

## FINANCIAL BENEFITS

Considering sustainable strategies during a project's planning and design process offers the best opportunity to avoid added cost. Here are just a few strategies that can be implemented for little to no cost:

- Choose natural and high efficiency lighting, minimize light pollution.
- Choose your site to protect greenspace and environmentally sensitive areas.
- Choose sites in close proximity to public and practical alternative transportation options.
- Consider solar solutions, efficient insulation and window and entry locations to minimize heat gains.
- Minimize turf and choose Florida-friendly landscaping and drought tolerant plants.
- Build with recycled wood, steel and glass.
- Reuse and recycle demolition and construction waste, rather than sending it to a landfill.
- Utilize day-lighting and passive heat and air as much as possible.
- Build up rather than out – less roof and foundation, more efficient to cool, ceiling framing doubles as floor.
- Select light colored roofing material – reduces heat gain because light colors reflect heat.
- Use dual flush toilets, low flow sinks and shower heads.
- Provide pervious versus impervious parking.
- Provide preferred parking for High Occupancy Vehicles (HOV), low emission vehicles, electric cars and carpools.

## GREEN BENEFITS



### ECONOMIC

- Reduced operating costs for energy, solid waste and water
- Improved employee productivity through reduced absenteeism
- Improved customer satisfaction with indoor air quality
- Tax deductions, incentives, credits and/or rebates for specific construction and renovation projects
- Green projects typically sell or lease faster and retain tenants longer

### HEALTH & COMMUNITY

- Improved air, thermal and acoustic environments
- Enhanced occupant comfort and health
- Contributes to overall quality of life

### ENVIRONMENTAL

- Enhanced biodiversity and ecosystem protection
- Improved air and water quality
- Reduced solid waste and greenhouse gas emissions
- Conservation of natural resources

## GREEN BUILDINGS



Green buildings focus on the efficient use of resources including energy, water and materials. Buildings that utilize green building strategies will better protect occupant health while reducing impacts on the natural environment and lowering operating costs.

Historically, US building practices have had significant impacts on the natural environment resulting in:

- **39%** of total energy use
- **12%** total water consumption
- **68%** total electricity consumption
- **38%** total CO<sup>2</sup> emissions



## WHY SOLAR

The cost of electricity is getting higher every day and will only continue to rise. By generating your own power with solar energy, you can stabilize your cost of electricity and even reduce its sensitivity to future rate hikes.

The City of Dunedin committed to Sierra Club's Ready for 100 Campaign on December 6, 2018. This is a national movement of people working to inspire leaders to embrace a vision of healthier communities powered with 100% clean, renewable energy. The City has committed to 100% clean energy in its City operations by 2035, and across the City by 2050. Solar energy directly contributes to this goal.

Studies have indicated that homes with solar systems sold at a greater price point than homes without such systems.



## SOLAR INCENTIVES



The City offers incentives for residential and commercial properties installing solar energy:

- A solar energy incentive grant for the installation of solar panels. The grant is at a rate of \$0.25 per watt of solar power generated for a maximum grant of \$2,500. The grant will be awarded on a first come, first served basis with annual total funding determined in each fiscal year's budget.

Additional incentives for commercial projects:

- Fast track permitting.
- Recognition at a City Commission meeting.
- Inclusion of project details on the City's green building webpage.
- Informative banners placed at the project site.

The City also has a certified Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Accredited Professional (LEED AP) to help you identify opportunities to make your project greener.

SUSTAINABLE  
DUNEDIN



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