## **ENVIRONMENTAL FEATURES at the Ballard Branch of The Seattle Public Library** 5614 22nd Ave. N.W., Seattle, WA 98107 • (206) 684-4089 • www.spl.org

Visitors to the new Ballard Branch of The Seattle Public Library will see a smorgasbord of inventive environmental features – from the planted "green roof" to pools of natural light in the underground parking garage.

## **Key features include:**

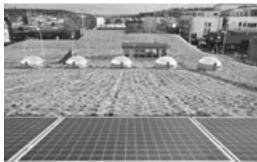
- 18,000+ low-water-use plants on the "green roof." The plants provide insulation and reduce water that otherwise would rush into storm drains.
- "Notch and tab" furniture designed by Bohlin Cywinski Jackson. The tables and chairs are cut from a single sheet of laminated wood to reduce waste. The furniture slides together no screws, no nails, no hardware.
- Sleek exterior metal chairs. The chairs are formed by bending a single sheet of metal into the right shape, which reduces waste.
- 17 solar panels on the roof and solar film in the windows of the adjacent Neighborhood Service Center. The Seattle City Light Green Power Program, which provided the solar equipment, will monitor how much electricity it produces.
- Rooftop scientific devices that measure wind speed and direction, sunlight and the sound of rain. The artwork – LED (light-emitting diode) displays and an audio composition of Ballard-area sounds – is derived from the weather data.
- Building designed to shade harsh light and take advantage of natural daylight, decreasing need for artificial light. Seven skylights at key points.
- Occupancy sensors that automatically control lights in offices and enclosed spaces.
- Recycled carpet, glass, ceramic and ceiling tiles.
- Environmentally friendly adhesives, sealants, and paints.
- Ventilation systems that monitor indoor air quality.
- Waterless urinals in restrooms.
- Light wells in the parking garage that provide pools of natural light to help with way-finding and security.

## More about the "green roof"

The contractor used a big nozzle to blow the dirt onto the roof and work crews moved it around in wheelbarrows. A biodegradable coconut fiber mat on top of the 4-inch thick dirt helps the plants get established. Visitors may view the green roof from a periscope in the Ballard Branch.







Green roof and solar panels.



Metal chair.

Interior furniture.



Observation area.

## **Plant list:**

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Achillea tomentosa	Woolly yarrow
Armeria maritima	Sea pink, sea thrift
Carex inops (pensylvanica)	Long-stoloned sedge
Eriphyllum lanatum	Oregon sunshine
Festuca rubra	Red creeping fescue
Festuca idahoensis	Idaho fescue
Phlox subulata	Creeping phlox
Saxifrage cespitosa	
Sedum oreganum	Oregon stonecrop
Sedum album	White stonecrop
Sedum spurium	Two-row stonecrop
Sisyrinchium idahoensis	Blue-eyed grass
Thymus serphyllum	Thyme
Triteleia hyacintha	Fool's onion

