

City of Portland and Energy Trust of Oregon Award \$425,000 In Green Building Grants to Innovative Development Projects

By [ADMIN](#) | Published: JUNE 25, 2009

Three local green building projects showcase latest green technologies and practices

Portland, Ore—Today, the City of Portland and Energy Trust of Oregon, Inc., announced three building projects that will receive a combined total of \$425,000 in grants from the Green Investment Fund (GIF), a five-year, \$2.5 million grant fund created to spur innovation in green building technologies and practices in Portland.

The GIF is a competitive program that awards grants to innovative and comprehensive projects that excel at energy efficiency, on-site stormwater management, water efficiency and waste prevention. The GIF is a collaboration among the City of Portland's Bureau of Planning and Sustainability (BPS), Water Bureau, Bureau of Environmental Services and Energy Trust of Oregon.

"For Portland to remain America's most sustainable city, we need our entrepreneurs and engineers to keep innovating and finding new ways to push the envelope of sustainability," said Mayor Sam Adams. "These projects demonstrate Portlanders' strong commitment to green building and sustainable site development. Portland's true advantage is the creativity of our talented green building professionals."

In addition to supporting Portland's green building industry, the GIF also produces resources that help inform future projects. For example, the GIF program includes post-occupancy monitoring that evaluates each project's performance relative to pre-construction predictions. These reports, along with photos and project updates about current and previous GIF projects, are available at www.portlandonline.com/bps/gif.

2009 Green Investment Fund Grant Recipients

Blanchet House of Hospitality

Blanchet House of Hospitality is a charitable organization dedicated to providing hot food and temporary housing to those in need. Offering breakfast, lunch, and dinner, the mission serves between 600-800 meals per day, six days a week at no charge to its guests, and has twenty nine men currently enrolled in their housing program. Blanchet is undertaking an ambitious new building project, which is targeting LEED Platinum. The proposed building, which is adjacent to its current location in Old Town/Chinatown, includes a variety of high performance features. Key goals for the project include net-zero-energy and net-zero water for the residential portion of the building. The project plans to incorporate rainwater collection, tenant metering, heat recovery from the kitchen and an ecoroof with an outdoor terrace. Most importantly, the new facility will create a healthy and vibrant environment for those individuals being served by the mission.

Pearl Family Housing

When complete in early 2011, Pearl Family Housing will provide 138 affordable rental units in Portland's Pearl District for families with children earning less than 60 percent of median family income. The building is designed to be at least 25 percent more efficient than the ASHRAE standard. The building will have an innovative ventilation and exhaust system. Every apartment will have fresh conditioned air distributed directly into the apartments and will have continuous exhaust vents in the kitchen and bathroom. A heat recovery system in the attic will use the heat from the exhaust to preheat the outdoor air in the winter. In conjunction with air source heat pumps, this system not only saves energy, but also provides higher indoor air quality for tenants. The complex also features "dashboard" devices in 20 percent of the apartments to provide real time feedback to residents on the amount of electricity they're using. A 31,000 square foot ecoroof and a stormwater filter for the courtyard area will treat 100 percent of the stormwater onsite.

XVI Vernon Place Development Project

XVI Vernon Place will be a mixed-use infill project with ground floor retail and 48 upper-level apartments located in the Vernon Neighborhood of NE Portland. The project is attempting to meet the Living Building Challenge and achieve net-zero energy use through a variety of energy efficiency and production technologies. The project will manage 100 percent of its stormwater through infiltration, rainwater harvesting and a 10,000 square foot ecoroof. The project also seeks to achieve net-zero water use, with occupants' water coming entirely from captured stormwater, greywater or closed loop water systems.

Green Investment Fund Collaborators

The City of Portland Bureau of Planning and Sustainability (BPS) was created in 2009 when Portland City Council merged the Bureau of Planning with the Office of Sustainable Development. The Bureau of Planning has had an exceptional record of guiding Portland's growth and development toward the thriving, livable city that it is today. The Office of Sustainable Development has pioneered many policies and programs that integrate environmental, economic, and social benefits. This new bureau will ensure that sustainability principles are thoroughly integrated into the core of Portland's planning, urban design and government operations, strengthening Portland's position as the global epicenter of sustainable practices and commerce.

The Bureau of Environmental Services is Portland's Clean River agency, treating Portland's wastewater, providing stormwater management services, and working in Portland watersheds to reduce stormwater pollution, restore native vegetation, and improve the quality of water in our rivers and streams. Details on the City's sustainable stormwater management practices can be found at www.portlandonline.com/bes

The Portland Water Bureau operates the system that delivers high-quality drinking water to more than 787,000 people in the Portland metropolitan area. In addition to protecting public health, the Portland Water Bureau delivers conservation programs for residential and commercial customers. www.portlandonline.com/water

Energy Trust of Oregon, Inc., is an independent nonprofit organization dedicated to energy efficiency and renewable energy development. The organization's mission is to change how Oregonians produce and use energy by investing in efficient technologies and renewable resources that develop new sources of clean energy, help Oregonians lower their energy bills, stimulate the economy and protect the environment. www.energytrust.org