Washington State School of the Deaf - Phase II

Vancouver, Washington

Vocational Education and Support Building is the first of three phases in the larger campus master plan. The master plan seeks to create a cultural core generated between the campus' library, auditorium, gymnasium and multipurpose hall. These programs act as the hearts of the communities on campus and will allow the students to see that they are all part of a significant deaf community.

The building harbors the campus' multi-purpose space with adjoining kitchen, but is otherwise intended to function as a place for vocational education. The spaces dedicated to this purpose include a maintenance shop, automotive shop and a garden shop, supported by ancillary spaces devoted to these functions.

Control and even distribution of daylight played an important role in the multipurpose space in the building, which incorporates physically integrated assemblies of prismatic skylights, operable louvers and electric lights. Windows within this space that face out to the future plaza are shaded on their exterior from direct light and use mechanically controlled interior roller blinds to darken the interior space as necessary.

The buildings multipurpose space is located at the edge of what will someday become a central campus plaza because of this project's role in the overall campus master plan. The spaces within the building that facilitate vocational education are located on the other side of the building from the multipurpose space in order to allow it to have a strong public presence.

Beginning with the site itself, this area was a previously developed site (brownfield) that required asbestos abatement during excavation. The project's storm water runoff from roofs is directed to drywells on site, while the vegetated open spaces became rain gardens for runoff from paved surfaces. These strategies take advantage

of the maximized open space and mean that no runoff leaves the site.

Several approaches were used to reduce potable water consumption for irrigation by 68%. The landscape architectural design maximized the use of drought tolerant plant materials while minimizing high water use turf grasses. The irrigation system was designed with highly efficient irrigation heads and is controlled by a sophisticated system. The new irrigation system will also connect to the existing irrigation system in order to take advantage of these new features. Providing inclusion of water efficient fixtures within the design, the project has reduced potable water use by 32% from a calculated baseline design through the installation of dual flush water closets, low-flow urinals, and low-flow showers and sinks.

To increase energy performance, well-insulated walls, roof and glazing along with a reduced lighting power density, daylighting, premium efficiency motors, variable speed drives, efficient ground source heat pumps, and an efficient domestic hot water heater optimize this project's energy efficiency.

This completed project will set the standard for future building design at Washington State School for the Deaf.

Services

- Civil Engineering
- Landscape Architecture
- Utility Coordination
- Construction Assistance

Design Features

- Construction Cost of $8,432,819
- Completed Sept. 2009
- **LEED Gold Certified**
- Rain Gardens with Drought Tolerant Plant Materials
- Parking Design
- Upgraded Street Access on East Side of Campus

Awards

2010 Community Pride Design Award