



# OZONE

creating more sustainable communities on every level

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ARCHITECTURE • ENGINEERING • LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE • PLANNING • ENVIRONMENTAL • SURVEY

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## PROJECTS



### HEALTHY ARCHITECTURE FOR CHILDREN

The award-winning McCormack-Matthews Head Start Center is a tribute to the small occupants who spend their days inside and out. When it comes to children, studies have shown that they learn better and are healthier with daylit spaces and natural ventilation (see EPA bulletin in IAQ and student performance). So when Otak designed this building and site with the kids in mind, we made sure that each of the six classrooms features operable clerestory windows, plus lower view windows so the children and teachers can see outside. In addition, the hall and common area are equipped with accordian-style doors that completely open the spaces to the outdoor play area. Radiant floor heating will further increase thermal comfort as well as save energy. Low-toxic paints and wheatboard paneling help maintain superior indoor air quality and the wheatboard also utilizes a renewable agricultural byproduct. Varied ceiling heights and sound-absorbing materials aid in acoustic comfort and low-flow plumbing fixtures reduce water use inside. Outside, stormwater planters and a drywell help minimize stormwater runoff and native plantings naturally use less potable water for irrigation. The Head Start Center is a two-story 14,000 SF building that is a cornerstone of the historic Rosemont Commons redevelopment project in North Portland. To find out how Otak can help with your project email us at [ozone@otak.com](mailto:ozone@otak.com).

### PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION EASES CONGESTION

Ever on the path of facilitating public transportation to help unclog our congested roadways and reduce vehicle emissions, Otak completed one large project in New Mexico recently and participated in the groundbreaking of another project in Arizona.

**NEW MEXICO** As the station platform architect on the Rail Runner commuter train in Albuquerque, Otak incorporated public art, as well as regional cultural identity, into the design. The 42-mile alignment used existing track and includes Park-and-

## NEWS

### GRANTS OFFERED FOR GREEN BUILDING

King County, WA, is offering Green Building Grants for projects seeking LEED certification. Applications are being accepted for 2006 grant awards between \$15,000-\$25,000. The grants are designed to encourage more sustainable development practices in King County and to help offset potential added costs of design, modeling, permitting, and for LEED registration and documentation. Public and private projects in early design in King County are eligible for grant funding. Grant applications are due Friday, November 17th and are available on the website. For more information contact Katie Spataro with King County's Green Building Program at (206) 263-6037.

### GREEN TELEVISION

Green building launches into somewhat mainstream television this fall on PBS with a new show devoted to the details of green building techniques and materials. During the first season of Building Green viewers will follow the start to finish progression of an innovative, straw bale home being built in Santa Barbara, CA. More than 75 percent of the PBS stations nationwide plan to air the show, starting this fall. Listings for specific stations and airtimes will be posted on the website station finder. To view a promo and to see what will be covered in each of the 13 episodes, visit <http://www.buildinggreentv.com>.

### CITIES: HOW TO GREEN THE PERMIT PROCESS

If you're interested in how your city can become greener and you're planning to attend the largest green building conference and trade show in the world this month in Denver, check out Greening the Building Permit Process: A How-To Session for Local Municipalities taught by King County, WA's, Katie Spataro and Cynthia Moffit. Presenting at

ride lots at each of the outlying stations where thousands commute into the City each day. Project architect, Dan Santos says the station canopies and platforms are designed for maximum passenger space and experience, along with considerations for weather, security, and usability.



*Station platform designed by Otak*

**ARIZONA** The groundbreaking for the Tempe Transportation Center provides an exciting leap of faith into the future. This mixed-use transit center will be a sustainable desert structure that strategically uses shade, glazing, vegetation, and wastewater to achieve a comfortable environment indoors and out. The result of Otak's collaboration with Architekton, the design aims to be the first LEED-certified transit center in the United States and the second LEED-certified building in Arizona. The center also acts as the terminus of a 20.3-mile system that will feature a proprietary vegetated cooling system on bus platforms, according to project architect, Gray Hartnett.



*A visualization of the Tempe Transportation Center*

### WHAT MAKES IT GREEN?

It turns out that even sewers can be "greened" a little bit. When a new trench had to be dug for the City of Kirkland, WA's, emergency sewer system, it was necessary to remove a section of asphalt from the roadway to make room for the pipes. Rather than dump the asphalt at the landfill, it was ground on-site and used as trench backfill. This saved on the

use of virgin materials, dumping fees,



costs associated with transporting the new and old materials, and recycled a resource on the site. It's not very glamorous, but the project is helping the City provide sanitary sewer service to

areas—not served by public sewer—that are experiencing problems or failing septic systems. Otak provided civil engineering and surveying services for this project that involved the planning and design of approximately 4,500 LF of new sanitary sewer in five different locations throughout Kirkland neighborhoods.

## RESOURCES

### CALCULATE A VEHICLE'S EMISSIONS



TerraPass allows you to tally your car's emissions by year and model. You can also tally how much CO<sub>2</sub> your flying produces (planes use about 100 gallons of fuel per passenger on a cross-country trip). TerraPass attempts to balance the scales in favor of clean energy by selling a "TerraPass" in exchange for your emissions: the larger your vehicle, the more you pay. The money is then invested in clean energy such as wind and biomass. TerraPass is third-party verified as having eliminated 150 million pounds of CO<sub>2</sub> pollution by funding clean energy projects in the last two years.

### ENVIRONMENTAL MAPS



GRID-Arendal, is an official United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) center located in Southern Norway that offers a vast resource of online maps by region, theme, or collection. GRID-Arendal's mission is to provide environmental information, communications, and capacity building services for information management and assessment. As such, the center provides a wealth of global graphic

information, analysis of climate change, environment, and poverty, environment and security, the urban environment and sustainable development through education. It is a world leader in environmental cartographic products and graphics that include information on radioactive waste, pollution, solid waste, graphs, charts, reports, and much more.

## PEOPLE

### NEW LEED ACCREDITED PROFESSIONALS

Otak's two newest LEED Accredited Professionals are Todd Chase, a senior project manager, and Hakan Cete, an architect, both in our Lake Oswego, OR, office. The LEED exam to obtain accredited professional status is designed to test understanding of green building practices and principles, as well as familiarity with LEED requirements, resources, and processes.



When asked about his new status as a sustainability professional **Todd** replied, "Who says you can't teach an ol' dog new tricks?" He has

24 years experience in planning, with the last 14 at Otak. He primarily manages mixed-use master plans and economic development/funding strategies for public clients. When not working ("an increasingly rare event," he adds), Todd hangs out with his family -- wife Kim plus two teenagers -- and windsurfs in the Columbia River Gorge.



**Hakan**, an architect in Otak's headquarters, responds, "I think the land I came from, Mesopotamia in Eastern Turkey, is not only the place

of the birth of civilization, but may also be where the first ideas of sustainable life were practiced. After learning more about LEED, I have been able to make more of a connection to why the houses in the Turkish villages have roofs that are built from compacted soil, the walls are built from rammed earth, the south windows are high and small, and why most of them have a courtyard with a small water fountain in the middle. The answers are all in the LEED reference guide and besides that, LEED has given me the scientific understanding for such

sustainability approaches in the big picture."

### LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT



Ayako Nakagawa recently received her license as a landscape architect in Washington state. Based out of Otak's Kirkland, WA,

office, Ayako has an undergraduate degree in civil engineering and a Master's degree in landscape architecture from the University of Washington in Seattle. Ayako works in Otak's water and natural resources group primarily on stormwater, ecological restoration, and roadway projects.

### WETLANDS EXPERT SHARES KNOWLEDGE



Dyanne Sheldon, Otak's wetlands guru, was invited by the Army Corps of Engineers and the Seattle Aquarium to conduct training in an

all-day workshop on the ecology of wetlands for land professionals in Seattle. Taught at Carkeek Park Environmental Learning Center, the workshop featured classroom and field study, and provided an opportunity for face-to-face conversations with experts and regulators to learn more about policy, regulations, and wetlands management.

## AWARDS



Courtney McFadden, Otak's Puget Sound Marketing Manager, recently received the James Robertson Award for outstanding service in

public works from the American Public Works Association (APWA). Courtney is one of only three women to have received this award. For the last eight years, she has organized popular bi-annual speaker luncheons as part of the organization's goal to improve professional competency, promote the exchange of ideas, and bring relevant topics to public attention. She also collaborated on Project of the Year awards presentations and conference exhibits. Otak is represented in APWA with more than 30 staff members from Washington, Oregon, and Arizona.

## NEWS

GreenBuild, the US Green Building Council's annual green conference that drew more than 12,000 last year, Spataro and Moffit will hold an interactive seminar that shows how to develop an annual work program to promote sustainable development, provide examples of incentives for residential and commercial green projects, how to host an internal training series for permit review staff working on green projects, provide ideas for turning the permit office into a resource center for sustainable development, and develop demonstration projects that can influence code changes.

### BIKE, WALK, RIDE?

Around Washington State, one group is attempting to find solutions to transportation issues, including expanded options for light rail, busses, biking, walking, and even driving alone. Comprised of citizen groups, businesses, public agencies, and individuals, since 1993 the Transportation Choices Coalition (TCC), has positively contributed to public policy on issues such as biofuels, commuter trip reduction, and the Regional Transportation Investment District. Otak sponsored TCC's recent annual celebration and auction in Seattle.

### WANT TO SAVE ENERGY? TURN OFF THE COMPUTER WHEN NOT IN USE

Two percent of electricity consumption in the US is estimated to go towards powering the Internet. Much of this energy is wasted, however, according to a study by Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. The study showed that 60 percent of all desktop PCs in commercial buildings remain fully powered during nights and weekends, with power management usually disabled.



## FROM THE EDITOR

### MAKING IT GREEN: A SCHOOL IN NEED OF ATTENTION

One way to green a school is to plant some trees, flowers, and grass. That's exactly what 350 volunteers did last month at the Bailey Gatzert public elementary school located in the Central District of Seattle.

The grade school is home to a diverse student population, with 16 different languages spoken amongst the student body. It is also one of three homeless sites in Seattle schools, and 90 percent of its student population receives free or reduced lunch. There are almost 400 K-5th grade students enrolled in the school that provides educational community outreach, special education programs for children with learning disabilities, and after-school care programs in conjunction with several community partners. Named for Bailey Gatzert, the eighth mayor of Seattle who also founded Seattle's first synagogue and managed a hardware store with his wife's family, the school grounds also had lapsed into disrepair.

As a member of NAIOP (National Association of Industrial and Office Properties), Otak staff members were excited when that organization's annual community enhancement project intersected nicely with our expertise and abilities. Led by Bill Stevens, 20 Otakians from our Kirkland and Seattle offices joined about 350 other volunteers to improve the grounds of Bailey-Gatzert. The improvements included landscaping, building garden/planter boxes, creating as well as upgrading steps and walking paths, and painting. Approximately \$55,000 was donated in equipment and supplies for the day, not including labor! The school also received support from the Seattle Parks Foundation to raise funds for and design a new play area that was completed in August.

Enjoy!

Robin Rogers



*Otak's team of volunteer landscapers*

Otak is a member of



Parting Shot by Fredda Tone — *Fall in Central Park, New York, NY*

## READING

### GREENING A HOME



Finally, everything you always wanted to know about green homes but didn't know who to ask. Alex Wilson, a name familiar to most people in the green building

industry and executive editor of Environmental Building News, has published a tell-all book, *Your Green Home*, on how to achieve a sustainable home.

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