

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SCHEDULE  
F OF SECTION 362.1 OF THE SAN  
DIEGO COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE  
CODE TO REDUCE FEES FOR  
BUILDINGS USING SUSTAINABLE  
BUILDING PRACTICES**

**Meeting Date: March 4, 2026 (01)**

ORDINANCE NO. 10984(New Series)

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SCHEDULE F OF SECTION 362.1 OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE CODE TO REDUCE FEES FOR BUILDINGS USING SUSTAINABLE BUILDING PRACTICES**

The Board of Supervisors of the County of San Diego ordains as follows:

Section 1. The Board of Supervisors finds and determines that building permit fees shall be reduced and expedited plan review shall be provided for Green Buildings in order to support and promote the use of sustainable building practices in San Diego County. The amendments made by this ordinance are intended to implement necessary changes to the fee schedules.

Section 2. Schedule F of Section 362.1 (d) (4) of Article XX of the San Diego County Administrative Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

4. **FEE REDUCTION FOR BUILDINGS USING SUSTAINABLE BUILDING PRACTICES:** For building permit applicants who voluntarily participate in the County of San Diego Green Building Program, as established by Board of Supervisors Policy F-50, the plancheck and permit fees shall be reduced by 7.5% to 15%. To qualify for this fee reduction, the project shall use one of the following sustainable building practices:
  - a) **Energy Conservation.** The project shall meet CalGreen Tier 1 (or equal energy benchmark) for 7.5% fee reduction or CalGreen Tier 2 (or equal energy benchmark) for 15% fee reduction. At the discretion of the Building Official, projects may use third-party green building credentials, emerging technologies, or building science advancements that demonstrate energy conservation equivalent to CalGreen tiers for energy benchmarking.
  - b) **Natural Resource Conservation.** The project shall incorporate straw bale construction for all exterior walls or use recycled content in the building system. To be eligible for the fee reduction by using recycled content, the applicant must demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Building Official that 20% or more of the primary materials being used in the building system contain 20% or more post-consumer recycled content. Any reused materials will be found to satisfy the 20% post-consumer recycled content requirement. A fee reduction may also be approved when the applicant demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Building Official that at least one primary building material (e.g. roofing material) is 50% or more post-consumer recycled content.

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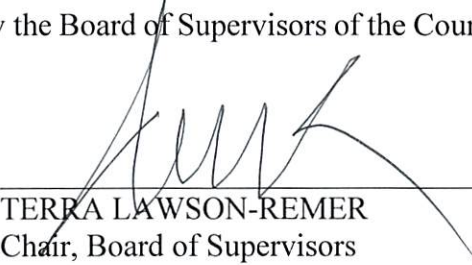
- c) Water Conservation. The project shall include the installation of a graywater system. A permit is required from the Department of Environmental Health for the graywater system in addition to the building permit issued by the Department of Planning & Development Services.

Note: Program eligibility would automatically sunset if any GBIP voluntary eligibility criteria are made into a mandatory requirement either through future code updates (ex, State Model Code or County Building Code updates) or otherwise required as a part of a necessary project mitigation strategy measure (ex, CAP CEQA Streamline Checklist).

Section 3. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect and be in force thirty (30) days after the date of its passage, and before the expiration of fifteen (15) days after its passage, a summary shall be published once with the names of the members voting for and against the same in the San Diego Daily Transcript, a newspaper of general circulation published in the County of San Diego.

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY  
Damon M. Brown, County Counsel  
By: Jerod Markley, Supervising Deputy County Counsel

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Diego on this 4th day of March 2026.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
TERRA LAWSON-REMER  
Chair, Board of Supervisors  
County of San Diego, State of California

The above Ordinance was adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Aguirre, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe, Desmond

ATTEST my hand and the seal of the Board of Supervisors on this 4th day of March 2026.

ANDREW POTTER  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Janelly Valdivia, Deputy



Ordinance No.: 10984 (N.S.)  
Meeting Date: 03/04/2026 (01)