

Assessing TBL Returns from Infrastructure and Building Projects

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ABSTRACT

What's the true value of green? Architects and engineers face mounting pressure to balance financial, social, and environmental concerns in their designs. Eco-minded shareholders, government agencies, and facility owners are demanding to know the value of green projects. During this interactive session, participants will see examples of design professionals using economic assessment to determine Triple Bottom Line value associated with real life design solutions. They will be introduced to tools that make objective, transparent, and comparable business cases accessible to designers without engaging expensive specialty consultants. Examples will include: economic assessments for three stormwater management projects each of which considered traditional versus Green/LID solutions and a design programming project for a major medical campus. Each example used either public domain based business case evaluators or a cloud based automated Triple Bottom Line assessment. Three of the cases are mapped to Envision Sustainability Rating categories.

BIOGRAPHY

John Williams is Chairman and CEO of Impact Infrastructure, Inc. (ii) an independent third party provider of performance data for infrastructure and building projects. He spent 33 years in architecture and engineering community including 16 years as a principal owner of an international AE firm. In 2007 he worked with a team of economists and researchers at Columbia University to develop a means of measuring "green" in infrastructure and building projects. They created the Sustainable Return on Investment (SROI) Framework. In 2012 Williams founded Impact Infrastructure with the goal of reducing the cost of SROI analysis. ii created a series of Business Case Evaluators (BCEs) in conjunction with the Institute for Sustainable Infrastructure's Economics Committee. In January 2015 ii introduced AutoCASE, a cloud based automated economic assessment tool that harvests data from Building Information Modeling to allow designers to run real time TBL cases. ii assessment tools have a \$20+ Billion applied track record.