Health & Happiness

To meet the LBC's Health & Happiness Petal requirements, indoor air quality must meet the highest standards and building occupants must be able to directly connect with nature. The extensive use of windows, sliding glass doors, and translucent partitions throughout Hillside Gateway maximize the amount of natural light and provide views of the outdoors, both of which are proven to improve the wellbeing and productivity of occupants.





Water

To meet the LBC's Water Petal requirements, a bioswale was incorporated into Hillside Gateway's landscape and the irrigation system and toilets are connected to the City's reclaimed "purple pipe" water network. Bioswales help recharge ground water supplies by concentrating and conveying storm water runoff while removing debris and pollution. Using reclaimed water greatly reduces reliance on fresh (potable) water, which is always a priority in our drought prone region.

Living
Building
Challenge

The Living Building Challenge (LBC) is the most ambitious green building standard in the world. The LBC is a philosophical approach to design and construction that aims to promote a truly regenerative and harmonious relationship between people and nature. Seven performance categories, known as "Petals," define the LBC standard.

These petals are Place, Water, Energy, Health & Happiness, Materials, Equity, and Beauty.

Hillside Gateway is pursuing certification for all 7 Petals, and Parkside North is pursuing certification for the Energy, Place, and Beauty Petals

Energy

To meet the LBC's Energy Petal requirements, the same amount of energy that is used by Hillside Gateway and Parkside North must be generated onsite using only renewable energy sources. This was achieved by first maximizing energy efficiency through building design, LED lighting, and a sophisticated heating and air conditioning system and then supplying the buildings' remaining energy needs with solar systems.

Beauty

To meet the LBC's Beauty Petal requirements, both buildings were designed to achieve an aesthetic that uplifts the human spirit and creates a feeling of connectedness with the natural environment and this unique place. To accomplish this, outdoor areas were made into lounge spaces where building occupants can enjoy the landscape and fresh air. Additionally, many indoor spaces have floor to ceiling windows that let in natural light and provide views of the sky and outdoor foliage.

Parkside North is home to 400+ students who

sustainably built dorms on a university campus.

get to experience living in one of the most



Equity

To meet the LBC's Equity Petal requirements, buildings must foster a just and inclusive community that enables people to participate, prosper, and reach their full potential. One of the ways the Hillside Gateway project aims to accomplish this goal is by providing universal access to nature and places by providing ample outdoor seating areas with shading where fresh air, sunlight, beautiful landscape, games and activities can be enjoyed by all.

Materials

To meet the LBC's Materials Petal requirements, only building materials that do not appear on the "Red List" were used to develop Hillside Gateway. The Red List represents materials, chemicals and elements known to pose serious risks to human health and the ecosystem. For example, metal piping was used instead of the standard PVC piping and more than 80% of the wood used in the project was sourced from forests that are certified as sustainably managed.

Parkside North's rooftop patio features a bi-facial solar panel canopy, ample seating, and native plants.

Place

To meet the LBC's Place Petal requirements, Hillside Gateway and Parkside North must demonstrate that they contribute positively to the ecology of their place and restore or enhance the ecological performance of the site. Thus, drought tolerant plants that attract pollinators were selected for the landscaping, which is maintained without the use of petrochemical fertilizers or pesticides. Additionally, to promote habitat exchange, a parcel of land equal to the size of the two project sites has been set aside for preservation on the Palos Verde Peninsula.