

# ZONING & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

## WHEN DO BUILDINGS NEED TO BE "GREEN"?

Article 22 of the Cambridge Zoning Ordinance aims to promote environmentally sustainable and energy-efficient design and development practices in new construction and renovation of buildings in the city. To learn more, visit Zoning & Development's [sustainable development webpage](#).

### What **type** of project counts?

You may need to meet sustainable building requirements if you are:

constructing a new building

renovating an existing building

creating an addition to an existing building

changing the site with no change to buildings

### What **size** of project counts?

If your answer is "yes" to one or more questions below, certain regulations may apply.

Does the project create less than 25,000 square feet of gross floor area?

Does the project create 25,000 square feet or more of gross floor area?

Will the project increase the building footprint by 50% or more?

Will any new surface parking spaces be created?

### What is required for **my building**?

If you think any of the regulations below apply to your project, reach out to Zoning & Development at [greenbuilding@cambridgema.gov](mailto:greenbuilding@cambridgema.gov) or (617)-349-4600.



#### **GREEN BUILDING**

Project must meet the standards of one of three designated rating systems.

#### **GREEN ROOF**

Roof must contain planted areas, or solar panels for residential projects.

*\*AHO and majority affordable housing projects are not subject to requirements.*



#### **GREEN FACTOR**

Site must be designed to meet Cool Score with features that reduce heat.



Please note this guide is intended to provide an **overview** of selected standards and does not include all applicable requirements. **Refer to the Zoning Ordinance for comprehensive regulations on sustainable building, flood resilience, and solar and wind power regulations.**