

Vancouver Community Library

Sustainability Case Study



As the role of the library changes in our society, the Vancouver (WA) Community Library stands out as the library of the future. With over 83,000 square feet of light filled space it features a sculptural concrete stairway uniting the library's five floors of program area.

Located in the urban core of Washington's fourth largest city, the library provides the community with full library services, an early learning center, meeting rooms, abundant seating, a coffee shop, and an outdoor terrace. The almost 200-foot long, four-story atrium welcomes people to Vancouver's new civic gathering space.

Project Details

Location: *Vancouver, WA*

Building Type: *Public Facility*

Size: *83,049 SF*

Completion date: *July 2011*

Cost: *\$38 million*

Architect: *Miller Hull Partnership*

Contractor: *Howard S. Wright*

Certification: *LEED Gold*

Quick Facts

- ◆ Accessible by public transportation
- ◆ Outside views from 90% of spaces
- ◆ Use of recycled & regional materials
- ◆ Native landscaping and green roof
- ◆ Diverted 75% of construction waste
- ◆ High efficiency fixtures & appliances





Materials

- ◆ 75% of wood products FSC certified
 - Tiger wood decking
 - Ipe planters and benches
 - Reclaimed walnut floor
- ◆ Structural steel 76% recycled content
- ◆ 20% locally sourced materials
- ◆ Concrete contains recycled fly ash
- ◆ 75% construction waste diversion

Sustainable site

- ◆ Biking encouraged with public bike racks and employee bike storage
- ◆ Green roof absorbs rainfall, reducing storm water run-off
- ◆ Vegetation and organic materials on outdoor terrace reduce heat island effect
- ◆ Native plants require minimal irrigation and the system uses 50% less water

Construction Features

- ◆ Rain screen/curtain wall for superior water management and increased insulation
- ◆ Outdoor views from 90% of interior spaces
- ◆ Fritted glass to reduce heat gain and glare
- ◆ Cantilevered terrace acts as sun shade
- ◆ High efficiency, motion-activated lighting
- ◆ In-floor radiant heat
- ◆ Access floors for flexibility and longevity



Interior finishes & fixtures

- ◆ Low VOC paints, sealants & adhesives
- ◆ Hands free, low flow plumbing fixtures
- ◆ Occupancy controlled lighting systems
- ◆ Energy star rated appliances
- ◆ Renewable cork flooring
- ◆ Natural and non-toxic linoleum flooring
- ◆ Recycled rubber flooring
- ◆ High efficiency gas-fired boilers