

Advocacy Committee

The Advocacy Committee promotes green building, renewable energy and sustainability initiatives within public policy, encouraging local, State and Federal governments to adopt sustainable design and development through regulation, program incentives, and green projects. The Committee strives to ensure that the Chapter is viewed as the local authority on green building, thereby promoting the USGBC LEED rating system for all construction projects. It also strives to leverage the resources and influence of the USGBC to educate and advocate for State and local government regulatory authorities to adopt sustainable building principles, policies and programs. Participants help expand the Chapter's partnerships with the general public and local municipalities, and work to identify and overcome barriers to green building that may currently exist in local building standards.

In general, the objective of the Advocacy Committee is to further green building, renewable energy and sustainability initiatives through the education of governments, agencies and associations interested in including green policies, regulations or standards within the jurisdiction of their respective responsibilities. In that broad regard, the Committee is proactive in seeking out additional groups to which to provide assistance. The Committee outlines the opportunities and benefits related to embracing the above-noted initiatives, emphasizing the resulting robust and triple bottom line solutions that clarify and strengthen a healthy and dynamic balance between environmental, social and economic prosperity.

The Chair of the Advocacy Committee at the Chapter level is required to conduct monthly meetings (either in-person or via conference call) with the Advocacy Chairs of the Branches, the purpose of which is to assure that assignments are being carried out in a timely manner; that best-practices and problem-solving occurrences are being shared; and that, overall, the goals and expectations of the Committee are being met. The Executive Director is a prime resource for the Committee, as is the Executive Committee. As with all activities under the Chapter's umbrella, actions of this Committee are subject to resource constraints and Board approval.