Living Future Energy Building Blocks for Mixed-Use Building

A Philosophy of Design: Nature’s Bounty

Buildings consume more than 41% of all energy in the United States. This fact presents tremendous potential for buildings to save a massive amount of energy. Living Future (LF) buildings are not only possible, but are healthier, and more affordable to operate than those that are traditionally designed and constructed. A LF building generates as much energy on-site as it consumes on an annual basis. This infographic illustrates many of the potential measures and strategies that can be employed to design and operate a LF mixed-use building.

A key element of any good LF building is that it takes advantage of what is provided by nature before creating mechanical systems. Daylight, ventilation, and comfortable temperatures are often available in natural form during much of the year in Sacramento. A building which uses these natural assets not only uses less energy, but also simply feels better. As humans we feel most comfortable in nature, and often these naturally derived benefits, even subtly, feel better to the building occupants.

Legend
- Heating
- * Cooling
- Hot Water
- Plug Load
- On-Site Power
- $ First Cost Impact
- Energy Efficient Impact

Energy Performance Comparison
- **EUI: 47**
- **EUI: 23**


Optimized Monthly Energy Usage

Typical Mixed-Use Building

- On-Site Renewable Power

Optimized Mixed-Use Building

- SMUD Grid Connection
- On-Site Renewable Power