



OZone is a monthly newsletter published by Otak, Inc.

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PROJECTS

GREEN ROOF TESTING FOR TEMPE PROJECT



Otak has teamed with Architekton to design a new transportation center, expected to become LEED Silver, in Tempe, AZ. The facility is pushing the envelope for innovative architecture in the desert climate and incorporates a green roof on the main structure. A green roof? In the desert? To test the idea, a research team was formed at Arizona State University (ASU) headed by Vidar Lerum whose team established five test plots at ASU's Solar Lab using different configurations of soil, plants, and irrigation. One of the test plots was found to lower the roof's ambient temperature by 20 to 30 degrees when the outside temperature was 110 degrees. The plant material was watered minimally at about 2 gph twice a week over the

duration of the study during the summer and fall of 2005. The results of this study provide evidence that a green roof can help reduce heat island effect, even in the extreme hot, dry environment of the desert southwest.

Please email Robin Rogers (robin.rogers@otak.com) for a copy of the report from ASU. For further information on the Tempe Transportation Center, which is under development, email Gary Hartnett (gary.hartnett@otak.com).



Fig-3: 'Green Roof' case analysis- Five test boxes



Fig-4: 'Tempe Transit Center Roof Garden Test Study' - Five test boxes

Tempe Transit Roof Garden Test Study, Summer 2005

Illustration by Arizona State University

URBAN HOUSING RECLAIMS BROWNFIELD SITE



The Yards at Union Station, designed by Otak in Portland, OR, provides a model for successful urban renewal. This River District property in the downtown area was transformed from a quasi-industrial brownfield into a viable, mixed-use neighborhood with vegetated open space. Adjacent to the historic Union Station, this project provides urban infill housing at 100 units per acre on its 7.5-acre site. The four- and five-story wood-frame buildings house mixed-income and workforce residents with both rental and for-sale units, including some street-level retail space. As a transit-oriented development (TOD), residents have access to train, commuter rail, light rail, buses, and pedestrian walkways. For further information on infilling your urban site or reclaiming industrial land for housing, email us at ozone@otak.com.

HISTORIC ANNIVERSARY COMES TO A CLOSE



Skamokawa information kiosk on the Lewis and Clark Trail

On May 5, 1806, the Lewis and Clark expedition—Corps of Discovery—departed Washington State to return to Virginia after setting out to find the Northwest Passage in 1803. Otak has helped mark this anniversary through a sweeping program of cultural, historical, and environmental



relevance to honor the explorers. Otak worked with Washington State Parks to create information

kiosks and waysides at nine sites across the state, plus interpretive panels at an additional 46 sites. Using natural materials, the kiosks are designed to reflect elements of the landscape in the way members of the expedition might have seen them, as well as incorporating American Indian architectural styles.

NEWS

WHERE TO LIVE DURING AN OIL CRISIS



Out of the 50 largest U.S. cities, both Portland (#6) and Seattle (#8) were chosen in the top-ten for readiness to

respond to an extended oil crisis based on city commute-to-work, regional transportation, sprawl, city freeway/street congestion, local food, and wireless networking.

GREEN TELEVISION



A new website, <http://www.green.tv/>, is devoted to films from a range of environmental organizations and independent filmmakers. See free, online, short films on water, climate change, land and people, among other environmental topics.

ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY COMPUTER BEHAVIOR

A special report by Information Week provides tips on how to be environmentally friendly while enjoying the benefits of technology. For example, does your computer manufacturer recycle and if so, how

and where? Read more at <http://www.informationweek.com/>

PEOPLE



Jodie Vice, a planner in Otak's Seattle office, has been on the Board of Futurewise for three years. Futurewise is a Washington public interest group working to promote healthy communities and cities while protecting farmland, forests and shorelines today and for future generations. The group is actively involved in land use and transportation issues around the state. Jodie is currently on the executive and fundraising committees.

UPCOMING EVENT: Jodie invites everyone to attend the Futurewise Auction and Dinner to be held at the Bell Harbor Conference Center on Saturday, May 6th. Please call (206) 343-0681 or email her at jodie.vice@otak.com for further information.

READING

SEATTLE HOME



*Photo Credit: Benjamin Benschneider,
The Seattle Times*

Otak architect, Mark Millett and the house that he designed for his family are featured in the April 9 Seattle Times Pacific Northwest Sunday magazine.

LIGHT RAIL

The April issue of Eco-Structure magazine features an article about Otak's design for the Tacoma Link Light Rail, titled Greening Transportation.



2006 GREEN BUILDING UPDATE



This is a downloadable eBook available from iGreenBuild.com as a companion to Jerry Yudelson's popular **Insider's Guide to Marketing**

Green Buildings. It provides a comprehensive look at the events and trends of 2005 that are shaping the rapid growth of the green building industry, along with information on green building market sectors and LEED registered project data not available from any other sources. The cost is \$20.

FROM THE EDITOR

WILD AND URBAN ACCESSIBILITY



In a surprising feat of backwards innovation, one man has come up with an old idea: travel by horse and buggy to several wild areas near San Francisco. This particular transportation service, however, provides overland wilderness access to people with disabilities; riders have a unique opportunity to enjoy scenic natural areas while perched on wheelchair accessible, horse-drawn carriages.

Michael Muir is the man whose idea this was—spurred by his own inability to access his favorite natural places

AWARDS

BELLEVUE STREETSCAPE



The American Council of Engineering Companies of Washington, awarded Otak a Bronze Award for Exceeding Owner and Client's Needs for its design of the 156th Avenue NE Roadway Improvements for the City of Bellevue. Otak recommended several functionality and aesthetic improvements to enhance traffic patterns, pedestrian facilities, and overall safety, while integrating a public art program to reflect the City's culture as well as its progress.

after becoming disabled by multiple sclerosis. As a life-long horseman, he figured he could still get to the woods with a little help from his equine friends. The great grandson of John Muir (founder of the Sierra Club), Michael collaborated with the Muir Heritage Land Trust (<http://www.muirheritagelandtrust.org/>) to introduce, or reintroduce, disabled people to a world usually beyond their reach. Muir himself has driven horses more than five thousand miles through five countries since January 2001.



While there is no comparison to Muir's remarkable efforts, Otak is working on a project that is arguably not wilderness and won't require horse and buggy for access, but nevertheless will provide greater accessibility to wheelchairs when

completed in August. Otak landscape architect and planner, Curtis LaPierre, led a team to design improvements to Occidental and Pioneer Place Parks in the historic Pioneer Square district of Seattle. He specified smooth, flat pavers of concrete and granite that will allow easier rolling (and walking). In addition, the old, irregular pavers that limited park access to many wheelchair-bound people will be salvaged and recycled into new park features such as planters and low walls. LaPierre points out that the artwork and totems will also now be more accessible and viewable to the disabled. We'll feature more about this project when it's complete.

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Otak is a member of



Parting Shot by Lisa Zelenetz — Snoqualmie Falls with Mt. Si in the background

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