









Criterion	1	2	3	4
 1. Ecosystems impacts	Code compliance: No particular requirements.	Some environmentally preferred products <i>Applicable standards:</i> LEED certified/silver, NGBA bronze/silver, R-2000, Active House minimum thresholds.	Majority environmentally preferred products <i>Applicable standards:</i> LEED gold/platinum, NGBA gold/emerald, Active House mid-range thresholds.	All environmentally preferred products <i>Applicable standards:</i> Living Building Challenge, Active House high thresholds.
 2. Embodied carbon	Code compliance: No particular requirements.	Reduced carbon: Footprint 25–50% lower than conventional standard. <i>Applicable standards:</i> Active House minimum threshold.	Low carbon: Footprint 50–90% lower than conventional standard. <i>Applicable standards:</i> Active House mid-range thresholds.	Ultra-low, net zero, or negative embodied carbon <i>Applicable standards:</i> Living Building Challenge, Active House high thresholds.
 3. Energy efficiency	Code compliance: Meets minimum local standard.	Reduced energy use: On-site energy use 25–50% less than code. May incorporate on-site renewable energy and/or renewable primary energy sources. <i>Applicable standards:</i> Energy Star, LEED certified/silver, NGBA bronze/silver, R-2000, Active House minimum thresholds.	Low energy use: On-site energy use 50–75% less than code. Likely to incorporate on-site renewable energy and/or renewable primary energy sources. <i>Applicable standards:</i> LEED gold/platinum, NGBA gold/emerald, R-2000, Active House mid-range thresholds.	Ultra-low, net zero, or net positive energy use: On-site energy use 75–100% less than code. Incorporates on-site renewable energy and/or renewable primary energy sources. <i>Applicable standards:</i> Living Building Challenge, Passive House.
 4. Indoor environment quality	Code compliance: No particular requirements.	Some low-emissions and non-toxic options <i>Applicable standards:</i> LEED certified/silver, NGBA bronze/silver, R-2000, Active House minimum thresholds.	Majority low-emissions and non-toxic options <i>Applicable standards:</i> LEED gold/platinum, NGBA gold/emerald, Active House mid-range thresholds, WELL silver/gold, IBN principles followed.	No emissions, fully non-toxic <i>Applicable standards:</i> Living Building Challenge, Active House high thresholds, WELL platinum, IBN tested.
 5. Waste	No measurement.	Basic management plan and sorting; minimal reduction targets <i>Applicable standards:</i> LEED certified/silver, NGBA bronze/silver, Active House minimum thresholds.	Comprehensive management plan; 25–50% reduction <i>Applicable standards:</i> LEED gold/platinum, NGBA gold/emerald, Active House mid-range thresholds.	Comprehensive management plan; 50–100% reduction <i>Applicable standards:</i> Living Building Challenge, Active House high thresholds.
 6. Resilience*	Code compliance: No particular requirements.	Minimal resilience targets: 3–7 days of potential self-reliance; siting accounts for major flooding/storms.	Moderate resilience targets: 7–28 days of potential self-reliance. <i>Applicable standards:</i> Resilient Design Institute principles inform some design decisions.	Complete resilience targets: Continuous potential self-reliance. <i>Applicable standards:</i> Resilient Design Institute principles and strategies fully employed.

*The number range for this criterion does not represent a quantitative value, only a preference for a more or less resilient design. The answer range will have a major impact on the complete range of design considerations. 🌱