



Rating Your Community's Sustainability Efforts

American Planning Association National Conference, Chicago, Illinois | April 14, 2013

PRESENTED BY

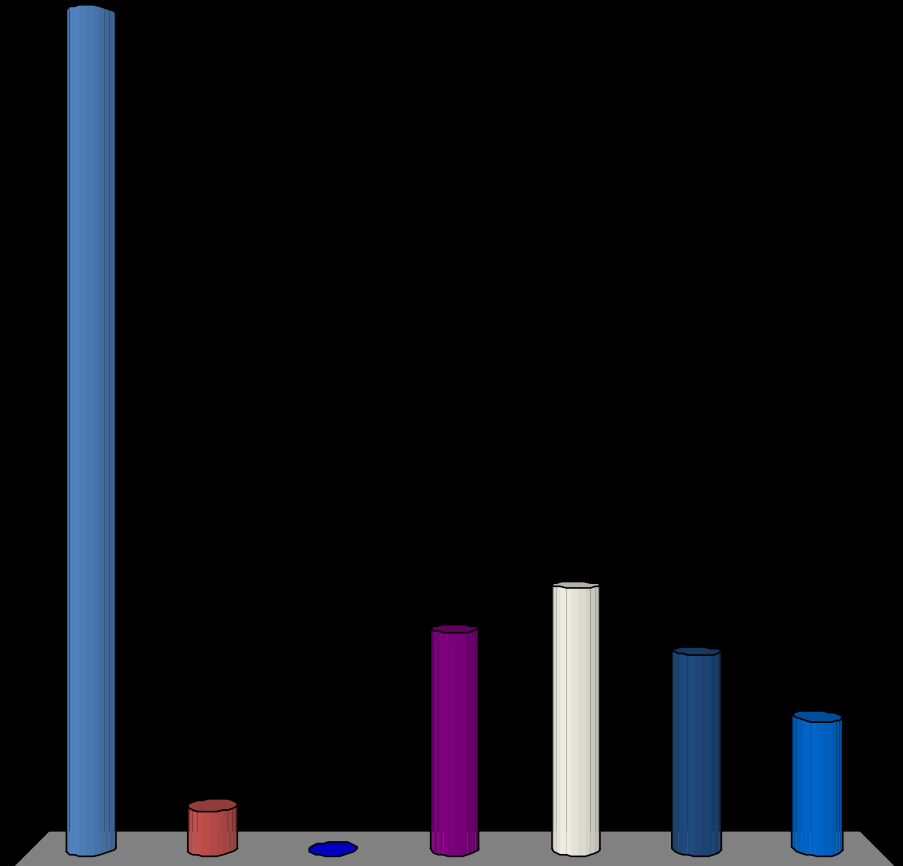
Kim Lundgren, Director of Sustainability, Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc.

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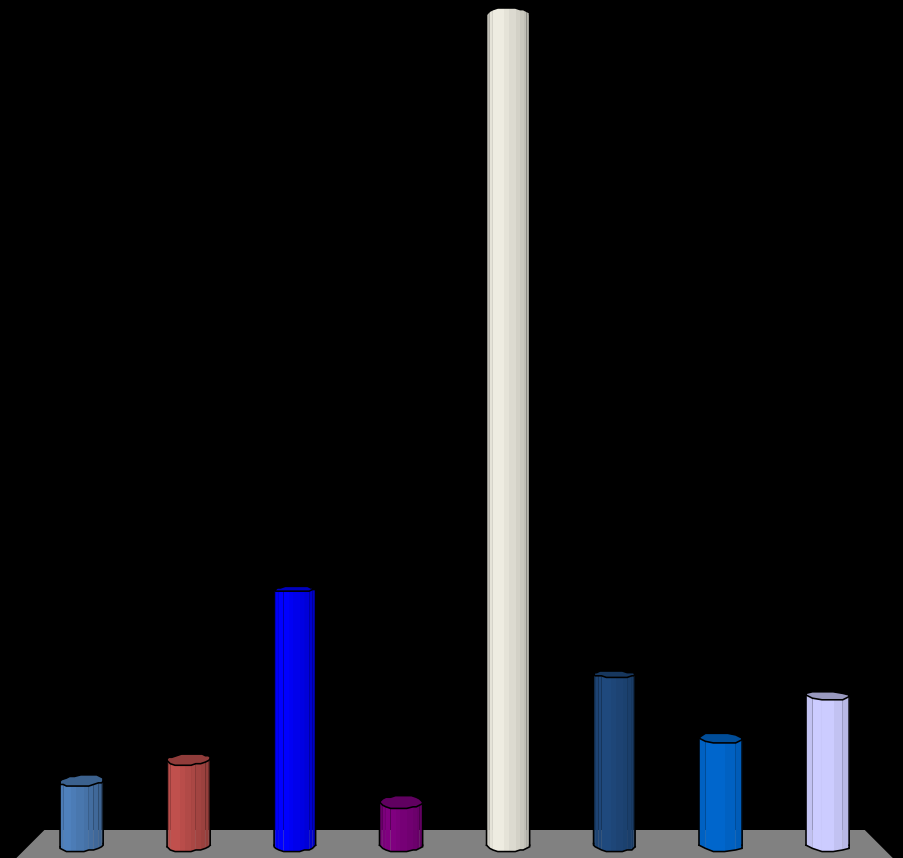
I am here today representing...

1. A Local Government
2. A State Government
3. A Federal Agency
4. A Private Sector Firm
5. An Institution
6. A Non-Profit Organization
7. Other



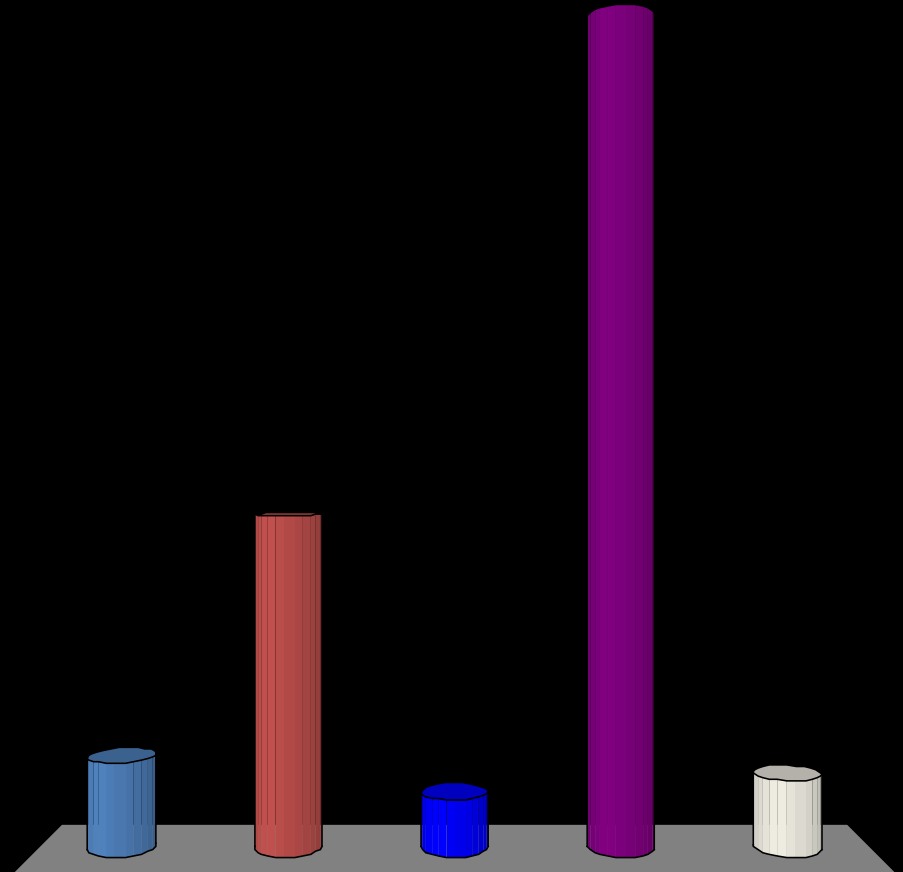
Which US City do you think is the “Greenest”?

1. Boston
2. Denver
3. New York
4. Orlando
5. Portland, OR
6. San Francisco
7. Seattle
8. Other



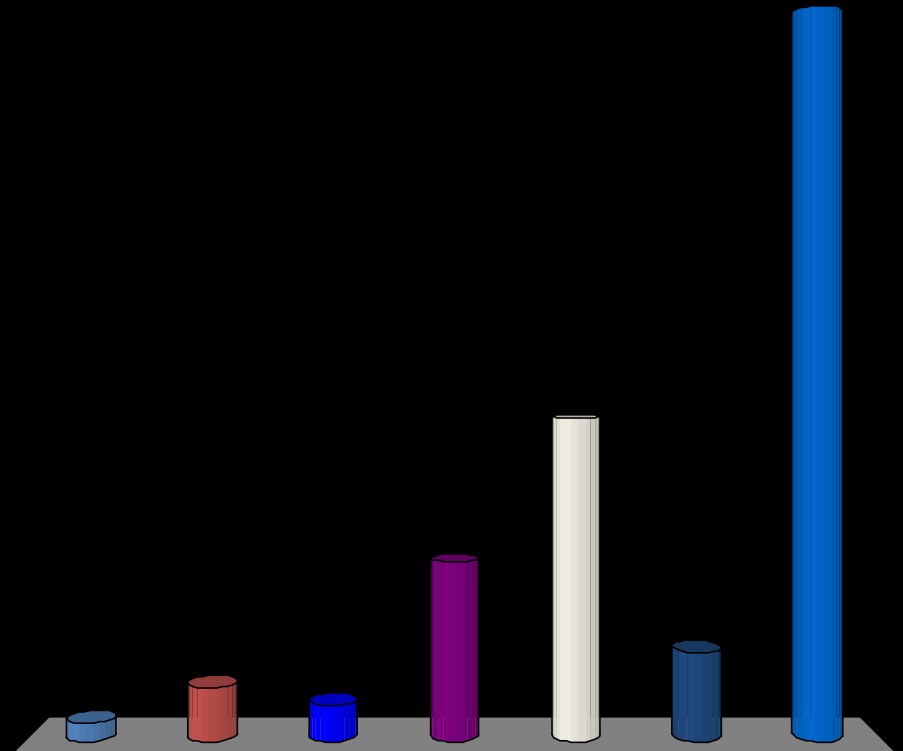
Why do you think it is important to have sustainability rating systems?

1. Compare communities
2. Standardize methodology
3. Recognition
4. All of the above
5. I don't think it is important



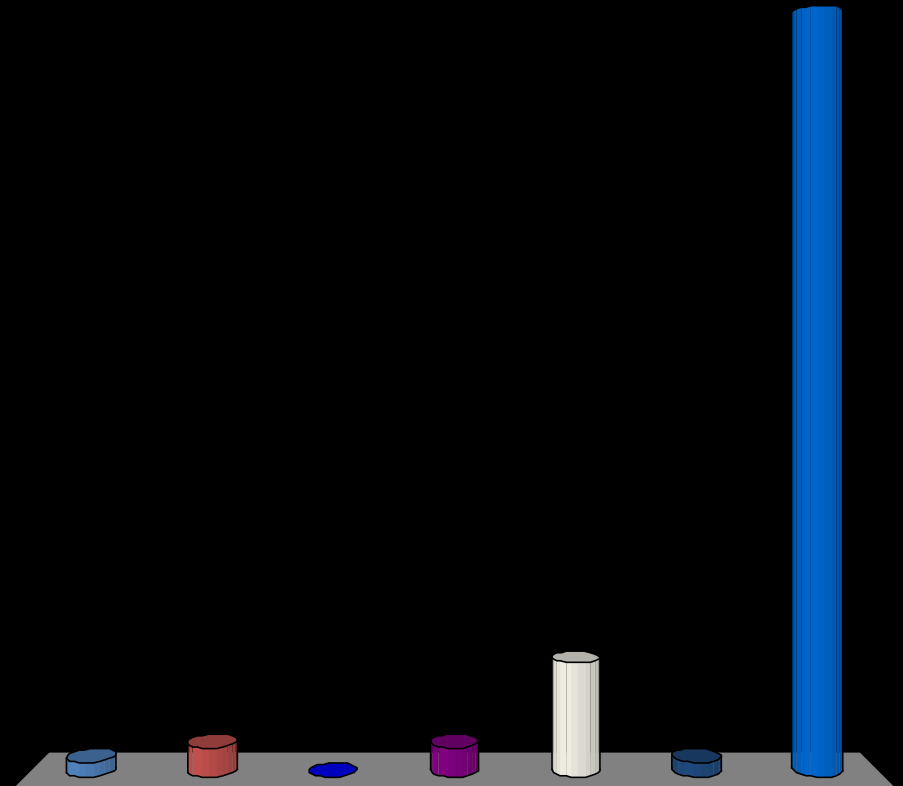
Which community-wide/organizational rating system are you most familiar with?

1. Audubon Sustainable Communities
2. Florida Green Building Coalition
3. Go Green Virginia
4. ISO 14000
5. STAR Community Rating System
6. Sustainable Jersey
7. None of the Above



Which community-wide/organizational rating system (s) have you used?

1. Audubon Sustainable Communities
2. Florida Green Building Coalition
3. Go Green Virginia
4. ISO 14000
5. STAR Community Rating System
6. Sustainable Jersey
7. Have not used any



A Snapshot of Sustainability Rating Systems



Rating System Scopes

- Community wide
 - National
 - State based
- Organizational
- Sector specific
 - Buildings
 - Roads
 - Sites
- Project specific



Community-wide & Organizational Rating Systems

Benefits

- Creates structure to achieve goals
- Determines benchmark for tracking progress
- Maintains consistency with others
- Offers third-party recognition





- Comprehensive National Rating System
- Commitment/Resources Required: High
- Flexible Rating System
- Policy and Program focused

Notable State Programs

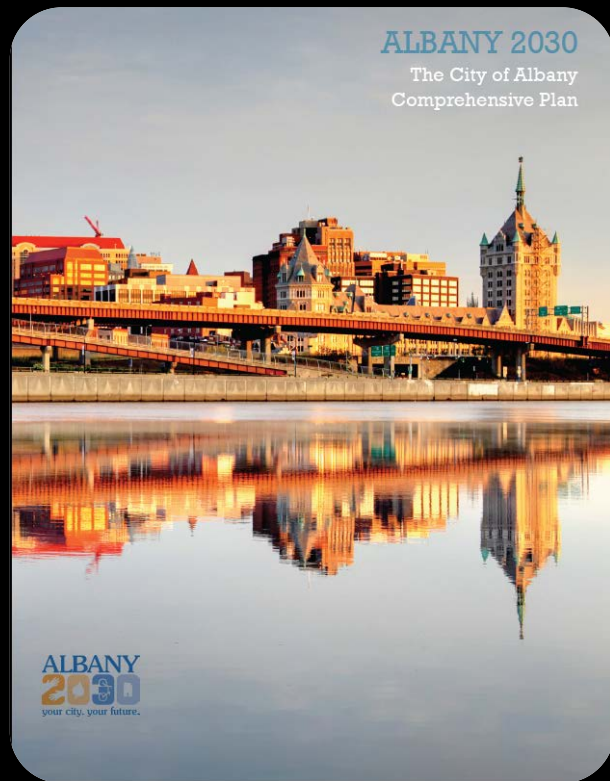




- **Links with existing energy and environmental management efforts**
- **Internationally recognized**
- **Self identified criteria**
- **Focused on organizational processes**



indicators & ratings – an albany example



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		UTILITIES & INFRASTRUCTURE								Total
	EN-1	Implement the initiatives developed by the Mayor's Office of Energy and Sustainability and as outlined in the City's Climate Action and Adaptation Plans		EMP-5	PG-6	VEH-4		HDC-11	EN-2 EN-3 EN-4	7
	EN-2	Develop an education program to communicate energy and sustainability goals							EN-1 WS-2 SWM-1	3
	EN-3	Promote Multi-Modal transportation choices to reduce vehicle miles traveled	UD-1	EMP-1 INV-1		MM-1 MM-2 BIO-1 TR-2 TR-3 TR-4 VEH-3	AQ-1	NS-2		12
	EN-4	Incentivize energy efficiency / renewable energy technologies in construction projects		EMP-5				HDC-11	EN-1	3
	WS-1	Control Plan to mitigate water quality impacts of CDD's						WW-1 WW-2	SW-1 SW-2	4
	WS-2	Encourage water conservation						WW-6	EN-4	3
	WS-3	Control sources of negative environmental impact						WW-1 WW-2 TC-1	SW-4	4
	WS-4	Assess the feasibility and market for selling excess drinking water to regional towns and municipalities							WS-2 RP-6 RP-2	3
	SW-1	Create a green infrastructure system						WW-1 WW-2	SW-2 SW-3 SW-4 WS-1	6



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Introduction
Vision Statement
Sustainability Building Blocks: The Comprehensive Plan System
Plan Implementation

Table 4 Potential Plan Monitoring Indicators

Natural Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Air quality Brownfields remediated Citywide tree canopy coverage
Housing and Neighborhoods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ratio of homeowner to rental households Mixed-income housing balance (affordable vs. market-rate housing development) Population
Utilities and Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Energy consumption / greenhouse gas emissions (by sector) Number of 'green' projects (buildings, infrastructure) Combined sewer overflow / flooding events
Institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Payments in lieu of taxes by institutions Number of partnerships/partners on City of Albany and regional initiatives Institutional investment in Downtown and neighborhoods

- Dialogue should be maintained with local citizens, civic groups, implementation partners, regional agencies and municipalities, business and development interests, and other stakeholders on a periodic, ongoing basis to assist in monitoring the effectiveness of plan implementation.

The following checklist is proposed to guide the process of monitoring implementation progress and making periodic updates to the Comprehensive Plan:

REVIEW, ASSESSMENT AND UPDATE
Annual review

The Planning Board (with assistance from the Planning Department) should submit an annual brief to the Common Council on the Comprehensive Plan, outlining implementation progress during the previous year and defining project priorities for implementing the plan over the next year.

The Data Book will also be reviewed annually as new information becomes available to identify new and changing trends. The annual report and review of implementation progress should be coordinated with the City's capital improvement program to address investment priorities called for by the Comprehensive Plan.

Community Form

Community form is the first plan system out of the eight outlined in the Albany 2030 plan. This system seeks to address the physical layout and appearance of the city and includes the interaction between the built and natural environments in Albany. Goals in this section include optimizing the land use pattern and preserving the architectural character of the City's buildings.

**THE EARTH INSTITUTE
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY**

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1.1 LAND USE PATTERN

Goal
Promote development of a balanced future land use pattern that supports realization of the Albany 2030 Vision Statement (safe, livable neighborhoods; a model educational system; a vibrant urban center; multi-modal transportation; a green city; and a prosperous economy).

Metric Category

Metric
Percent of vacant lots occupied/restored (as buildings or open space)

Target
Reduce percentage of vacant and unoccupied lots by 15-30%.

Data needed

- Total number of city lots
- Total number of vacant lots (not including open space)

Alternative Metrics

- Enviro-socio-economic: Percent of people who have access to daily needs (e.g., food, health care, employment, open space/parks or recreational opportunities, and education) within 1/2 mile of residence or within 1/2 mile of public transit access

indicators



STAR
COMMUNITIES

SUSTAINABILITY
TOOLS FOR
ASSESSING &
RATING COMMUNITIES



SET GOALS. MEASURE PROGRESS.

SET GOALS. MEASURE PROGRESS.

set goals. measure progress

STAR Community Pilots

UNDER 100,000

- El Cerrito, CA
- Northampton, MA
- Santa Fe, NM
- Evanston, IL
- Victoria, Canada
- Santa Monica, CA
- Rockingham County, NC
- Albany, NY
- Woodbridge, NJ
- Davenport, IA

100,001-499,999

- Fort Collins, CO
- Chattanooga, TN
- Des Moines, IA
- Tacoma, WA
- Chandler, AZ
- Riverside, CA
- St. Louis, MO
- Lee County, FL
- Cleveland, OH
- Atlanta, GA

500,000-999,999

- Seattle, WA
- Portland, OR
- Tucson, AZ
- Washington, DC
- Austin, TX
- DeKalb County, GA
- Indianapolis, IN

1,000,000+

- Calgary, AB
- Montreal, QC
- Broward County, FL
- King County, WA
- Toronto, ON

- Toronto, ON
- King County, WA
- Broward County, FL
- Montreal, QC

star



Rating System Framework

GOAL

Sustainability themes with comprehensive community-level aspirations

OBJECTIVE

A clear, desired outcome intended to move the community toward the goal

COMMUNITY LEVEL OUTCOMES

Represent the actual state of a system and used to identify progress relative to Objective

LOCAL ACTIONS

Foundational or implementation based; proven effective and essential toward moving the needle

Built Environment	Climate & Energy	Education, Arts & Community	Economy & Jobs	Equity & Empowerment	Health & Safety	Natural Systems
Ambient Noise & Light	Climate Adaptation	Arts & Culture	Business Retention & Development	Civic Engagement	Active Living	Green Infrastructure
Community Water Systems	Greenhouse Gas Mitigation	Community Cohesion	Green Market Development	Civil & Human Rights	Community Health & Health System	Invasive Species
Compact & Complete Communities	Greening the Energy Supply	Educational Opportunity & Attainment	Local Economy	Environmental Justice	Emergency Prevention & Response	Natural Resource Protection
Housing Affordability	Industrial Sector Resource Efficiency	Historic Preservation	Quality Jobs & Living Wages	Equitable Services & Access	Food Access & Nutrition	Outdoor Air Quality
Infill & Redevelopment	Resource Efficient Buildings	Social & Cultural Diversity	Targeted Industry Development	Human Services	Indoor Air Quality	Water in the Environment
Public Spaces	Resource Efficient Public Infrastructure		Workforce Readiness	Poverty Prevention & Alleviation	Natural & Human Hazards	Working Lands
Transportation Choices	Waste Minimization				Safe Communities	



Outcome Data Submittals

Education, Arts & Community / Arts & Culture

Provide a broad range of arts and cultural resources and activities that encourage participation and creative self-expression

Arts & Culture

Community Cohesion

Educational
Opportunity &
Attainment

Historic Preservation

Social & Cultural
Diversity

Outcomes

Actions

Preliminary Score - #

1. Creative Industries

Demonstrate that creative industries represent at least a 5% share of all businesses in the county

Percentage of businesses in the community that are in creative industries

Help Tips and/or Excel Download Examples

Upload copy of county results from the Local Arts Index or a relevant excerpt from a local study

Browse

Feedback

<<

Save & Continue

Action Data Submittals

Climate & Energy / Waste Minimization

Reduce and reuse material waste produced in the community

Climate Adaptation

Greenhouse Gas
Mitigation

Greening the Energy
Supply

Industrial Sector
Resource Efficiency

Resource Efficient
Buildings

Resource Efficient
Public Infrastructure

Waste Minimization

Outcomes

Actions

Preliminary Score - #

Programs and Services

6. Provide services to enable residents and businesses to recycle and reduce their waste footprint

Tons of materials recycled annually in the past 3 years

Describe the compelling characteristics of the program or service that advances progress towards the desired Outcome(s)

1-2 paragraph description

Help Tips and/or Excel Download Examples

Feedback

Date program or service was created or implemented

<<

Save & Continue



3-STAR Community (200-399 points)

Recognized for sustainability leadership

4-STAR Community (400-599 points)

Recognized for national excellence

5-STAR Community (600+ points)

Recognized as top tier achiever in national sustainability

Participating STAR Community: Registered intent to use the rating system

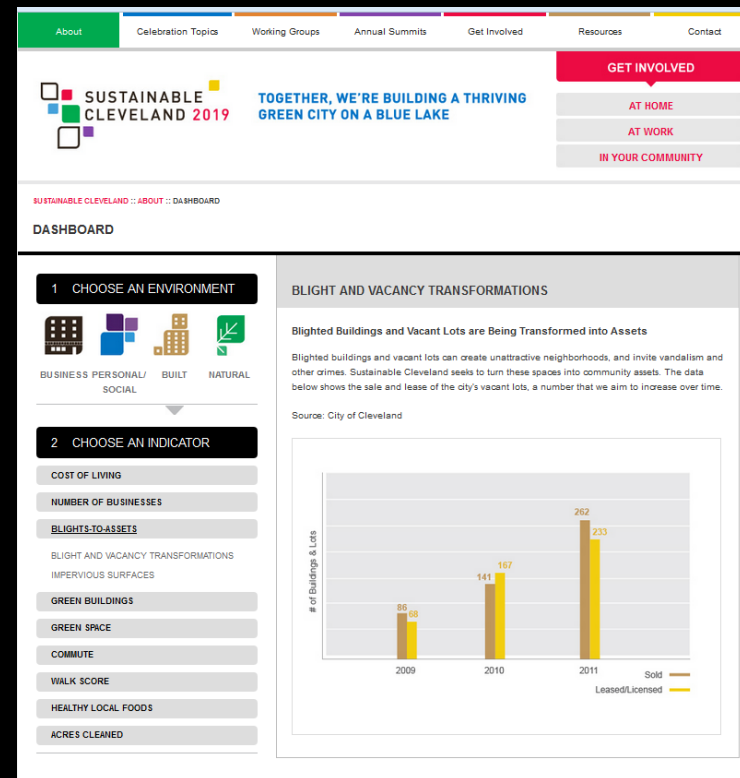
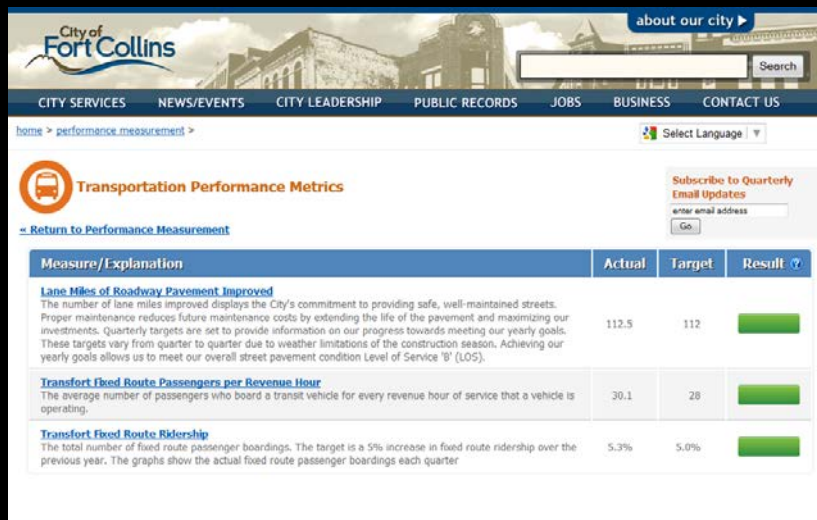
Reporting STAR Community (50-199 points):

Registered intent to report and met basic prerequisite of completing an objective in all 7 goal areas

*The goal is not
just the rating,
but a way to
measure
progress.*



integration



public reporting

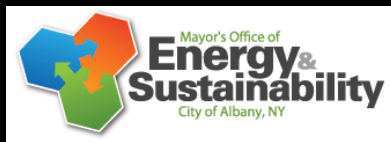


- *you can't manage what you don't measure*
- *be prepared for internal resistance*
- *don't get hung up on the ratings*
- *the data may not exist at all or how you need it*

key lessons



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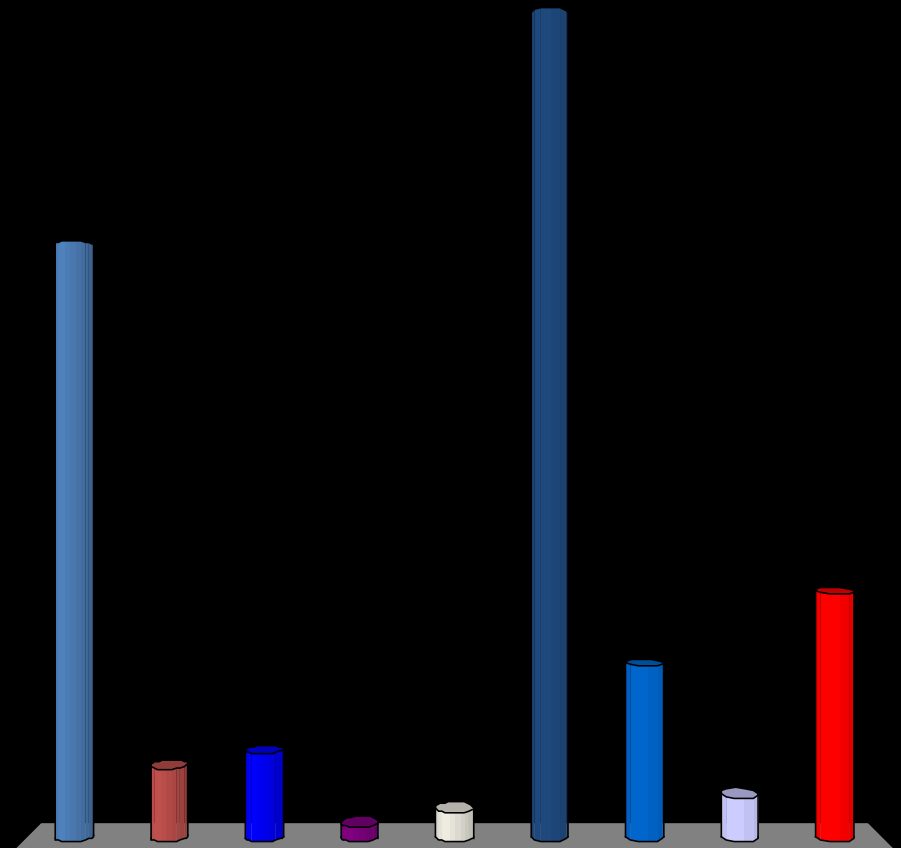


contact

Sector Specific & Project Based Rating Systems

Which sector/project focused rating systems have you used?

1. EnergyStar
2. Envision™
3. Green Globes
4. Green Roads
5. INVEST
6. LEED
7. Sustainable Sites
8. Other
9. None





Buildings



Roads



INVEST

ECONOMIC • SOCIAL • ENVIRONMENTAL



INSTITUTE FOR
SUSTAINABLE
INFRASTRUCTURE

- Comprehensive approach to horizontal infrastructure projects
- Supported by APWA, ASCE, ACEC
- Allows other rating systems to plug into it



ENVISION™





Envision™ was developed in joint collaboration between the Zofnass Program for Sustainable Infrastructure at the Harvard University Graduate School of Design and the Institute for Sustainable Infrastructure.



The Institute for Sustainable Infrastructure is a not-for-profit education and research organization founded by the American Public Works Association, the American Council of Engineering Companies and the American Society of Civil Engineers.

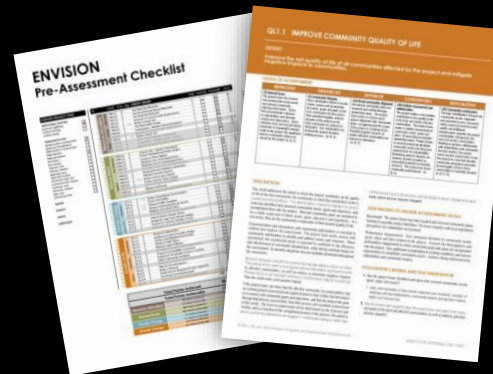


WHAT IS ENVISION™?

Envision™ is a tool, which itself is part of a larger system, developed to help plan and evaluate the sustainability of civil infrastructure.

This system includes:

- A self assessment checklist
- The Envision™ Rating Tool
- A credential program for individuals
- A Project Evaluation and Verification Program
- A Recognition Program for Sustainable Infrastructure



**Envision™ is not a decision making
tool...**

It is a decision making guide

**best used in the planning and design
stages of infrastructure projects**

The Audience for Envision?

Primarily, but not exclusively,

Owners of civil infrastructure

**Why will the public sector want to
use Envision?**

**Because it will improve their
performance...and**

**public confidence in their
performance**

THE IMPORTANCE OF INFRASTRUCTURE

THE **REALITIES** OF
THE WORLD IN WHICH
WE LIVE

A **NEW** FACT OF LIFE

Planet Earth is a perilous place for humans. Infrastructure provides:

- Physical Security
- The basis for public health
- Economic and commercial potential
- Population Growth
- Diminished Resources
- Climate Change
- Adaptation

It is no longer enough that infrastructure work, that it be constructed on time and within budget, or even that it last. It now must be sustainable.

WHAT DO WE MEAN BY “SUSTAINABLE”?

“...to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.”

- World Commission on
Environment and Development,
1987



Why is Sustainability Important?

Our job is to plan for a future that is respectful of the environment and the atmosphere upon which all else depends.

WHAT MAKES **ENVISION™** UNIQUE?

- **It applies to civil infrastructure**
- **It includes design, planning, construction and maintenance elements**
- **It is applicable at any point in an infrastructure project's life cycle**
- **It speaks to the triple bottom line: social, economic and environmental goals**
- **It is designed to keep pace with a changing concept of sustainability**

**Envision™ promotes better
decision-making...decision making
that is itself sustainable.**

How does it do that?

WHAT TYPES OF INFRASTRUCTURE CAN ENVISION™ RATE?



ENERGY

Geothermal
Hydroelectric
Nuclear
Coal
Natural Gas
Oil/Refinery
Wind
Solar
Biomass



WATER

Potable water
distribution
Capture/Storage
Water Reuse
Storm Water
Management
Flood Control



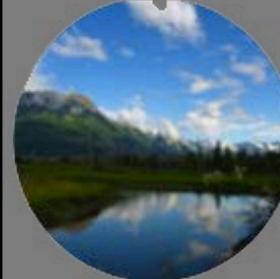
WASTE

Solid waste
Recycling
Hazardous
Waste
Collection &
Transfer



TRANSPORT

Airports
Roads
Highways
Bikes
Pedestrians
Railways
Public Transit
Ports
Waterways



LANDSCAPE

Public Realm
Parks
Ecosystem
Services



INFORMATION

Telecommunications
Internet
Phones
Satellites
Data Centers
Sensors



60 Credits in 5 Categories



**QUALITY
OF LIFE**

Purpose, Community, Wellbeing



LEADERSHIP

Collaboration, Management, Planning



**RESOURCE
ALLOCATION**

Materials, Energy, Water



**NATURAL
WORLD**

Siting, Land & Water, Biodiversity



**CLIMATE
AND RISK**

Emissions, Resilience



CATEGORIES



QUALITY OF LIFE

13 Credits

1 PURPOSE

- QL1.1 Improve Community Quality of Life
- QL1.2 Stimulate Sustainable Growth & Development
- QL1.3 Develop Local Skills & Capabilities

2 WELLBEING

- QL2.1 Enhance Public Health & Safety
- QL2.2 Minimize Noise and Vibration
- QL2.3 Minimize Light Pollution
- QL2.4 Improve Community Mobility & Access
- QL2.5 Encourage Alternative Modes of Transportation
- QL2.6 Improve Accessibility, Safety, & Wayfinding

3 COMMUNITY

- QL3.1 Preserve Historic & Cultural Resources
- QL3.2 Preserve Views & Local Character
- QL3.3 Enhance Public Space

QL0.0 Innovate or Exceed Credit Requirements



LEADERSHIP

10 Credits

1 COLLABORATION

- LD1.1 Provide Effective Leadership & Commitment
- LD1.2 Establish A Sustainability Management System
- LD1.3 Foster Collaboration & Teamwork
- LD1.4 Provide for Stakeholder Involvement

2 MANAGEMENT

- LD2.1 Pursue By-Product Synergy Opportunities
- LD2.2 Improve Infrastructure Integration

3 PLANNING

- LD3.1 Plan For Long-Term Monitoring & Maintenance
- LD3.2 Address Conflicting Regulations & Policies
- LD3.3 Extend Useful Life

LD0.0 Innovate or Exceed Credit Requirements



RESOURCE ALLOCATION

14 Credits

1 MATERIALS

- RA1.1 Reduce Net Embodied Energy
- RA1.2 Support Sustainable Procurement Practices
- RA1.3 Use Recycled Materials
- RA1.4 Use Regional Materials
- RA1.5 Divert Waste From Landfills
- RA1.6 Reduce Excavated Materials Taken Off Site
- RA1.7 Provide For Deconstruction & Recycling

2 ENERGY

- RA2.1 Reduce Energy Consumption
- RA2.2 Use Renewable Energy
- RA2.3 Commission & Monitor Energy Systems

3 WATER

- RA3.1 Protect Fresh Water Availability
- RA3.2 Reduce Potable Water Consumption
- RA3.3 Monitor Water Systems

RA0.0 Innovate or Exceed Credit Requirements



NATURAL WORLD

15 Credits

1 SITING

- NW1.1 Preserve Prime Habitat
- NW1.2 Protect Wetlands & Surface Water
- NW1.3 Preserve Prime Farmland
- NW1.4 Avoid Adverse Geology
- NW1.5 Preserve Floodplain Functions
- NW1.6 Avoid Unsuitable Development on Steep Slopes
- NW1.7 Preserve Greenfields

2 LAND+ WATER

- NW2.1 Manage Stormwater
- NW2.2 Reduce Pesticide & Fertilizer Impacts
- NW2.3 Prevent Surface & Groundwater Contamination

3 BIODIVERSITY

- NW3.1 Preserve Species Biodiversity
- NW3.2 Control Invasive Species
- NW3.3 Restore Disturbed Soils
- NW3.4 Maintain Wetland & Surface Water Functions

NW0.0 Innovate or Exceed Credit Requirements



CLIMATE AND RISK

8 Credits

1 EMISSIONS

- CR1.1 Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- CR1.2 Reduce Air Pollutant Emissions

2 RESILIENCE

- CR2.1 Assess Climate Threat
- CR2.2 Avoid Traps & Vulnerabilities
- CR2.3 Prepare For Long-Term Adaptability
- CR2.4 Prepare For Short-Term Hazards
- CR2.5 Manage Heat Island Effects

CR0.0 Innovate or Exceed Credit Requirements

SAMPLE CREDIT

QL1.1 IMPROVE COMMUNITY QUALITY OF LIFE

INTENT:

Improve the net quality of life of all communities affected by the project and mitigate negative impacts to communities.

LEVELS OF ACHIEVEMENT

IMPROVED	ENHANCED	SUPERIOR	CONSERVING	RESTORATIVE
(2) Internal focus. The project team has located and reviewed the most recent and relevant community planning information. Some, but not systematic outreach to stakeholders and decision makers has taken place. Some relatively easy, but not particularly important or meaningful changes made to the project. No significant adverse community effects are caused by the project (A, B, C)	(5) Community linkages. More substantive efforts to locate, review, assess and incorporate the needs, goals and plans of the host community into the project. Most potential negative adverse impacts of the project on the host community are reduced or eliminated. Key stakeholders are involved in the project decision-making process. (A, B, C)	(10) Broad community alignment. All relevant community plans are reviewed and verified through stakeholder input. The project team works to achieve good project alignment with community plans, recognizing that the scope of the project is a limiting factor. Potential negative impacts on nearby affected communities are reduced or eliminated. (A, B, C)	(20) Holistic assessment and collaboration. The project makes a net positive contribution to the quality of life of the host and nearby affected communities. The project team makes a holistic assessment of community needs, goals and plans, incorporating meaningful stakeholder input. Project mostly or exceeds important identified community needs and long-term requirements for sustainability. Remaining adverse impacts are minimal, mostly accepted as reasonable tradeoffs for benefits achieved. The project has broad community endorsement. (A, B, C)	(25) Community renaissance. Through rehabilitation of important community assets, upgraded and extended access, increased safety, improved environmental quality and additional infrastructure capacity, the project substantially reinvigorates the host and nearby communities. Working in genuine collaboration with stakeholders and community decision-makers, the project owner and the project team scope the project in a way that elevates community awareness and pride. Overall quality of life in these communities is markedly elevated. (A, B, C, D)

DESCRIPTION

This credit addresses the extent to which the project contributes to the quality of life of the host community: the community in which the constructed works is situated and directly affects. This determination is based on how well the project team has identified and assessed community needs, goals and objectives, and incorporated them into the project. Relevant community plans are assumed to be a viable expression of those needs, goals, objectives and aspirations. In a real sense, they are the community's expression of their desired quality of life.

Communication and interactions with community stakeholders is essential to reaffirm and improve the assessment. The project team works closely with community stakeholders to identify and address issues and concerns. When operational, the constructed works is expected to contribute to the efficiency and effectiveness of community infrastructure, while having minimal impact on the environment. Its benefits should be seen as equitably distributed throughout the community.

A project designed to benefit one community may have adverse effects on others. The purpose of this credit is to recognize projects that provide significant benefits to affected communities, as well as reduce or eliminate negative impacts. Positive effects on all important dimensions of performance may not be practical. Thus the credit seeks a net positive impact.

If the project team can show that the affected community (or communities) has an existing project assessment and approval process that verifies that the project is in concert with community goals and objectives, and that the project has gone through that process successfully, then that success will constitute achievement of this credit. The level of achievement will be determined by the Assessor and Verifier, and is a function of the comprehensiveness of the process, the extent to which community stakeholders are engaged in collaborative dialogue (rather than

merely outside input to the process), and the degree to which improvements were made and/or adverse impacts mitigated.

ADVANCING TO HIGHER ACHIEVEMENT LEVELS

Benchmark: The project team may have located and reviewed community plans, looking for possible project fatal flaws. The team complies with local regulations and policies for stakeholder involvement.

Performance improvement: Give increased attention to community needs, goals, plans and their relation to the project. Increase the thoroughness and participatory engagement by which community goals and plans are incorporated into the project. Give additional consideration to existing conditions and look for opportunities to rehabilitate community assets. Achieve strong endorsement by stakeholders and community leaders.

EVALUATION CRITERIA AND DOCUMENTATION

A. Has the project team identified and taken into account community needs, goals, plans and issues?

1. Lists and examples of documents obtained and reviewed, minutes of meetings with key stakeholders, community leaders and decision-makers, letters and memoranda.

B. Has the project team sought to align the project vision and goals to the needs and goals of the host and affected communities as well as address potential adverse impacts?

20 POINTS

QUALITY OF LIFE



METRIC:

Measures taken to assess community needs and improve quality of life while minimizing negative impacts.

1. Comprehensive impact assessments conducted, identifying and evaluating the positive and negative impacts of the project on affected communities. Planned actions for mitigating adverse impacts.
2. Minutes of meetings, letters and memoranda with key stakeholders, community leaders and decision-makers for obtaining input and agreement regarding the impact assessment and planned actions.
- C. To what extent has the affected communities been meaningfully engaged in the project design process?
 1. Reports and documented results of meetings, design charrettes and other activities conducted with representatives of affected communities.
 2. Evidence of project processes for collecting, evaluating and incorporating community input into the project designs. Demonstration of the thoroughness of the evaluation and incorporation into the designs.
 3. Evidence showing the extent to which options were identified, and needed and reasonable changes to project were made in accordance with community needs, plans.
 4. Acknowledgments and endorsements by the community that the design participation process was helpful and that their input was appropriately assessed and incorporated into the project design.
- D. Has the project owner and the project team designed the project in a way that improves existing community conditions and rehabilitates infrastructure assets?
 1. Plans, designs, meeting minutes with community stakeholders and decision-makers demonstrating an understanding of community conditions and assets, and substantive efforts to rehabilitate.
 2. Evidence of community satisfaction and endorsement of plans.

SOURCES

- W. A. Wallace, Project Sustainability Management Guidelines, Unpublished manuscript, September 2010.
- Adapted from The Sustainable Sites Initiative: Guidelines and Performance Benchmarks 2009, Credit 6.1: Promote equitable site development, Credit 6.2: Promote equitable site use.

RELATED CREDITS

- QL1.2 Stimulate Sustainable Growth and Development
- QL1.3 Develop Local Skills and Capabilities
- LD1.4 Provide for Meaningful Stakeholder Involvement

INPUT PORTAL

[News](#)[FAQs](#)[Rating System](#)[ISI Credentials](#)[Project Application](#)[Education & Training](#)[Case Studies](#)[Comments](#)

Project Application

Envision™ Sustainable Infrastructure Rating System

[Instructions](#)[Projects](#)[Section Menu](#)[QL](#)[LD](#)[RA](#)[NW](#)[CR](#)[Section Totals Summary](#)[Report](#)

"Bridge"

Section Menu

Please click on the links to take you to the relevant sections:



QUALITY
OF LIFE



LEADERSHIP



RESOURCE
ALLOCATION



NATURAL
WORLD



CLIMATE
AND RISK

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ONLINE GUIDANCE MANUAL

Envision Tool Portal

[« Guidance Manual Home](#)

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METRIC:

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LEVELS OF ACHIEVEMENT

IMPROVED	ENHANCED	SUPERIOR	CONSERVING	RESTORATIVE
(2) Internal focus. The project team has located and reviewed the most recent and relevant community planning information. Some, but not systematic outreach to stakeholders and decision makers has taken place. Some relatively easy, but not particularly important or meaningful changes made to the project. No significant adverse community effects are caused by the project (A, B, C)	(5) Community linkages. More substantive efforts to locate, review, assess and incorporate the needs, goals and plans of the host community into the project. Most potential negative adverse impacts of the project on the host community are reduced or eliminated. Key stakeholders are involved in the project decision-making process. (A, B, C)	(10) Broad community alignment. All relevant community plans are reviewed and verified through stakeholder input. The project team works to achieve good project alignment with community plans, recognizing that the scope of the project is a limiting factor. Potential negative impacts on nearby affected communities are reduced or eliminated. (A, B, C)	(20) Holistic assessment and collaboration. The project makes a net positive contribution to the quality of life of the host and nearby affected communities. The project team makes a holistic assessment of community needs, goals and plans, incorporating meaningful stakeholder input. Project meets or exceeds important identified community needs and long-term requirements for sustainability. Remaining adverse impacts are minimal, mostly accepted as reasonable tradeoffs for benefits achieved. The project has broad community endorsement. (A, B, C)	(25) Community renaissance. Through rehabilitation of important community assets, upgraded and extended access, increased safety, improved environmental quality and additional infrastructure capacity, the project substantially reinvigorates the host and nearby communities. Working in genuine collaboration with stakeholders and community decision-makers, the project owner and the project team scope the project in a way that elevates community awareness and pride. Overall quality of life in these communities is markedly elevated. (A, B, C, D)

DESCRIPTION

This credit addresses the extent to which the project contributes to the quality of life of the host community: the community in which the constructed works is situated and directly affects. This determination is based on how well the project team has identified and assessed community needs, goals and objectives, and incorporated them into the project. Relevant community plans are assumed to be a viable expression of those needs, goals, objectives and aspirations. In a real sense, they are the community's expression of their desired quality of life.

SCORING SUMMARY

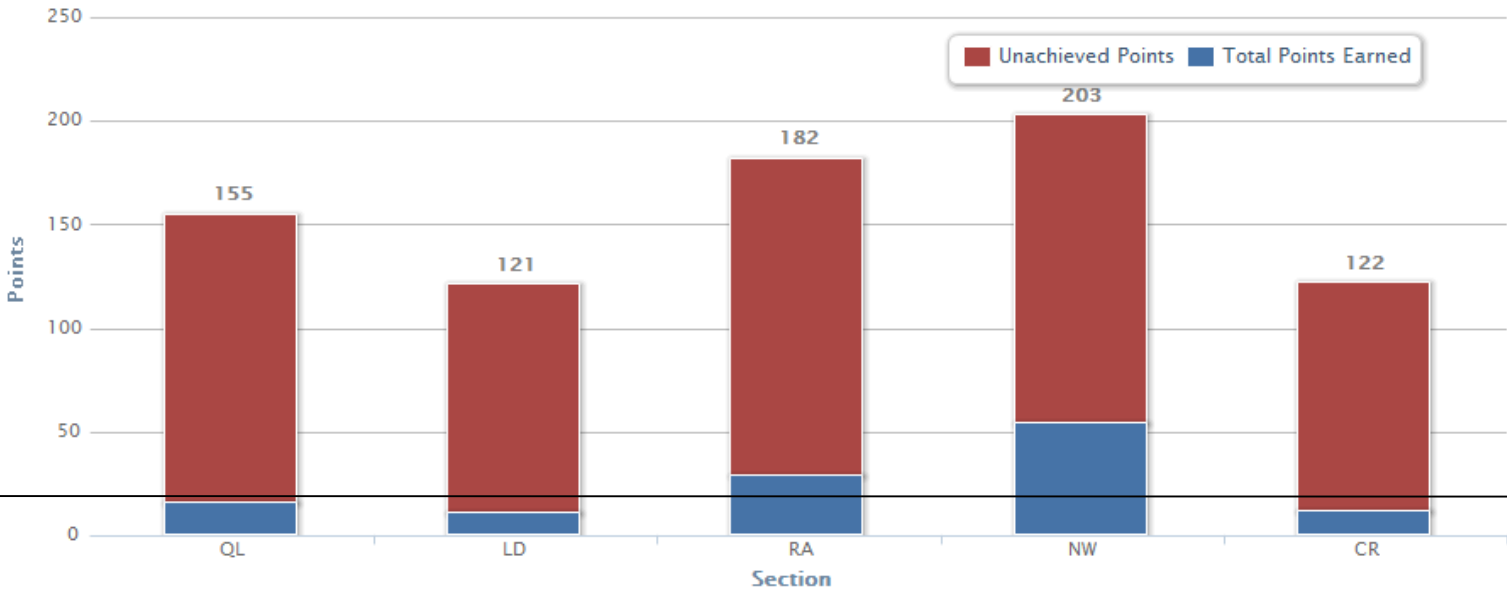
Section 1 choices updated.

"Prairie Waters Project"

Section Totals Summary

Section	Maximum Possible Score	Section Points	Innovation Points	Total Points Earned
QL	155	11	5	16
LD	121	10	1	11
RA	182	29	0	29
NW	203	46	8	54
CR	122	12	0	12
Total Project Points	783	108	14	122

Envision™ Section Scores



Putting it all together



- Establish / confirm your sustainability goals & priorities
- Assess your existing resources (human, financial, time)
- Review funding & technical assistance opportunities
- Set a timeline for yourself

Which one is right for your community?

- Demonstrates action towards your goals
- Creates leadership opportunities
- Helps celebrate small and big successes
- Recognizes that some progress is better than none
- Continuously pushes you to do better



THANK YOU!



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