

◆ SPOKANE CONVENTION CENTER ◆

Building the green way

In building the new Group Health Exhibit Hall, the Spokane Public Facilities District went to great lengths to meet certain requirements of the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System. According to the PFD, LEED certification can often attract convention business that holds environmentally friendly construction in high regard. The group's rating system, used as a national standard, contains four levels of certification (LEED certified, silver, gold and platinum) with the PFD aiming for a silver designation on the new convention hall. The following are efforts undertaken by the PFD to help the hall qualify for certification.

POINT CATEGORIES FOR THE LEED CERTIFICATE

LEED **26 pts.** **SILVER 36 pts.** **GOLD 39 pts.** **PLATINUM 52 pts.**
Very few buildings obtain this level

Sustainable sites

LEED REQUIREMENT	EXHIBIT HALL COMPLIANCE	POINTS AWARDED
Environmentally friendly site selection	Select site on previously developed land	1
Brownfield redevelopment	Rehabilitate damaged site	1
Access to public transportation	Building site has easy access to bus line	1
Stormwater management*	Control stormwater flow <small>*Status uncertain at this point</small>	1
Reduce heat islands (asphalt/concrete)	Place 100 percent of parking spaces undercover	1
Reduce heat islands (roof)	Select roof with a high solar reflectivity	1

COOLER ENVIRONMENT

All the parking spaces are under the building. This reduces the amount of heat that would rise from an asphalt surface

Water efficiency

LEED REQUIREMENT	EXHIBIT HALL COMPLIANCE	POINTS AWARDED
Water-efficient landscaping	Reduce water consumption for irrigation by 50%	1
Reduce water use 20%	Reduce overall water use 20% below benchmark	1
Reduce water use 30%	Reduce overall water use 30% below benchmark	1

Energy and atmosphere

LEED REQUIREMENT	EXHIBIT HALL COMPLIANCE	POINTS AWARDED
Optimize energy performance 20%	20 percent increase in energy performance	2
Optimize energy performance 30%	30 percent increase in energy performance	2
Optimize energy performance 40%	40 percent increase in energy performance	2
Third-party testing of systems	Third party tests systems	1
Ozone depletion	No CFCs in any system	1
Measurement and verification	Verify energy consumption	1
Green power**	In first two years will use 100 percent green power; will use 50 percent thereafter	1

100% GREEN POWER

****Contract with Avista stipulates that for the first two years 100 percent of energy will come from renewable resources, such as solar, wind, geothermal, biomass or low-impact hydro sources, and 50 percent every year thereafter.**

Materials and resources

LEED REQUIREMENT	EXHIBIT HALL COMPLIANCE	POINTS AWARDED
Manage construction waste	Recycle and/or salvage at least 30 percent of non-hazardous construction debris	1
Manage construction waste	Recycle and/or salvage at least 75 percent of non-hazardous construction debris	1
Recycled materials: 25-50%	Use recycled materials: rebar, steel facade, wheatboard	1
Recycled materials: 25-50%	Use recycled materials: rebar, steel facade, wheatboard	1
Regional materials: 20%	20% of building materials are locally manufactured	1
Regional materials: 50%	50% of building materials are locally manufactured	1

NONTOXIC ENVIRONMENT

All the carpets, paints, adhesives and composite wood products were chosen because they give off far fewer toxic fumes.

Indoor environmental quality

LEED REQUIREMENT	EXHIBIT HALL COMPLIANCE	POINTS AWARDED
CO₂ monitoring system	Install permanent systems to monitor carbon dioxide concentrations	1
Low-fume emitting adhesives	Select materials for low levels of volatile organic compounds	1
Low-fume emitting paints	Select for low levels of VOCs	1
Low-fume emitting carpets	Select for low levels of VOCs	1
Low-fume emitting composite wood	Select for low levels of VOCs	1
Air quality after construction	After construction, flush building air clean of any fumes or particulates	1
Thermal comfort	Keep comfort level at a constant	1

Innovation and design

LEED REQUIREMENT	HOW CONVENTION CENTER WILL COMPLY	POINTS AWARDED
100% green power	Contract with Avista to use green power	1
Education	Educate the public about green building	1
Green housekeeping	Use only environmentally friendly products to clean building	1
Exemplary performance recycled content	Show exemplary performance regarding recycled content	1

SOURCES: Kay Sieck, Spokane Public Facilities District; Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design

SPOKANE'S NEW MEETING PLACE

A look at the city's 100,000-square-foot convention space

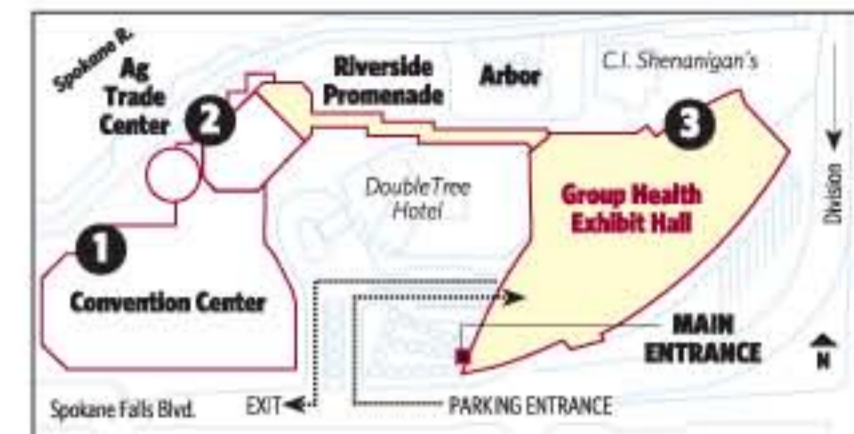
STAFF GRAPHIC BY MOLLY QUINN ◆ PHOTOGRAPHY BY CHRISTOPHER ANDERSON

Today Spokane celebrates the grand opening of its new Group Health Exhibit Hall, a 100,000-square-foot expansion of the Spokane Convention Center that promises to land the city more national convention business. The project's completion follows two years of construction marked by mild winters, severe run-ups in material costs and turnover on the board of the Spokane Public Facilities District, which owns and operates the Convention Center. The expansion triples the city's exhibit hall space and moves it up 100 places on a national ranking of convention venues. Additionally, the new exhibit hall was built to environmental standards issued by the U.S. Green Building Council, a more energy-efficient building for a new era of convention-goers. Spokane's convention industry officials say an increasing number of national meeting planners are seeking buildings with the environmental certification.

ORIGINAL CONVENTION CENTER | EXPANSION ADDS
57,000 sq. ft. | **100,000 sq. ft.**

Site view

Three buildings make up the Spokane Convention Center: the original Convention Center, the International Agricultural Trade Center and the new Group Health Exhibit Hall.



Design elements



Carpet
 The surrounding environment was taken into consideration by interior designers. Here are samples of the carpet from the hallway to the Group Health Riverside Hall.



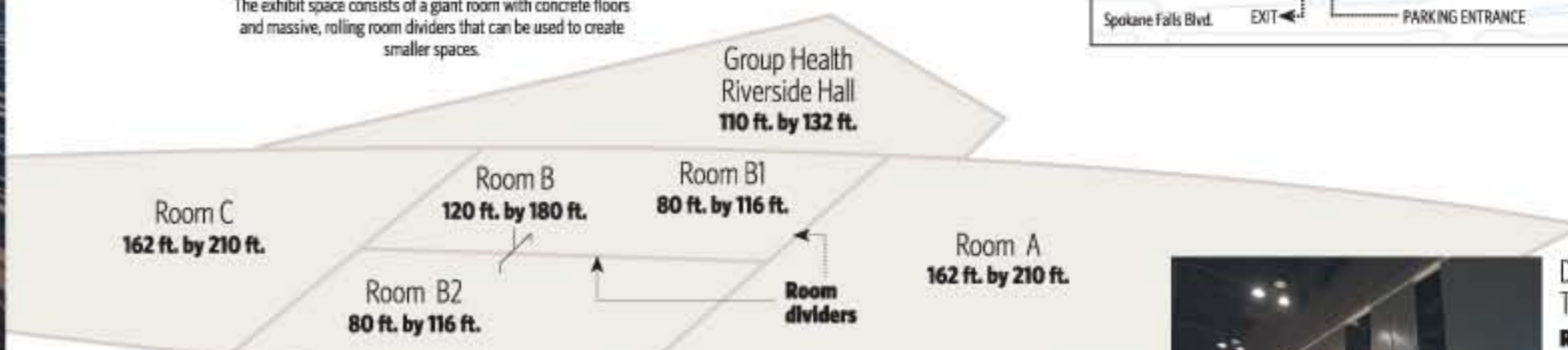
Wheatboard
 Formaldehyde-free, made from recycled wheat chaff

Third floor

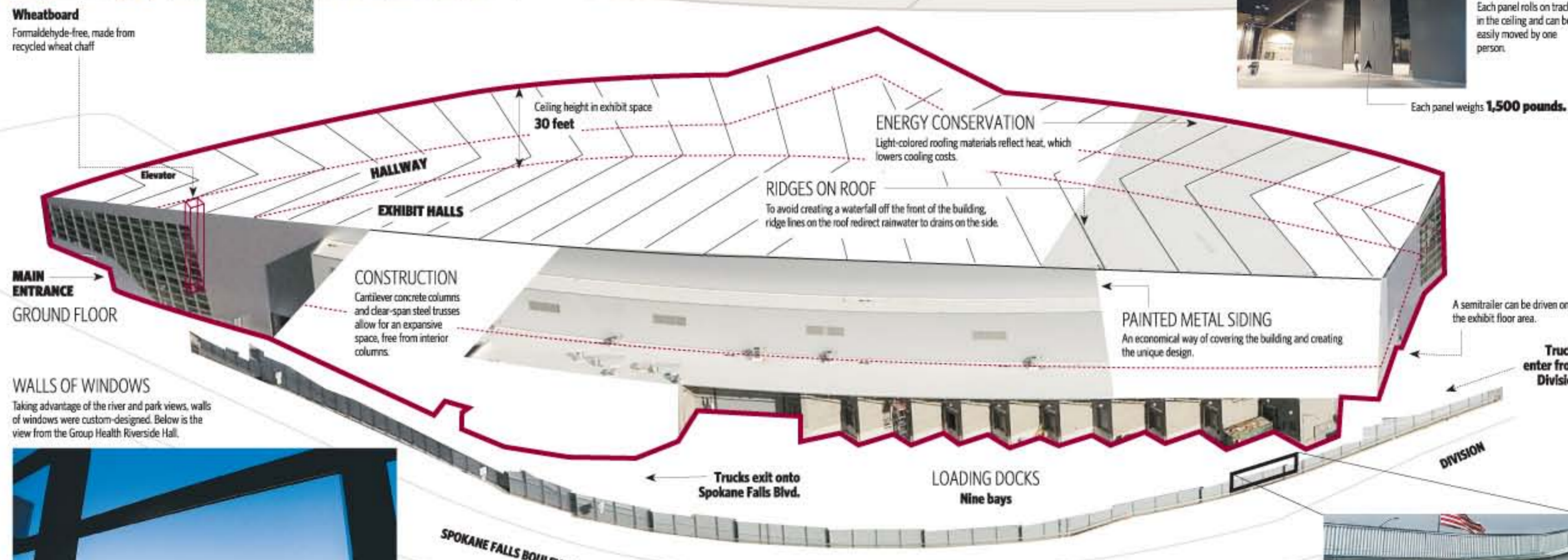
EXHIBIT HALLS

The expansion project almost triples the amount of exhibit space

The exhibit space consists of a giant room with concrete floors and massive, rolling room dividers that can be used to create smaller spaces.



DIVIDING THE SPACE
Room dividers
 Each panel rolls on tracks in the ceiling and can be easily moved by one person. Each panel weighs **1,500 pounds.**



Wheatboard
 Formaldehyde-free, made from recycled wheat chaff

MAIN ENTRANCE
GROUND FLOOR

CONSTRUCTION
 Cantilever concrete columns and clear-span steel trusses allow for an expansive space, free from interior columns.

Ceiling height in exhibit space **30 feet**

ENERGY CONSERVATION
 Light-colored roofing materials reflect heat, which lowers cooling costs.

RIDGES ON ROOF
 To avoid creating a waterfall off the front of the building, ridge lines on the roof redirect rainwater to drains on the side.

PAINTED METAL SIDING
 An economical way of covering the building and creating the unique design.

A semitrailer can be driven onto the exhibit floor area.

Trucks enter from Division

WALLS OF WINDOWS

Taking advantage of the river and park views, walls of windows were custom-designed. Below is the view from the Group Health Riverside Hall.



Second floor

PARKING GARAGE MEZZANINE
167 parking spaces

Public art



THE FENCE
 The fence sculpture by artist Ken Spiering is expected to be completed this fall. At night the art will be backlit by neon lights.



Artist's conception of the piece, which represents the flow of the river and nearby traffic.

WALKING AROUND

Trip times

After the site was selected for the new Group Health Exhibit Hall, some downtown businesspeople expressed concern about how far the Convention Center expansion would be from the heart of downtown. They worried it would prevent people from eating in restaurants, shopping or staying in hotels throughout the downtown area. To see just how long it would take to walk from the new exhibit hall to key downtown locations, we strapped on our pink high heels and hit the street. Though we marched directly to and from our destinations, the average visitor might stop to ask directions or window-shop. So add a few minutes for that. Still, these times should give solid estimates of actual walking time.

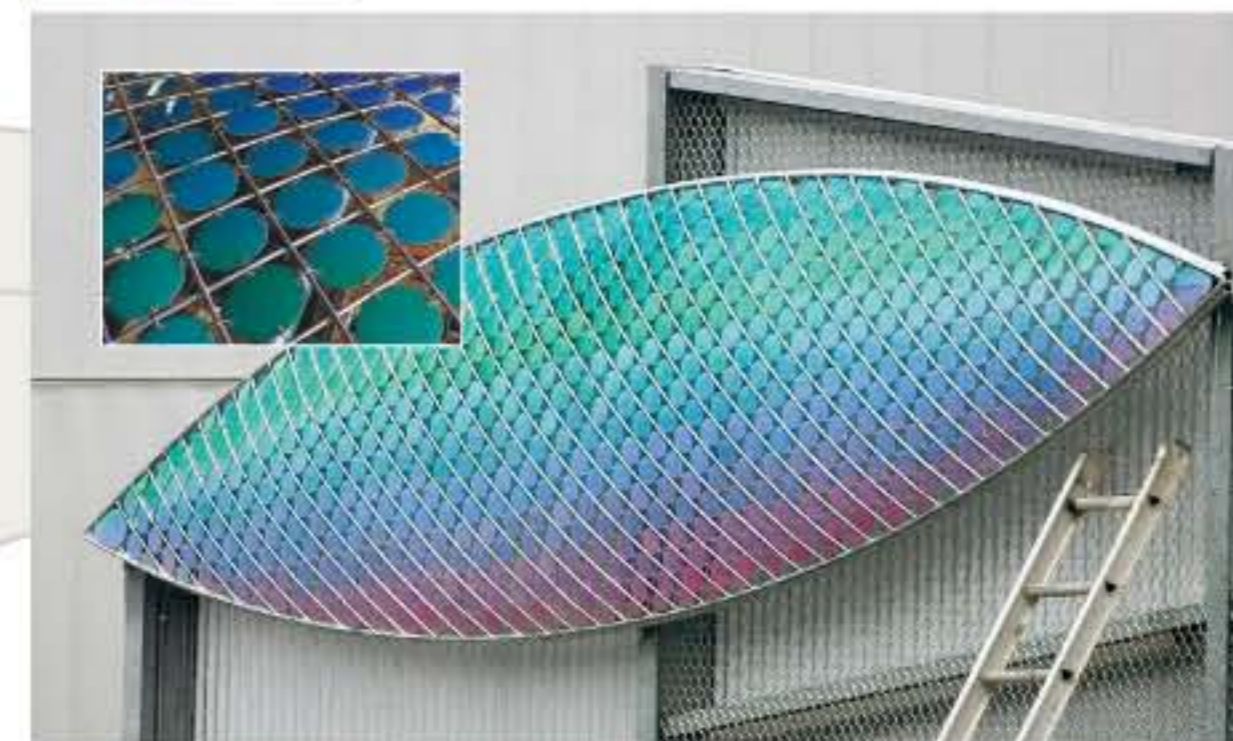


Ground floor

GARAGE GROUND FLOOR
258 parking spaces

NOTE: Drawings not necessarily to scale

SOURCES: Spokane Public Facilities District; I&S Engineering/Hoffman Construction; Hegus Architecture



Artwork for fence in beginning stages of installation. Inset shows enameled discs.