Chair shall be a public member chosen by the GBAC
- ▶ Term lengths specified in new legislation (3-year terms, but staggered lengths for initial composition)

GBAC Responsibilities

- ▶ Make recommendations and help the Department of Administration and the Executive Climate Change Coordinating Council (EC4) implement the GBA
- ▶ Identify the needs, actions, and funding required to implement the requirements in this chapter
- ▶ Establish clear, measurable targets for implementing the standards including timeline, workforce needs, and anticipated costs
- ▶ Monitor and document operating savings and GHG emission reductions that result from major public facility projects as well as policy recommendations and report this annually to the General Assembly and the EC4

Additional Updates

- ▶ All RFPs/requests for professional services related to public agency construction shall notice the Green Buildings Act
- ▶ The GBAC is not responsible for developing those RFPs/requests or for selecting the vendors
- ▶ GBAC public members are not prohibited from responding to any public construction RFPs, etc.