

Helping you to deliver sustainable green development standards and masterplans

Comprehensive sustainability assessments tailored for each unique site

Today a key challenge for municipalities, planners, designers, and developers is ensuring that where we live, and work is sustainable and complies with regulatory requirements.

Why Sustainable Green Development Standards?

- Sustainable Green Development Standards is to provide criteria for assessing development applications from a sustainability perspective.
- It establishes a common set of sustainable indicators/framework, whereby the principle of sustainable development will guide the Towns or a city growth.

Municipalities across Ontario and beyond are incorporating the standards into their Official Plan's through a Sustainable Planning Framework, which defines elements of sustainable community and is recognized through the preparation and management of strategic documents to guide both development and municipal decisions to ensure land use planning is sustainable. It provides an integrated approach to improve all aspects of sustainability.

Key Benefits

- **Addresses sustainability** issues at the beginning of a planning project. The process sets out clear sustainability objectives, benchmarks, priorities, and target ratings based upon each site. The process involves a collaborative process helping teams appreciate site potential and understand sustainability objectives to maximize sustainability and minimize rework.
- **Helps guide smart growth** strategies for rural and urban setting through the OP process.
- **Facilitated stakeholder workshops** reduce sites requirements and priorities through a collaborative engagement process
- **Flexible and adaptable** to local priorities. Leverages a site's strengths and identifies weaknesses.
- **Demonstrates performance.** Identifies performance criteria, particularly useful for identifying continual improvement over time and helps you communicate sustainability credentials and improvements to key stakeholders.
- **Takes account of a site's strengths and weaknesses** and focuses on issues that can be influenced.

- **Encourages developers** to improve sustainability credentials of their existing or new project.
- **Gain planning consent** early in the process.
- **Add value to properties.**

Potential Benchmarks

- **Green Infrastructure and Buildings**
 - Energy Conservation
 - Water Efficiency and Storm Water Management (Low Impact Design)
 - Material Choice and Waste Diversion
 - Air Quality
 - Lighting
 - Green & Healthy Buildings
 - Stewardship and Education
 - Local Food Production
- **Natural Environment and Open Space**
 - Natural Heritage System
 - Parks
 - Rural/Urban Agriculture
 - Rural Forests and Ecology
 - Trees, Tree Canopy and Shade
- **Mobility**
 - Streetscape Elements/Pedestrian Supportive Design
 - Active Transportation
 - Transit
 - Street Network and Block Design
- **Built Environment**
 - Compact Development
 - Community Form
 - Mix & Diversity of Land Use
 - Housing Mix and Diversity
 - Walkability
 - Cultural Heritage
 - Economy

