Summary of Changes – Neighborhood Development
LEED 2009 to LEED 2012 4th public comment

Global Changes		
Definition: Block length	Throughout	• A new definition that clarifies how to measure the distance along a street for the purposes of providing certain urban design features
Definition: Circulation network	Throughout	• A new definition that uses one term to cover travel-ways of multiple modes, including varying combinations of pedestrian, bicycle, transit, and car infrastructure.
Throughout		• Added metric conversions and international equivalency terms

Smart Location and Linkage		
Prerequisite	Smart Location	• Refined which diverse uses may be counted in Option 4.
Prerequisite	Imperiled Species and Ecological Communities	• No substantive technical changes.
Prerequisite	Wetland and Water Body Conservation	• Added prohibition on land reclaimed within last 20 years
Prerequisite	Agricultural Land Conservation	• No substantive technical changes.
Prerequisite	Floodplain Avoidance	• Revised floodplain terminology to align with industry standards • Option for standard ASCE 24
Credit	Preferred Locations	• No substantive technical changes.
Credit	Brownfield Remediation	• Aligned with BD&C; broader requirements for how a site is designated as a brownfield
Credit	Access to Quality Transit	• Title change • Option for large projects eliminated • Removed option for locating on a site with low VMT
Credit	Bicycle Facilities	• Title change • Aligned with BD&C; bicycle storage determined on percentage of occupancy • Two options provided to recognize bicycle network both within the project and in the project vicinity
Credit	Housing and Jobs Proximity	• No substantive technical changes.
Credit	Steep Slope Protection	• No substantive technical changes.
Credit	Site Design for Habitat or Wetland and Water Body Conservation	• Protection of lands “in perpetuity” has been replaced with “for the purpose of long-term conservation”
Credit	Restoration of Habitat or Wetlands and Water Bodies	• Protection of lands “in perpetuity” has been replaced with “for the purpose of long-term conservation”
Credit	Long-Term Conservation Management of Habitat or Wetlands and Water Bodies	• No substantive technical changes.

Neighborhood Pattern and Design		
Prerequisite	Walkable Streets	• Clarified building height to street centerline measurement

Prerequisite	Compact Development	• No substantive technical changes.
Prerequisite	Connected and Open Community	• Prohibition for > 10% of the project area behind gates (exceptions for health care, military, and education)
Credit	Walkable Streets	• Clarified building height to street centerline measurement
Credit	Compact Development	• No substantive technical changes.
Credit	Mixed-Use Neighborhood Centers	• Deleted requirements for projects over 40 acres • Refined which diverse uses comply with requirements. • Projects with a retail component must have a transit stop nearby.
Credit	Mixed-Income Diverse Communities	• No substantive technical changes.
Credit	Reduced Parking Footprint	• Deleted bicycle storage requirements.
Credit	Street Network	• Prohibition for > 10% of the project area behind gates (exceptions for health care, military, and education)
Credit	Transit Facilities	• No substantive technical revisions.
Credit	Transportation Demand Management	• Eliminated option for peak period trip reduction; • Two options for a guaranteed ride home program and flexible work arrangements
Credit	Access to Civic and Public Space	• Modified the large project requirements to require a median park size of at least 1 acre for spaces that are a) over ½ acre and b) counted towards the overarching 90% threshold
Credit	Access to Recreation Facilities	• No substantive technical changes.
Credit	Visitability and Universal Design	• No substantive technical changes.
Credit	Community Outreach and Involvement	• No substantive technical changes.
Credit	Local Food Production	• No substantive technical changes.
Credit	Tree-Lined and Shaded Streets	• Maximum 50 feet tree spacing length.
Credit	Neighborhood Schools	• New schools must provide a legally binding warrant by time of 1st building occupancy, demonstrating the school will be open by time of 50% project occupancy

Green Infrastructure and Buildings		
Prerequisite	Certified Green Building	• Certified green building is now required to use a rating system that is accredited to the referenced ISO standard vs. “meeting” the ISO standard • Core and Shell buildings no longer required to also use Commercial Interiors
Prerequisite	Minimum Building Energy Performance	• Title change • Some building types formerly allowed to use the ASHRAE AEDG path have been eliminated, matching the BD&C rating systems • Low-rise residential requirements reference LEED for Homes
Prerequisite	Indoor Water Use Reduction	• Title change • Design performance requirements added.

Prerequisite	Construction Activity Pollution Prevention	• Western Washington Stormwater Manual replaced with a reference to the US EPA's Site Runoff Menu of BMPs
Credit	Certified Green Buildings	• Certified green building is now required to use a rating system that is accredited to the referenced ISO standard vs. "meeting" the ISO standard • Core and Shell buildings no longer required to also use Commercial Interiors
Credit	Optimize Building Energy Performance	• Title change • Low-rise residential section references LEED for Homes
Credit	Indoor Water Use Reduction	• Title change • Design performance requirements added
Credit	Outdoor Water Use Reduction	• Title change • Only projects with 2500 sf of vegetated space can use the credit (formerly 3% of land area) • Explanation of how to reduce water from the baseline.
Credit	Existing Building Reuse	• No substantive technical changes.
Credit	Historic Resource Preservation and Adaptive Use	• The National Park Service has been added to approve demolition of historic structures. • Guidelines for rehabilitation extended to restoration and preservation • Clarified requirements for buildings subject to review.
Credit	Minimized Site Disturbance in Design and Construction	• Thresholds changed.
Credit	Rainwater Management	• Title change • Method for determining amount of rain to manage and BMPs to use updated.
Credit	Heat Island	• Acceptable strategies for nonroof compliance updated. • 3 yr aged SRI values added • Hardscape requirements based on SI to align with industry standards
Credit	Solar Orientation	• No substantive technical changes.
Credit	Renewable Energy Production	• Title change • Removed reference to an energy simulation tool
Credit	District Heating and Cooling	• Method for allowing DHC systems using combined heat and power to meet this credit clarified.
Credit	Infrastructure Energy Efficiency	• No substantive technical changes.
Credit	Wastewater management	• Added reference to NSF 350 standards
Credit	Recycled Content in Infrastructure	• No substantive technical changes.
Credit	Solid Waste Management	• Title change • Clarified requirements for construction debris; asphalt, brick and concrete capped at 75%
Credit	Light Pollution Reduction	• Residential motion sensors have been replaced with BUG rating requirements for individual fixtures. • Requirements for street lighting added • Clarified how a project with multiple lighting zones complies