



**DUBLIN**  
CALIFORNIA

## FACT SHEET

# LOW CARBON CONCRETE

## MUNICIPAL CODE

### WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE LOW CARBON CONCRETE BUILDING CODE?

The purpose of the new building code is to reduce embodied greenhouse gas emissions associated with concrete, a key building material, while still ensuring adequate strength and durability for the intended application.

### WHAT IS LOW CARBON CONCRETE?

Low carbon concrete consists of industrial cement combined with mineral compounds, including crushed limestone or secondary cementitious materials such as calcined clays, fly ash, blast-furnace slag or glass pozzolan. Depending on the mix, the carbon footprint of concrete can be reduced by up to 70%.

### IS LOW CARBON CONCRETE MORE EXPENSIVE THAN ORDINARY PORTLAND CEMENT CONCRETE?

No, low carbon concrete is cost-competitive and in some cases can be less expensive to produce.

### WHICH PROJECTS REQUIRE LOW CARBON CONCRETE?

Projects that require a building permit and use ready-mix concrete are subject to the low-carbon concrete ordinance. Ready-mix concrete is typically delivered from a central plant via a concrete mixer truck. Projects that use pre-packed bagged cement mixed on the job site, such as Quikrete, are not subject to low carbon concrete requirements. Asphalt, stucco, shotcrete, and gunite are exempt from the requirements. Projects that do not require a building permit do not need to use low carbon concrete but are encouraged to do so if feasible.

### HOW DO I PROVE THAT I MEET LOW CARBON CONCRETE STANDARDS?

A low carbon concrete compliance form must be submitted with the permit application. The compliance form and example calculations are available on the City's Environmental and Sustainability Division website. The applicant must also provide an Environmental Product Declaration (EPD) which can be obtained from the concrete supplier. The EPD will indicate the embodied carbon in the concrete mix and will provide evidence that the proposed mix is within allowable limits.

### QUESTIONS?

For more information, visit the City's website or contact the Environmental & Sustainability Division.

 925-833-6630

 Scan this QR code to visit our website:

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