Green Building Update

an Allen Matkins market intelligence publication



April 16, 2009

L.A. law to boost green jobs

GreenerBuildings - April 9

The Los Angeles City Council unanimously <u>passed</u> the "Green Building Retrofit Ordinance" which will create green jobs to retrofit all city-owned buildings larger than 7,500 square feet or built before 1978. Each retrofit will attempt to achieve LEED Silver. Buildings located in low-income communities will receive first priority.

Green Building Focus

CoStar study wins award

CoStar Group - April 8

The American Real Estate Society (ARES) recognized a CoStar Group green building study as the "Best Paper Published in the Journal of Real Estate Portfolio Management (JREPM)" in 2008. ARES, comprised of leading global academic and professional researchers, annually recognizes papers that explore real estate decision-making. By analyzing the extensive information available through CoStar's database of U.S. commercial properties, CoStar found that, on average, energy-efficient, sustainable buildings operated at higher occupancy levels and achieved higher rents than comparable "non-green" buildings in the same market.

Report: LEED-EB lowering operating costs

Facilities Net - April 10

The "Leonardo Academy 2009 Survey of the Costs and Benefits of LEED for Existing Buildings" (LEED-EB) shows that the cost of LEED-EB certification may not be a barrier to beginning an organization-wide LEED-EB initiative. Not only is the cost of certification less than many facility executives believed, but operating costs for LEED certified buildings are on average lower than traditional buildings. The report gathered information in three specific areas: the cost of certification, the relative cost of each LEED-EB prerequisite, and the cost of building operations. Click here for more.

CA's green home construction laws

SF Examiner - April 9

Several California municipalities are passing minimum environmental standards for new homes. For example, San Mateo, CA, will soon vote on mandatory green-building standards. Experts believe green homes are not necessarily more expensive than traditional homes.

DOE launches CREEA

CoStar Group - April 11

U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) met with top commercial real estate executives to kick off the Commercial Real Estate Energy Alliance (CREEA), a public-private partnership that will explore ways to increase the energy efficiency of new buildings. CREEA is part of the DOE's Net-Zero Energy Commercial Building Initiative (CBI), a billion-dollar program aiming to produce widespread zero-energy commercial buildings by the year 2025. CREEA includes The Walt Disney Co., MGM Mirage and the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA).

Maine approves green building resolution

Dexigner - April 9

The Portland City Council, in Maine, unanimously approved a green building ordinance. The law requires all municipal owned or occupied new construction and renovation projects over 5,000 square feet with a total construction cost (http://www.jdsupra.com/post/document/lewer.aspx?fid=137/d8947-898c-4411-8195-82fbac80948f than \$250,000, and all new city-funded private construction and renovation projects over 10,000 square feet with a total construction cost of \$250,000, be certified LEED Silver and achieve the minimum LEED Optimize Energy Performance points necessary to meet the Architecture 2030 Challenge.

Recovery and greening existing buildings

Environmental Leader - April 7

Under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Plan, \$6 billion is budgeted for increasing energy efficiency and conservation in existing federal buildings. George Ahn, CEO of Tririga, believes this marks a shift in the way we think about green buildings: existing buildings - not just new buildings - are critical to a low-carbon economy.

LEED conference in Chattanooga

Chattanooga Times Free Press - April 9

Paul von Paumgartten, dubbed the "godfather of LEED," said making buildings more environmentally friendly will pay off economically after an upfront investment. He spoke at a LEED <u>conference</u> in Chattanooga.

Notable green building projects...

Atlanta & Florida arenas are LEED certified

Fast Company - April 7

To save money and attract corporate sponsors, the Philips Arena in Atlanta, Georgia and the American Airlines Arena in Miami, Florida became the first NBA and NHL arenas in the country to be LEED-certified. Philips Arena features carpeting made of recycled materials, compact-fluorescent lamps, and stringent water conservation measures. American Airlines Arena has energy-efficient underground parking, water-conserving toilets, and carpeting designed to hold dirt and hence increase air quality.

LEED for college fitness centers

Mother Nature Network - April 13

College campuses across the nation are building LEED certified fitness centers including Pima Community College - Arizona, Longwood University - Virginia, and The University of Maine.

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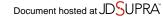
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