# Concrete Parking in Practice

Concrete Parking in Practice is a series of publications from the Maryland Ready Mix Concrete Association (MRMCA) to help specifiers become more familiar with design and benefits of concrete parking lots.

## CPIP No. 4 LEED Regional Materials (MR Credit 5)

The intent of this credit is to increase demand for building products that are extracted and manufactured locally, thereby reducing the environmental impacts resulting from their transportation and supporting the local economy. To meet the intent of this requirement, 10% (based on cost) of the total materials must be harvested, extracted or recovered within 500 miles of the project site. An additional point is awarded for 20% regional materials. Projects with large amounts of concrete can meet the required 10% or 20% regional materials to meet this credit.


Concrete is made up of raw materials such as sand, stone, cement, and water. These materials are typically extracted, harvested, or recovered within the 500-mile LEED requirement of a concrete plant. There are several sand & gravel facilities, stone quarries, and cement manufacturing plants in the state of Maryland. This allows every ready mix plant to transport the raw materials needed to produce a yard of concrete a short distance. This in turn cuts down on the number of trucks needed on the roads in Maryland. Concrete is batched wet and needs to be placed on the job soon after the raw materials are put into the concrete mixer truck. This means that the concrete mixer truck can only travel short distances to deliver the product.

Innovation in design points can be applied for if an innovative green design strategy is used that does not fit into the point structure of the five LEED categories or if it goes significantly beyond a credit requirement in one of the existing credit categories. For example, if the project team used materials on the project such that 30% of the materials were extracted, processed and manufactured regionally then the project could receive an extra point in going significantly beyond the requirements of Materials and Resources Credit 5. Concrete contributes significantly to this credit category and therefore could be used to achieve an Innovation in Design credit.

## What is the next step?

The MRMCA provides an AIA-approved parking lot design class that may be used for Professional Development Hours (PDH's). We also participate in a national Design Assistance Program (DAP) and we cover the costs of the first project within the state of Maryland. Depending on project specifics, we will offer additional DAP projects at little or no cost. All we need are the current CAD drawings and a few pieces of project information. Contact us for more details.


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