ECODISTRICTS CERTIFIED FACT SHEET

What is it?

EcoDistricts Certified is the world's only comprehensive sustainability management framework expressly designed to guide neighborhood- and district-scale development investments.

Why do we need it?

- City makers worldwide have embraced innovative design to address enormous challenges across equity, resilience and climate protection. However, this innovation demands recalibrating the scale of investments to think beyond the building while forging cross-sector, public-private partnerships among entities that have been traditionally marginalized in the urban development industry.
- No comprehensive sustainability management framework for neighborhood development currently exists in the marketplace that systematically addresses equity, resilience and climate protection.

Why now?

Cities now face a complex nexus of challenges:

- More than half of the world's population lives in cities, a proportion expected to reach two-thirds by 2050
- Cities account for 80% of greenhouse gas emissions and 75% of energy consumption
- Cities contribute to a vast equity gap where the zip code a child is born into has a bigger role in determining that child's future than any other single factor
- Cities will invest $30 trillion to rebuilt aging and costly infrastructure in the next 20 years

— MORE —
What can EcoDistricts Certified do for cities?

By rewarding the achievement of rigorous performance outcomes and impact across equity, resilience and climate protection, EcoDistricts Certified will deliver neighborhoods and districts that are: livable, prosperous, mobile, connected, supportive of health and wellness, and resource efficient, while fostering climate protection and ecosystem stewardship.

How do practitioners take action?

Register your district—To initiate the certification process, simply go to EcoDistricts.org/certification and register your district, neighborhood or campus. Your district will be added to the EcoDistricts Registry and you will immediately access the Certification Handbook and associated templates needed to complete the certification requirements. EcoDistricts.org/certification

What are the requirements of Certification?

Following online registration, districts proceed through three certification phases: Imperatives Commitment, Formation and Roadmap. Districts obtain certification by obtaining EcoDistricts endorsement of three submissions:

- Imperatives Commitment, due within one year of registration
- Declaration of Collaboration, due within two years of Imperatives Commitment endorsement (associated with the Formation phase)
- Roadmap, due within two years of Imperatives Commitment endorsement

Certification is obtained upon endorsement of the Formation and Roadmap submissions. Certification is maintained through EcoDistricts endorsement of a biennial Progress Report (associated with the Performance phase).
What does it cost?

The total cost of EcoDistricts Certified is the combination of the registration fee, certification fees, and maintenance fee. Districts can pay incrementally for a total cost of $13,100.00, or they can pay the certification fees in a bundle for a total combined cost of $11,600.00. Payment can be made by check or credit card either online or offline.

![Diagram showing cost breakdown]

What makes EcoDistricts Certified transformative?

EcoDistrict Certified distills five years of research, development and field-testing into a set of simple, but profound commitments. The approach incorporates five market differentiators:

1. Position Equity, Resilience and Climate Protection as indispensable cornerstones of a district’s long-term sustainability vision
2. Achieve meaningful, long-lasting, cross-sector collaboration across all phases of development and implementation
3. Advance deeply integrated, performance-based catalytic projects and programmatic investments throughout their district
4. Continually measure and report progress to deliver powerful impact across the district

Who is EcoDistricts Certified for?

EcoDistricts Certified is designed for those who lead transformative neighborhood and district-scale projects. This includes developers who are leading complex urban regeneration projects, redevelopment authorities that oversee special use districts such as urban renewal areas, those who manage campuses (colleges, universities, corporations); planning agencies leading neighborhood planning initiatives, distributed infrastructure providers planning integrated infrastructure projects, and community development organizations responsible for reinvigorating their neighborhoods.

EcoDistricts Certified supports a diverse sector of project stakeholders and practitioners, including:
Government
Redevelopment Authorities
Planning Agencies
Housing Authorities
Infrastructure Providers

Developers
Real Estate Developers
Business Improvement Districts (and other special use district)
Institutional and Corporate Campuses

Civic-Led Organizations
Community Development Corporations
Community-Based Organizations

What does EcoDistricts Certified measure?
3 IMPERATIVES — Putting people and planet at the center of change: Equity, Climate Protection, Resilience


3-PHASES OF IMPLEMENTATION — Catalyzing neighborhood- and district-scale investment: Formation, Roadmap, Performance

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