

Sustainable Design Standards

Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

Committee on Community, Environment, and Economic Development (CEED)

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Office of Sustainability
DAS - Facilities Management



Sustainable Design Standards

VISION STATEMENT

The Sustainable Design Standards will support Milwaukee County's commitment to achieving zero net carbon emissions by 2050 while advancing Equity, Justice, & Community Resilience. These Standards will facilitate the planning, design, construction and renovation of resilient, net-zero carbon facilities that foster thriving communities and a sustainable future for the community.



Focus Areas

As part of the SDS development process, eight key sustainability focus areas have been identified. The first three align with CA50 and have been identified as **Priority Areas with mandatory requirements**.

- 1. Energy Efficiency**
- 2. Emissions and Pollution Control**
- 3. Climate Resilience and Adaptation**
4. Site
5. Water Conservation and Stormwater Management
6. Materials and Waste Management
7. Occupant Health and Wellbeing
8. Education and Community Engagement



Compliance Pathways

Tier 1

- Meet all mandatory requirements and “Better practices” where applicable to project scope

Tier 2

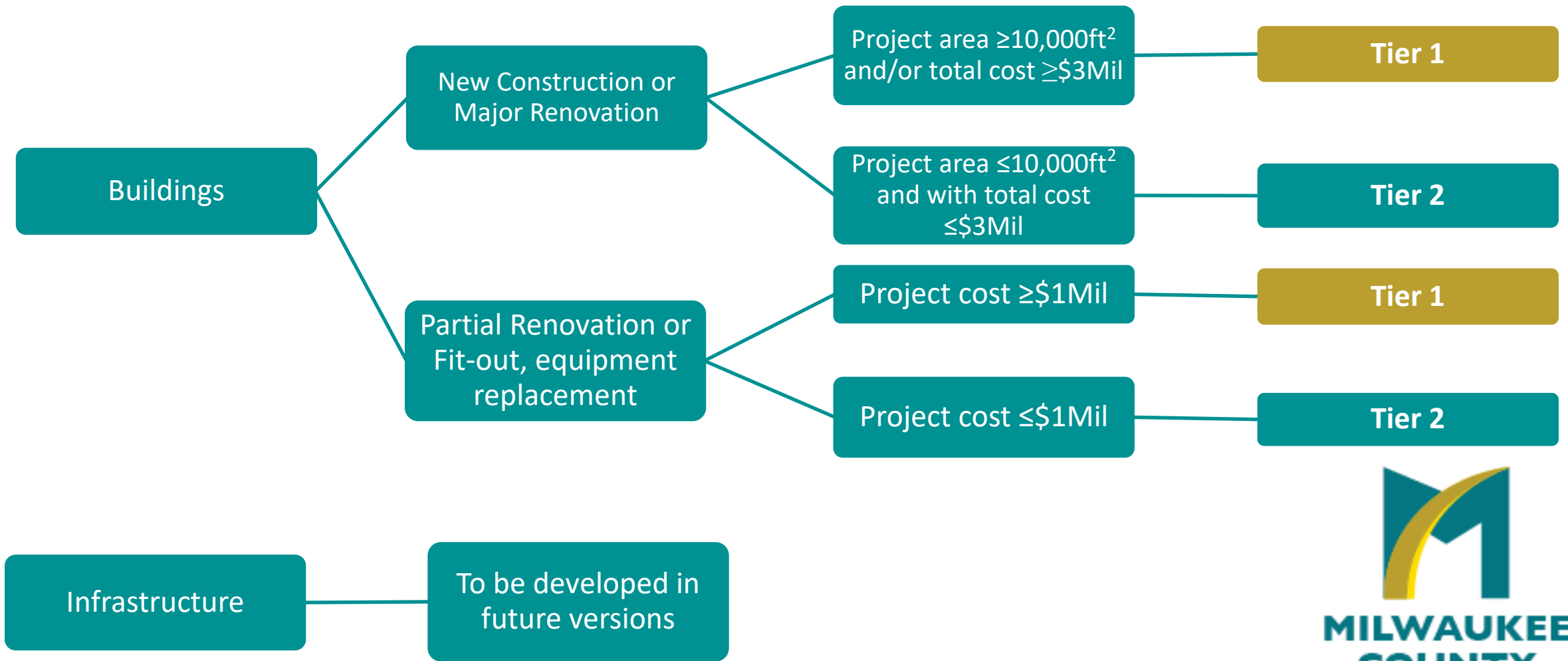
- Meet all mandatory requirements where applicable to project scope

***The following project types are exempt from the SDS:**

- Temporary structures (less than 5 years) e.g., job trailers
- Emergency repair or disaster response projects
- Leased spaces



Compliance Pathways



Implementation Workflow

Pre-Design

- Capital Team to review the SDS to determine applicable requirements/document outcome of the SDS Applicability Review in project file.
- SDS Scorecard completed at project inception.
- Applicable SDS requirements included in Capital Project Charter document.
- OPR includes SDS requirements & better practices at creation.



Design

- Sustainability kick-off by design team to integrate sustainability strategies into design.
- Design team create report confirming SDS compliance before end of design phase for review and verification by Office of Sustainability.
- All documentation is signed off by the Director of Sustainability, then stored by design team.



Construction & Close-Out

- Sustainability kick-off by construction team to align construction with SDS.
- Construction team creates report confirming SDS compliance for Office of Sustainability to review and verify before completion or occupancy.
- All documentation signed off by the Director of Sustainability, then stored by construction project team.



**MILWAUKEE
COUNTY**

Governance

Any projects deviating from the mandatory requirements need written approval from the Director of Sustainability and Director of AE&ES via an Exemption Request Form.

The Director of AE&ES (with support from Director OS), will provide a yearly status update of implementation of SDS in the AE&ES Annual Report to the County Board of Supervisors.

Capital Project Charter documents should include a section on applicable SDS requirements in accordance with the most recent approved version. Capital project management teams shall fold applicable sustainable design standards into all capital projects from the 2026 Capital Budget process forward.

Resources and documentation as fillable/signable pdfs:

1. Exemption Request Form
2. Scorecard – TIER 1
3. Scorecard – TIER 2



Questions?

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