# Discussion Activity: Intro to the Embodied Carbon Policy Landscape

### 1. Introductions (5-10 Minutes)

- o Introduce your name, title, and what you hope to get from the workshop/discussion
- Note: If group is larger than 10 people, we recommend breaking into 3-5 person groups to facilitate better discussion

### 2. <u>Discussion: Embodied Carbon Strategies (10-15 minutes)</u>

- What strategies do you think have the greatest potential to reduce embodied carbon in your region?
- o Is there a particular policy measure that is better suited to encouraging increased use of this strategy? Any that may <u>not</u> be as helpful? (See figure 1 for ideas.)
- What <u>barriers</u> exist to those strategies being used on more projects?
- Do you have any ideas about how policy might help <u>remove</u> some of those barriers?

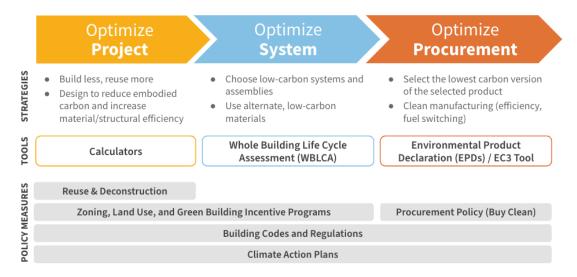


Figure 1. Matching Policy Opportunities and Embodied Carbon Reduction Strategies

## 3. <u>Discussion: Regional Policy Opportunities (15-20 minutes)</u>

- Visit the <u>CLF Current Embodied Carbon Policy Map</u>. Are there policies listed in your region? Note: If you know of an effort that specifically includes embodied carbon that's not listed in the map, make sure to share with <u>clfinfo@uw.edu!</u>
- Are there other efforts your group is aware of where embodied carbon isn't currently included, but could be? (For example, upcoming code or zoning revisions, etc.)
- Which of the policy measures introduced in the presentation (see bottom of Figure 1) feel most actionable or feasible for your region? Why?
- If time:
  - How would you define the success or impact of a policy, if it were passed? For example, after 10 years, what change or result would you want to see aside from embodied carbon reductions?
  - Which of the measures (from the list above) seems like it has the most opportunity to have a successful <u>outcome</u> or <u>impact</u>? Why?

# 4. <u>Discussion: Opportunities for Engagement (10-15 minutes)</u>

- Oo you know of any local or state agencies in your region already working on embodied carbon policy?
  - Optional: As a group, look up the sustainability or green building department, building standards/permitting department, procurement department, department of transportation, or waste management departments for your city or state and see whether they mention initiatives related to embodied carbon.
- Do you know of any organizations active in your region that are working on policy? For example, are regional sustainability/green building organizations working on policy that may be interested in embodied carbon?
- Brainstorm ways that your group may be able to interact with the organizations you identified in the future. Reference figure 2 for ideas about ways to engage in policy as a member of a CLF Hub.

# Do:

- Share resources, presentations, and model policy language
- **Identify** local/regional policy opportunities and general policy position
- Provide technical guidance and feedback on policies, including specific language
- **Collaborate** with administrative agencies and standards bodies
- Testify or respond to questions when requested by a legislator

# Don't:

- Direct lobbying
  - Example: Using the CLF logo to sign a letter of approval/support (or rejection) for a specific policy
- Grassroots lobbying
  - Example: Using the CLF network to urge individuals to contact their legislators to vote yes for a policy

Figure 2. Guidance for CLF Hubs on policy engagement activities