

Green Building Update

an Allen Matkins
market intelligence
publication

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[Critics argue LEED in Neighborhood Development is hurting affordable housing](#)

Mlive.com - May 26

The U.S. Green Building Council's rating system for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design in neighborhood development, known as [LEED-ND](#), is coming under fire for not putting a greater emphasis on affordable housing. Critics say LEED-ND, in its current draft, discourages participating developers from allotting dollars into expensive energy-efficient affordable housing. They worry the point system will get ingrained in municipal law books when the growing gap between wages and mortgages is creating an affordable housing crisis regionally and nationally.

Green Building Focus

[Wachovia Capital Markets' The Greening of America](#)

This publication of Wachovia Capital Markets LLC, contains case studies highlighting the sustainable-driven efforts of 46 innovative companies in the nation. The case studies illustrate how corporate America is being challenged by, responding to, and profiting from the sustainable revolution.

[Green Building movement gaining momentum in Northern California: USGBC](#)

Mercury News - June 1

Dan Geiger, who oversees the U.S. Green Building Council's Northern California chapter says that the green building movement has gained momentum in the last five years and continues to increase dramatically, even in a down construction market. The U.S. Green Building Council's Northern California LEED rating has been earned by 1,379 U.S. buildings and 585 homes, which includes three Adobe Towers in downtown San Jose and the city's West Valley Branch Library as well as three homes in Capitola and 40 in San Jose.

[Napa winery Far Niente installs \\$4.2 million solar energy system](#)

GreenBiz - May 30

Napa-based Far Niente winery installed a \$4.2 million solar energy system that will supply all of the winery's needs. The system relies on a combination of land-mounted and "Floatovoltaic" solar arrays that are expected to generate 400 kilowatts at peak output. Napa Valley wineries are adopting solar energy for their operations more than 40 times faster than the state's general business community, estimated Dan Thompson of SPG Solar, the Novato, California-based company that developed and installed Far Niente's solar energy system.

[California to unveil second state prison to run on solar](#)

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Los Angeles Business Council's 38th Annual Architectural Awards

Featuring the Allen Matkins Green Building Award and over 30 outstanding design awards

Keynote: **Jean Nouvel**, Winner of the 2008 Pritzker Architecture Prize

Special Guests: **Mayor Antonio R. Villaraigosa, Council President Eric Garcetti, Councilmember Wendy Greuel, Councilmember Jan Perry, Councilmember Ed Reyes, Julius Shulman**

Mistress of Ceremonies: **Frances Anderton**, Host of KCRW's DnA: Design and Architecture

June 19, 2008
11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
Beverly Hilton
International Ballroom
[Register online](#)

About Allen Matkins

Allen Matkins Leck Gamble Mallory & Natsis LLP, founded in 1977, is a California law firm with over 240 attorneys practicing out of seven offices in California. The firm's broad based areas of focus include construction, corporate, real estate, project finance, business litigation, taxation, land use, environmental, bankruptcy and creditors' rights, and

power

Government of California - June 2

California is set to unveil a 1.18 megawatt (MW) solar power plant at its Ironwood State Prison that provides enough electricity to power a quarter of the facility's needs. SunEdison, a unit of Edison International, built and will run the plant. Ironwood is the second prison in California to host a solar power plant and it will save about \$50,000 a year in electricity costs, according to Harry Franey, chief of the Energy Management and Sustainability Section of the state's Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.

Green Building sector surviving US housing slump

Environmental Leader - May 27

The green building industry saw an estimated \$12 billion in revenues in 2007 and could top \$42 billion by 2015, according to an article by Environmental Leader. The USGBC's goal of reaching 100,000 LEED-certified commercial projects by 2010 is a sign the council doesn't foresee any deterioration of interest in green building.

The White House criticized legislation that could cut climate change

Reuters - June 2

The White House criticized legislation in the U.S. Senate that is aimed at controlling climate change, arguing it would cut economic growth and lead to soaring gasoline prices. The legislation the Senate will debate, which is not expected to become law in 2008 amid a presidential election, could cut total U.S. global warming emissions by 66 percent by 2050, according to a summary of the measure.

Citi receives LEED pre-certification for branch prototype

Greener Buildings - June 2

Citi has received LEED pre-certification for a prototype branch through a U.S. Green Building Council pilot program. Three branches have been certified under the USGBC's Portfolio Program, and include CitiFinancial branches in Austin, Texas; and Flint, Michigan; and the Citibank financial center in Warrington, Pennsylvania. Twenty-seven other CitiFinancial and Citibank branches were designed with same features as the prototype retail commercial interior and are seeking LEED certification.

Notable green building projects...

[Ronald McDonald House in Austin earns LEED platinum certification](#)

The Ronald McDonald House of Austin and Central Texas is the first building in Austin to achieve a platinum LEED certification from the U.S. Green Building Council. The 28,500-square-foot new home of the nonprofit provides 30 guest rooms to families of children receiving treatment at Austin-area medical centers, particularly the adjacent Dell Children's Medical Center of Central Texas.

[GMC Cadillac dealership in Michigan to become the first LEED](#)

certified dealership in the state

LaFontaine Automotive Group's \$15 million Buick Pontiac GMC Cadillac dealership in Michigan will be the first "green" GM dealership to open in the state. The new dealership is expected to receive LEED gold certification by the U.S. Green Building Council.

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