



Spokane Sustainability Forum

The Built Environment

Understanding the benefits of creating a sustainable built environment in Greater Spokane

"Today, sustainable is synonymous with high-quality and high-performance buildings, while going green bridges political gaps by directly affecting the bottom lines of building owners."

-Bert Gregory, president of Mithun, a Seattle based architecture, design and planning firm

Introduction to Spokane Cool Cities Initiative,
Mayor Dennis Hession

Keynote: Platinum Profitable Green Building,
Gary Christensen

Gary F. Christensen graduated from Brigham Young University. He started his real estate career in 1975. He has been a property manager, and a developer. He converted to sustainable design in 2004. Gary has recently completed the Banner Bank Building in downtown Boise, a beautiful 11 story, Class A office building. In August 2006 it was awarded LEED-CS Platinum status by the US Green Building Council, a distinction shared by only 3 private, for-profit developers at the time. By searching out best practices around the country, the development team was able to meet and exceed rigorous standards for energy efficiency, water use reduction, indoor air quality, and recycling, without increasing the initial cost of the building. Gary's next project is a mixed use office and housing development in downtown Boise. He and his team are striving to get as close as practical - and profitable - to a Zero Net Energy building. Their theme is "Stuffing the Envelope – Striving for Nothing".

Keynote: Government's Role in Sustainability
Senator Chris Marr

Open Panel Discussion on Green Building Innovation:

Developers, Owners, "Green builders", and representative of USGBC

A recent Harvard Business Review article ("Building the Green Way", June 2006) said, "...the owners of standard buildings face massive obsolescence."

Keynote: A Sustainable Built Environment
Alan Durning

Alan Thein Durning, an Oberlin College graduate, is founder of Sightline Institute (formerly Northwest Environment Watch), a research and communication center that fosters a healthy, lasting prosperity grounded in place. Durning spent eight years as a senior researcher at Worldwatch Institute prior to founding Sightline. He has authored or coauthored numerous books, including the award-winning volumes *How Much Is Enough?* and *This Place on Earth: Home and the Practice of Permanence*. Most recently, Durning coauthored the 2006 edition of the *Cascadia Scorecard: Seven Key Trends Shaping the Northwest*, with a special report on the connections between sprawl and urban design.

Open Panel Discussion on Contributions to Sustainable Community

Energy, water, solid waste management and transportation discussions affecting all elements of sustainability.

Elected Officials Response/Discussion

Open panel discussion with State and local officials. The obstacles and the path to success.



Conference Details

www.capps.wsu.edu/sustain

- When:** June 7, 2007
8:00 am – 4:30 pm
- Where:** The Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture Auditorium
- Who Should Attend:** Builders, Architects, Engineers, Government Planners, Business, Transportation Planners, Realtors, Community Leaders, Sustainability Advocates, Elected Officials
- Keynote Presentations:** Spokane Mayor Dennis Hession
State Senator Chris Marr
Alan Durning
Gary Christensen
plus panel discussions with builders, community leaders and elected officials
- Cost:** \$30.00 (Lunch included)
- Registration:** www.capps.wsu.edu/sustain
Space is limited so register early
- More Information:** Contact Joy Thompson at 509-335-4194 or e-mail joyt@wsu.edu
- Sponsors:** Principal Sponsors To Date
- Airefco
 - Autodesk
 - Avista
 - ConoverBond
 - Don Barbieri
 - Eastern Washington University
 - MAC-Museum of Arts and Culture
 - PacifiCAD
 - Washington State University

"CFO's looking for investment returns can site a new Mithun-designed building at Portland State University, where high-performance energy and water strategies resulted in a combined 19% return on capital investment."

"Sustainable buildings minimize workplace risks to employee health, because green strategies improve air quality, give access to the natural environment, and provide daylight, all of which bolster morale, harness talent, reduce absenteeism and increase retention and productivity."

- Bert Gregory, president of Mithun, a Seattle based architecture, design and planning firm