

## Advancing Sustainable Construction Practices

The American Cement Association has developed the *ACA Voluntary Guidelines for Developing a Protocol for Lower Carbon Concrete* to provide design professionals, contractors, code officials, elected representatives, non-governmental organizations, and the public with a framework for developing a lower carbon protocol for concrete. A protocol developed with this approach is intended to lower the carbon of a concrete project without sacrificing long-term performance characteristics like strength, durability, and resilience while advancing the circular economy.

### Key Highlights:

**COMPREHENSIVE CONTEXT:** This document offers a starting point for developing a lower carbon protocol for concrete.

#### ESSENTIAL SECTIONS:

- **Materials for Lower Carbon Performance:** Understand the process of choosing local and innovative materials appropriate for each application, without sacrificing performance.
- **Methods to Achieve Lower Carbon Concrete:** Learn about communication and project planning strategies for effective use of lower-carbon concrete.
- **Metrics for Success:** Discover how comprehensive metrics that demonstrate progress.

## Who Should Get This Document?

It takes teamwork to achieve success on a lower-carbon concrete project, with everyone playing a role.

- **Design Professionals:** Specify novel materials with confidence.
- **Contractors:** Ensure your teams have the information/communication/data they need for excellent execution.
- **Code Officials & Public Representatives:** Understand the breadth and depth of policies and codes while developing more effective low carbon protocols to reduce carbon without sacrificing performance. Stay informed on sustainability guidelines that can influence regional construction standards.

## Why Lower Carbon Concrete?

ACA has developed this lower carbon concrete protocol as part of its ongoing commitment to achieve carbon neutrality. Emphasizing sustainability in all stages of concrete use not only addresses environmental concerns but also meets growing regulatory and community demands for responsible construction practices. By adopting these voluntary guidelines, professionals can contribute responsibly to the built environment while ensuring long-term performance and resilience.

To access [this document](#) and learn more about the numerous initiatives undertaken as part of ACA's *Roadmap to Carbon Neutrality*, visit [www.cement.org/a-sustainable-future/reaching-our-goal/](http://www.cement.org/a-sustainable-future/reaching-our-goal/).

