



Transitioning to Healthy and Sustainable Buildings

Cost-Effective Energy Efficiency Requirements

About the Cost-Effective Energy Efficiency Requirements

The City's [General Plan](#) calls for improved building energy efficiency and the City's [Climate Action Plan](#) includes Measure 1.2 to decarbonize new building development. The [2025 Green Building Code \(CALGreen\)](#) contains various new requirements for building construction.

In addition to these minimum mandatory building code requirements, the City proposes to include supplemental cost-effective energy efficiency requirements in the [2025 Building Code Update](#), as well as the [2025 Land Development Code Update](#).
















Process for implementing cost-effective energy efficiency requirements



Timeline







2025 Building Code: Statewide 2025 Green Building Code (CALGreen)

Measures	Applicability	Description
Water Heating	 Multi-family Residential  Hotels  New Construction	Central systems are prescriptively required to be heat pumps. Gas systems must be electric-ready.
Space Heating	 Non-Residential  New Construction	For Single Zone up to 240,000 Btu/hr or less, heat pump are prescribed. Multi-zone systems require a heat pump* or equally efficient gas system *Exceptions: Buildings greater than 150kp sq ft. and Schools in Climate Zone 7
Space and Water Heating	 Single-family Residential  New Construction	Both space and water heating: Heat pumps
EV-capable¹	 Non-Residential  New Construction	20% of parking spaces must be EV-capable; 50% of EV-capable spaces must have Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment (EVSE), except Office and Retail uses which must have 75% of EV-capable spaces with EVSE.
EV-ready²	 Multi-family Residential  New Construction	One parking space EV-ready (Low Power Level 2) for each dwelling unit. EVSE at 25% of spaces.
EV-ready²	 Hotels and Motels  New Construction	40% of parking spaces must be EV-ready for Low Power Level 2; 25% of EV-ready spaces must have EVSE.
Pool/Spa Heaters	 All Buildings  New Construction	Solar thermal, heat pump pool heater (HPPH), or on-site renewable/recovered energy systems for heating pools and spas (excluding portable electric spas) with specific efficiency, sizing, and control standards.







¹**EV-capable space:** includes the electrical capacity and conduit, but no wiring or outlet, allowing for future installation of an EV charger

²**EV-ready space:** includes the panel capacity, wiring, and conduit, but also terminates with a 240-volt outlet or junction box, requiring only the charger to become operational

2025 Building Code: Supplemental Cost-Effective Energy Efficiency Requirements

GBC Measure	Applicability	Description
Cool roofs Payback 4 - 10 yrs	 Non-Residential  Alterations / Additions	Enhanced cool roof requirements when roof alterations exceed 50% of roof area or 2,000+ sq ft.
High-rise Hot Water Performance Payback • All-electric - At installation • Mixed fuel Systems - 30 yrs	 High-rise Residential  New Construction	New high-rise residential buildings with central hot water systems to achieve 5% enhanced energy performance beyond Title 24 requirements.

2025 Land Development Code Update: Cost-Effective Energy Efficiency Requirements

Measures	Applicability	Description
Pool/Spa Heaters Payback 10 - 25 yrs	 Multi-family Residential  Non-Residential  Alterations / Additions	Solar thermal, heat pump pool heater (HPPH), or on-site renewable/recovered energy systems for heating pools and spas (excluding portable electric spas) with specific efficiency, sizing, and control standards.
Dark-sky Outdoor Lighting Payback No additional cost	 Multi-family Residential  Non-Residential  New Construction	Outdoor pole-mounted and arm-mounted luminaries which minimize upward light emission to reduce light pollution while maintaining safe and energy efficient lighting levels.