

**Summary**

Green Leadership in Transportation and Environmental Sustainability (GreenLITES) is an environmental sustainability rating programme for transportation project designs, operations and maintenance practices. It is a self-certification programme, developed by and for New York State Department of Transport (NYS DOT).

**Certifying body:** NYS DOT (developer) GreenLITES review team

Applicable sectors					Award types				
General civil	Transport only	Buildings	Public realm	Community / precinct	Design	As built	Operation	Planning	Other

<b>Country</b>	New York State, US	<b>Sustainability criteria</b>	There are five certification categories (available points in brackets): 1. Sustainable sites (81 points) 2. Water quality (20 points) 3. Materials & resources (66 points) 4. Energy & atmosphere (104 points) 5. Innovation/unlisted.
<b>Deployment &amp; developments</b>	<p>GreenLITES was developed using the LEED and Greenroads systems as a model. Development of the project design certification scheme began in 2008. It is mandatory for all NYSDOT competitively bid projects to follow the GreenLITES process and for all plans, specifications and estimates to contain a GreenLITES score card. Since 2008 NYSDOT has reviewed over 930 projects and have awarded: 270 certified, 56 Silver, 21 gold and 19 Evergreen certificates.</p> <p>The project solicitation tool is still a voluntary tool that may be used during the planning process by various multi-level governmental agencies in evaluating and selecting potential transportation capital program projects.</p>		Scoring levels are as follows: Non-certified 0-14, Certified 15 - 29, Silver 30-44, Gold, 45-59, Evergreen 60 & higher. Technically there is no total limit, but typically the highest rated projects score between 60 & 75 points and scores have not gone higher than 80.
<b>Applicants</b>	<p>Primarily an internal management programme for NYS DOT</p> <p>Other NY State government agencies and authorities, local municipalities and non-governmental organisations may use GreenLITES to certify federally funded transportation projects.</p>		<p>There are four levels of awards: Certified (15-29 points); Silver (30-44 points); Gold (45-59 points); Evergreen (60+ points). Performance levels were initially defined using a statistical distribution of performance levels. It is expected that this distribution will skew towards higher levels as more sustainable choices are integrated into decisions.</p> <p>Award criteria are calculated based on a standard deviation of performance. The original plan was to modify scoring ranges if necessary. Based on current practices and evaluations there has not yet been a need to do this.</p>
<b>Government endorsement</b>	This is a voluntary scheme developed by a state department.		<p>All Evergreen &amp; Gold certified projects are subject to review by the review team. In addition, all unlisted and innovative point requests, at all certification levels, are reviewed. Project designers complete the scorecard explaining what was done, reviewers reach out to designers to clarify and better explain/ document as needed. There is not the same level of "typical evidence" required compared to other rating schemes given Greenlites is based on self assessment.</p>
<b>Support to applicants</b>	<p>A "Detailed Certification Category and Credit Descriptions" is available, which outlines what is required to achieve points in each category. An excel-based rating scorecard helps to facilitate the assessment.</p> <p>Links to useful resources related to sustainability of transport infrastructure is provided on the website.</p>		<b>Assessment: scoring, performance levels, evidence collection</b>
		<b>Tailoring</b>	A modified system can be used for element-specific or maintenance projects.
		<b>Fee</b>	n/a

## Case study

Project name: NY Route 353 - Centre Street

Location: City of Salamanca, Cattaraugus County

Proponent: NYS DOT

Award: Evergreen

Brief project description: Bridge replacement and approach work with new traffic (including pedestrian) signals. The new bridge will include wide shoulders for multi-purpose uses and sidewalks on both sides. A new fishing platform will be located near the south abutment and a control levee re-established. It is envisioned that this work will help to boost this economically depressed area. It helps to restore an important transport link and incorporates environmentally sustainable practices such as: creation of new wildlife habitat, reuse of materials, multi-modal design and creation of a new recreational facility through the fishing platform.



A GreenLITES rating logo



A new fishing access area is included as part of the NY Route 353 project