

The Living Building Challenge Loves Me... It Loves Me Not

Each Living Building Challenge petal can elevate project teams and owners to new heights—or at times be a case of unrequited love.

Let's look at each petal and what project teams are saying about them.



PLACE



Loves Me

It understands me: requirements are looser or stricter based on the type of site and its location.



Loves Me Not

The pro-urban system is restrictive of rural projects but hasn't laid very clear pathways for urban projects either.

WATER



Loves Me

Embrace composting toilets: they wipe out a huge percentage of many projects' water needs.



Loves Me Not

Meddlesome local regulations often make the Water Petal impossible to achieve, despite exceptions offered in LBC.

ENERGY



Loves Me

Everybody's doing it: net-zero-energy strategies are well established in many regions.



Loves Me Not

It's just not that into RECs: if you don't have space for energy production onsite, established market solutions are off-limits.

HEALTH



Loves Me

Operable windows, low-emitting interiors ... you've danced this dance with LEED and are probably doing most of it anyway.



Loves Me Not

Mysterious ways: documenting biophilia in design involves unfamiliar, vague terminology.

MATERIALS



Loves Me

Cupid smiles: LBC 3.0 solves some of the most confounding issues with this petal.



Loves Me Not

First-timers spend thousands of hours on research—and a contractor can crush them by ordering SFI wood instead of FSC.

EQUITY



Loves Me

Spread the love: this petal requires owners to think about how the building affects non-occupants.



Loves Me Not

Beware strict parking rules! Rural and urban projects alike could find themselves star-crossed.

BEAUTY



Loves Me

Simple concepts we can all love, and not hard to document. As Marcus Aurelius wrote, "Dwell on the beauty of life. Watch the stars, and see yourself running with them."

Read more about how project teams are confronting the challenges of the Living Building Challenge—and loving the process. www2.buildinggreen.com/loveLBC



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