



Contact:
Suzanne M. Thinnes
Communications Manager
4400 Forbes Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15213
412.578.2458 (office)
412.983.9409 (cell)

For Immediate Release

Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh - Woods Run Awarded Prestigious LEED® Silver Green Building Certification

(PITTSBURGH, PA – April 5, 2010) Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh (CLP) announced today that the renovation of its Woods Run library has been awarded LEED® Silver certification by the U.S. Green Building Council. LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) is the nation's preeminent program for the design, construction and operation of high performance green buildings.

The LEED building rating system is a guideline for combining environmental stewardship and life cycle cost benefits of investing in good design. Projects that use the LEED rating system are evaluated in the following categories: sustainable site design, water efficiency, materials and resources, energy and atmosphere and interior environmental quality.

To commemorate this tremendous accomplishment, the Library will host a free Earth Day celebration with family activities on Thursday, April 22 from 4-7 pm at CLP – Woods Run (1201 Woods Run Avenue). Holly Childs, Executive Director, Green Building Alliance, will join Dr. Barbara K. Mistick, President and Director, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, in a plaque dedication marking the LEED Silver certification.

CLP - Woods Run achieved LEED certification for its strategies to reduce energy use, minimize water consumption, admit plentiful natural light, utilize passive solar controls and provide a clean, high-quality environment for its occupants. By using less energy and water, LEED certified buildings save money for families, businesses and taxpayers; reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and contribute to a healthier environment for residents, workers and the larger community.

“Buildings that are renovated under the Library’s Capital Campaign provide valuable savings by reducing energy costs,” said Dr. Mistick. “Achieving LEED Silver status for our Woods Run library reinforces Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh’s mission to provide vital services to community members, creating not just a sustainable building but a sustainable community.”

“Building operations are nearly 40% of the solution to the global climate change challenge,” said Rick Fedrizzi, President, CEO & Founding Chair, U.S. Green Building Council. “While climate change is a global problem, innovative organizations like Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh are addressing it through local solutions.”

LEED Certification of CLP - Woods Run was based on a number of green design and construction features that positively impact the project itself and the broader community. These features include:

Connectivity to existing neighborhoods and resources. By being located within walking distance of residences, businesses, schools and other community assets, CLP - Woods Run provides a significant enhancement to the livability of the neighborhood. Further, quick access to public transit promotes accessibility of the Library to residents throughout the city and reduces reliance on private vehicles.

Preservation and enhancement of open space. CLP - Woods Run includes a commitment to preserve the green open space of the Library’s grounds, which contributes to the overall character of the neighborhood, maintains wildlife habitat, increases storm water infiltration on the site and reduces the impact of urban heat islands.

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ADD 1: Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh - Woods Run **Awarded Prestigious LEED® Silver Green Building Certification**

Reduction of water usage. By using water-conserving plumbing fixtures, including dual flush toilets and low-flow sinks, CLP - Woods Run reduces its water usage by more than 30%. In addition, the use of drought tolerant native plantings eliminated the need for installation of a landscape irrigation system.

Reduced energy usage. By installing new high-efficiency mechanical systems, increasing insulation values, installing exterior sunshades and replacing failing windows with high-performance insulated glazing, CLP - Woods Run achieved an energy cost savings of more than 15% above that required by current building codes.

Reuse of existing and reclaimed building materials. CLP -Woods Run's renovation not only maintained the majority of the original building shell, but made use of building materials that had been decommissioned from other facilities. These included reusing an air handler from the Squirrel Hill library and installing a raised access floor system that had previously been installed in a building in Buffalo, New York. This approach reduces the amount of new resources that are invested in the building, conserving both embodied energy and capital dollars.

Reduction in construction waste. By implementing a stringent waste management policy during the construction phase, the General Contractor ensured that more than 95% of construction waste materials, including those from demolition and day-to-day operations, were kept out of landfills and were instead recycled.

Use of building products with high recycled content and manufactured within 500 miles of the facility. More than 50% of the materials used on the project were manufactured within 500 miles of the facility, with more than 20% of the material consisting of recycled content. The use of regional and recycled materials in the project reduces the energy required for the project and supports the local building industry and economy.

Improved indoor air quality. Through the specification of materials with low volatile organic compound (VOC) content, and increased ventilation, CLP - Woods Run provides customers and staff with improved indoor air quality.

Natural daylight and views. New high-efficiency windows provide not only strong visual connection to the neighborhood, but bring natural daylight into all of the inhabited spaces of the library. This reduces the need for artificial lighting and improves the overall quality of light within the space.

Designed by Pittsburgh-based Loysen + Kreuthmeier Architects, the building's renovation was completed in the summer of 2006. Originally constructed in the early 1960's, CLP - Woods Run had been conceived as a "pavilion in the park" structure. However, design changes made during the original construction and the subsequent passage of time had not been kind to the building. Full-height brick walls prevented views into and out of the building and isolated it from the neighborhood. Failing mechanical systems and lack of thermal insulation meant that even this small 5,000 square foot facility demanded high energy costs.

The renovation of the facility reconnects the building to its site through the introduction of glass and aluminum storefront that expands the views into and out of the building. The renovation included new mechanical systems and thermal insulation throughout, as well as new lighting and the introduction of daylighting in all occupied spaces. The resulting improvement in energy performance has reduced the Library's utility usage, and has dramatically improved the physical comfort of both the customers and staff.

"LEED certification is important as it serves as a concrete measure that a building has met well-established standards for sustainable design and construction." said Karen Loysen, principal of Loysen + Kreuthmeier Architects. "Achieving LEED Silver certification for CLP - Woods Run represents a tremendous collaboration between the client, the designers and the contractors."

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ADD 2: Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh - Woods Run **Awarded Prestigious LEED® Silver Green Building Certification**

Community members interested in learning more about Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh renovations and how they can help protect Pittsburgh's library system may view information online at www.carnegielibrary.org.

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About Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh

Engaging our Community in Literacy and Learning

Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh contributes to the educational attainment, economic development, and cultural enrichment of the region. Through critical services such as early learning programs for children, job search assistance and computer and Internet access, the Library fosters lifelong learning and is a renowned leader among the nation's libraries. With more than 2 million visitors and 3.5 million items borrowed each year, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh is the region's most visited asset and one of the largest public libraries in Pennsylvania. Established in 1895 by philanthropist Andrew Carnegie as a public trust to be funded by the community, the Library derives approximately 90% of its annual operating budget from public or government sources, including the Allegheny County Regional Asset District (RAD), the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the City of Pittsburgh.

About U.S. Green Building Council

The Washington, D.C.-based U.S. Green Building Council is committed to a prosperous and sustainable future for our nation through cost-efficient and energy-saving green buildings. With a community comprising 78 local affiliates, more than 20,000 member companies and organizations, and more than 100,000 LEED Accredited Professionals, USGBC is the driving force of an industry that is projected to soar to \$60 billion by 2010. The USGBC leads an unlikely diverse constituency of builders and environmentalists, corporations and nonprofit organizations, elected officials and concerned citizens, and teachers and students. Buildings in the United States are responsible for 39% of CO2 emissions, 40% of energy consumption, 13% water consumption and 15% of GDP per year, making green building a source of significant economic and environmental opportunity. Greater building efficiency can meet 85% of future U.S. demand for energy, and a national commitment to green building has the potential to generate 2.5 million American jobs.

About LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design)

The U.S. Green Building Council's LEED green building certification system is the foremost program for the design, construction and operation of green buildings. The U.S. Green Building Council's LEED rating system is the preeminent program for the design, construction and operation of green buildings. 35,000 projects are currently participating in the LEED system, comprising over 5.6 billion square feet of construction space in all 50 states and 91 countries. By using less energy, LEED-certified buildings save money for families, businesses and taxpayers; reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and contribute to a healthier environment for residents, workers and the larger community. USGBC was co-founded by current President and CEO Rick Fedrizzi, who spent 25 years as a Fortune 500 executive. Under his 15-year leadership, the organization has become the preeminent green building, membership, policy, standards, influential, education and research organization in the nation.

For more information, visit www.usgbc.org