

City of Delray Beach M E M O R A N D U M

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TO:

City Commission

FROM:

Green Implementation Advancement Board

THROUGH:

Molly Daly, Sustainability Intern

DATE:

November 21, 2019

SUBJECT:

Recommendation to City Commission to Amend Sec. 4.4.13 of LDRs by applying the

standard citywide and changing the square foot requirement to 5,000 sq ft

The Green Implement Advancement Board (GIAB) recommends the City Commission to amend Sec. 4.4.13 of the Land Development Regulations (LDR) to require all development within city limits that proposes to build 5,000 square feet or more, in one or more buildings, shall be at a minimum certified as Gold by the United States Green Building Council (USGBC) Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standards or equivalent standards.

The current ordinance, adopted in 2015, applies only to new construction larger than 50,000 square feet in the Central Business District (CBD) Zoning and has had a very limited impact in advancing a more energy and resource-efficient building inventory. From 2015 to 2018, only two of fourteen approved CBD projects were subject to the ordinance, likely due to the large 50,000 square foot threshold. Moreover, because CBD district is largely built-out, much of the new construction is occurring outside the CBD boundaries. Enhancing the current green building requirements would lead to a larger inventory of green certified building which subsequently assists with reducing greenhouse gas emissions and improving the vitality of the community and environment.

On January 18, 2018 GIAB proposed a revision to the City's green building ordinance to have it apply citywide and to smaller construction projects. The GIAB's recommendation was reaffirmed through a motion that was approved on November 21, 2019.

Hal Stern

Chair, Green Implementation Advancement Board

Date