

The Portland Observer Sustainability



Plans Drawn for Sustainability Center Facility would target green economy

The Portland City Council has directed the Portland Bureau of Planning and Sustainability and the Portland Development Commission to initiate schematic design for the Oregon Sustainability Center, a proposed facility to grow the green economy and make Oregon a world-class leader in sustainability.

"The Oregon Sustainability Center is a pioneering project. We're doing something here that's never been done before at this scale," said Portland Mayor Sam Adams. "We're seizing an opportunity to show the world that Portland's engineers, architects, developers, contractors and building professionals are at the forefront of green-building innovation."

The Oregon Congressional delegation also announced Wednesday that they have secured a \$300,000 appropriation to help de-

sign the center.

As one of the highest performing commercial buildings in the world, the proposed center would achieve triple net-zero performance in energy and water use and carbon emissions. It is designed to meet the world's most stringent green building criteria: the Cascadia Region Green Building Council's Living Building Challenge.

The design team, led by Sera Architects, Gerding Edlen Development and GBD Architects, expects to commence schematic design in mid-September.

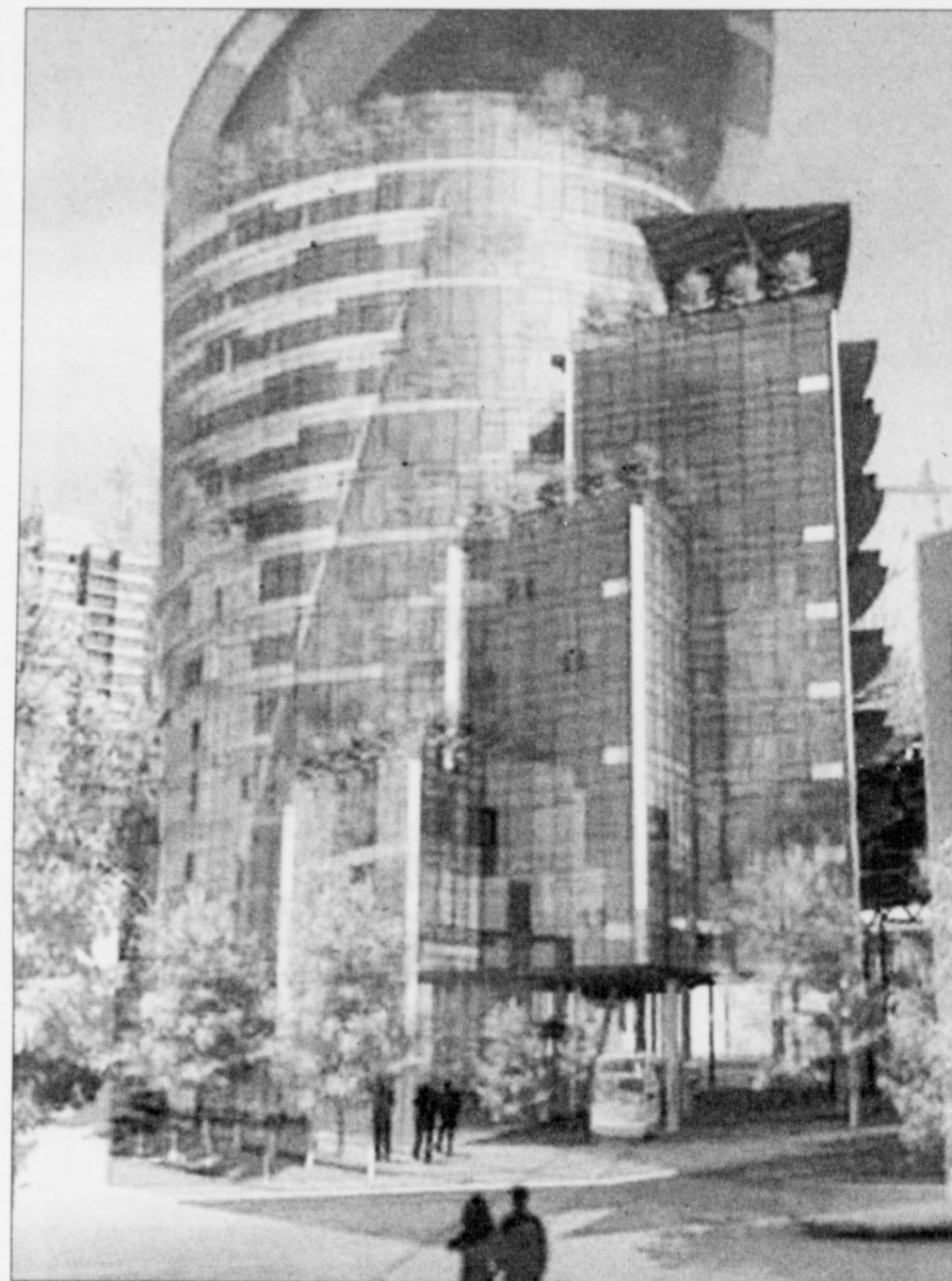
Testimony by representatives of SolarWorld, Intel and General Electric emphasized the private sector's enthusiasm for the project's job creation potential as well as its capacity to create an immediate market for Oregon products and services and incubate the commercialization of

new products.

Officials say the design and construction of the center will create more than 1,300 jobs in the near term, with workers gaining unique experience in innovative prototype building that will accommodate a growing demand for green construction.

Located on the edge of the Portland State University campus in downtown Portland, the center would bring together academic, government, nonprofit and business sectors to advance the region's innovation in sustainability.

An artist's rendering shows the proposed Oregon Sustainability Center at Portland State University, a facility that would grow the green economy and make Oregon a world-class leader in sustainability.



Oregon Department of Transportation Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Goals for Federal Fiscal Years 2011-2013

This will serve as notice of the Oregon Department of Transportation's proposed overall Disadvantaged Business Enterprise goal of 11.50% for Federal Highway Administration.

As a result of the statewide Disparity Study, ODOT has received a waiver from FHWA to allow contract goals for specific groups identified as having a significant contracting disparity. The annual goal has been calculated as 11.5%, of which 1% would be a race-conscious goal for Black American owned DBE firms and Asian American owned DBE firms. The remainder of the annual goal, 10.5%, would continue to be race- and gender-neutral. The 2011 Goal is 1.0% for Federal Transit Administration contracts and grants, and will be entirely race- and gender-neutral. This calculation is made in accordance with 49 CFR Part 26 to comply with U.S. DOT requirements.

ODOT invites all interested parties to a public meeting to discuss the proposed FFY 2011-2013 Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Goal. We'll review the proposed Goal and hear comments from the public.

When: August 23, 2010, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Where: ODOT Headquarters, 355 Capitol St. NE, Room 122, Salem

Written comments may be submitted, by mail or fax, to:

ODOT, Office of Civil Rights
Attn: C Jill Miller
355 Capitol St. NE, Salem, OR 97301
Fax: (503) 986-6382

ODOT will consider all comments and quantitative and anecdotal data in determining its final DBE goals, and will post its analysis and final goals at www.oregon.gov/ODOT/CS/CIVILRIGHTS/.

For more information, contact the ODOT Office of Civil Rights at 503-986-4350.



Appliance Rebate Offer Expands for Homeowners

Oregon's Appliance Rebate program has provided eligible low-income homeowners with a 70 percent reimbursement, up to \$2,000, for ENERGY STAR heat pumps and furnaces.

Now the program has been expanded to include eligible low-income homeowners who purchase ENERGY STAR water heaters, refrigerators, dishwashers and clothes washers.

Available rebate vouchers are distributed on a "first-come, first-served" basis. Interested Oregon

homeowners can call 1-800-453-5511 to learn about the program and apply for a rebate voucher.

After purchase and installation of eligible ENERGY STAR appliances, qualified homeowners may redeem vouchers for 70 percent of the purchase price, up to a specified maximum. Old appliances must be legally recycled, not re-sold or re-used, in order to receive rebate funds.

The program is funded by \$3.6 million of federal Recovery Act (stimulus) funds.

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