CRA/LA's Sustainability Consultation Program



Free One-Time Consultation

To help promote green buildings in the City of Los Angeles, and to assist the development community in meeting the requirements of the City's Green Building Ordinance, the Community Redevelopment Agency of the City of Los Angeles (CRA/LA) has launched an ambitious new program to provide—at no cost to the developer—one-time sustainable design consulting services.

How does our program benefit you?

CRA/LA has contracted with a wide range of sustainability experts—from LEED professionals and architects to "green" underwriters—with a wealth of knowledge to counsel developers doing projects in CRA/LA project areas, at no cost to the developer.

Our purpose is to engage in a collaborative dialogue to identify cost-effective opportunities for creating environmentally responsible buildings as well as to support developers in meeting the new Los Angeles Green Building Program. Effective November 1, 2008, the City's Green Building Program will require all projects 50,000 sf and/or 50 or more residential units to meet the intent of LEED® Certified (and will offer priority processing for those projects that attain LEED® Silver or higher). Our consultation program is an additional resource to developers operating within CRA/LA Project Areas, to promote the highest standards of sustainable urbanism in Los Angeles.

What is covered during the consultation?

We've carefully chosen a wide variety of consultants to provide expert advice tailored to your project and your needs. Our consultant pool includes architects, landscape architects, LEED® Accredited Professionals, mechanical/structural engineers and even 'green' underwriters that help assess the value and operating cost savings that come from sustainable construction.

Topics include:

- LEED® Checklist Analysis
- Sustainable Landscaping and Stormwater Management
- Materials Conservation and Reuse
- Improved Indoor Air Quality
- Water/Energy Reduction
- Financial Benefits of Green Building

You can either specify which topics you'd like covered in your consultation, or our staff can choose the best consultant based on your particular project.

What projects are eligible or required to have the consultation? The sustainability consultations will be available to any project within the 32 CRA/LA Project Areas. It will be required of all new construction and major rehabilitation projects that receive financial assistance of \$250,000 or more, as well as all new construction and major rehabilitation projects that meet the thresholds of the City's Green Building Program that require discretionary approval from the CRA/LA Board of Commissioners. Developers would not be required to meet any of the consultants' recommendations; however, CRA/LA is hopeful that such consultations will greatly increase the use sustainable materials and techniques, due to the opportunities for significant construction and operational costs savings associated with green buildings.

