



LOS ANGELES PUBLIC LIBRARY

LIBRARY NEWS

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Silver Lake Branch to be Eco-Friendly LEED-Certified “Gold Standard” Building

The Silver Lake Branch of the Los Angeles Public Library will be the city’s newest eco-friendly “green” library when it opens in 2009.

The 13,600-square-foot building is part of the city’s Sustainable Design Implementation Program (SDIP), which uses the LEED-New Construction rating system developed by the U.S Green Building Council. The U.S Green Building Council has four certification levels (Certified, Silver, Gold, Platinum) awarded according to achievement as evaluated by points using the LEED scorecard.

The following outlines a few of the design measures employed at the Silver Lake Branch to attain Gold certification.

1. **Alternative Transportation:** A shower and changing room will be provided for library employees who choose to cycle to work.
2. **Landscape & Exterior Design to Reduce Heat Island:** Additional shade trees, covered parking, and “Energy Star” reflective roof were be provided to reduce the site’s heat absorption
3. **Light spill:** Reduce horizontal and vertical light spill by selection of fixture types to help preserve “night sky”.
4. **Water Efficient Landscaping:** The selection of drought tolerant and local species to reduce the use of potable water for irrigation by 50%.
5. **Water Use Reduction:** Selection of low-flow plumbing fixtures and highly efficient landscape irrigation system will reduce water consumption by 30%.
6. **Optimize Energy Performance:** The building will be 37% more energy efficient than stringent Title 24 code requirements, utilizing efficient mechanical systems, increased insulation, double glazing with high-efficiency glass coatings, and naturally lit reading rooms with automatic light fixture dimming.
7. **Power generation:** A full array of rooftop photovoltaic panels will generate electricity from the sun. A new integrated photovoltaic skylight demonstration project is included at the entry to increase the output and provide educational benefits. Lobby display will monitor energy production.
8. **Fundamental Refrigerant Management:** The HVAC system is designed to operate without environment-harming CFC-based refrigerants.
9. **Green Power:** At least 70% of the Library’s electrical requirements will be provided through contracts to encourage the production of renewable energy.
10. **Construction Waste Management:** Over 75% of the non-hazardous construction debris was recycled.
11. **Recycled Content:** By completion, least 45% of the cost of construction will have been spent on recycled materials.
12. **Regional Materials:** Approximately 45% of the total materials used to construct the library are from sources within 500 miles of the project site, thus reducing the greenhouse gasses.
13. **Rapidly Renewable Materials:** Rapidly renewable materials such as bamboo flooring and cabinetry are utilized for the construction.
14. **Low Emitting Adhesives, Solvents, Paints and Carpet:** Materials specified for the Library meet the standards to minimize the emission of toxins into the atmosphere.
15. **Green Housekeeping:** The Library is committed to the use of cleaning products that comply with Green Seal’s GS-37 Standard.