



City of Cambridge

795 Massachusetts Avenue

Cambridge, MA 02139

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News Release

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For Immediate Release:
December 15, 2010

Cambridge Public Library Awarded Prestigious LEED® Silver Certification

CAMBRIDGE, MA – December 15, 2010 – The City of Cambridge announced that it has achieved a LEED® Silver Certification from the U.S. Green Building Council and verified by the Green Building Certification Institute for the Cambridge Public Library Project designed by William Rawn Associates and Ann Beha, Associate Architect for the Historical Restoration. LEED is the nation's preeminent program for the design, construction and operation of high performance green buildings.

This is the second city building to achieve Silver LEED certification this month as the City of Cambridge, in a separate announcement, reported that the renovated War Memorial Recreation Center, designed by HMFH Architects, had also been awarded LEED® Silver certification by the U.S. Green Building Council and verified by the Green Building Certification Institute. Information on both projects can be found at www.cambridgema.gov.

The Cambridge Public Library, which reopened in November 2009, includes a striking new glass building of 76,700 square feet joined to the restored 27,200 square foot landmark, designed in 1887 by Van Brunt & Howe and listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The building has capacity for over 275,000 books, 90 computer stations, reservable meeting rooms and a 220 seat auditorium. The project includes an underground parking garage with a 33,000 square foot green roof and the restored Joan Lorentz Park.

Key aspects of the project's sustainable design approach include:

- **Re-use of an historic landmark:** At the heart of the project is the restoration of the City's original Main Library (designed in 1887 by Van Brunt & Howe and listed on the National Register of Historic Places).
- **Main façade:** The first of its type in the U.S., a double-skin curtainwall (180' long, 35' high, 3' deep with adjustable louvers) opens the building to views of Joan Lorentz Park and allows for extensive daylighting and energy savings.
- **Open green space:** The project includes a significant renovation of the 4-acre park surrounding the library. Parking is located underground – below a 33,000 sf green roof – expanding the land available for the park while tripling the size of the library.
- **Stormwater management:** A 350,000 gallon stormwater retention tank provides stormwater management for a 3-square mile section of the City surrounding the site.

"We were very honored to attain the prestigious LEED Silver certification for both the Cambridge Public Library and the renovated Cambridge War Memorial Recreation Center," said City Manager Robert W. Healy. "Both are dynamic additions to our public infrastructure that will provide untold benefits to our citizens for years to come."

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Cambridge War Memorial Recreation Center Awarded Prestigious LEED® Silver Certification

CAMBRIDGE, MA – December 14, 2010 – The City of Cambridge announced that the renovated War Memorial Recreation Center, designed by HMFH Architects, has been awarded LEED® Silver certification by the U.S. Green Building Council and verified by the Green Building Certification Institute. LEED is the nation's preeminent program for the design, construction and operation of high performance green buildings.

Located at 1640 Cambridge Street, the renovation of the late 1950's era physical education and recreation facility, which reopened in December 2008, included improving and updating building systems, providing universal accessibility and revamping the layout of the locker rooms, restrooms, classrooms and administrative offices. The 78,000 square-foot building houses three pools, a gymnasium with basketball and volleyball courts, a state-of-the-art fitness room, a multipurpose room and separate locker room facilities for school and public use.

The Cambridge War Memorial Recreation Center achieved LEED Silver certification for energy use, lighting, water and material use as well as incorporating a variety of other sustainable strategies. Specific green design and construction features that positively impact the community include:

- Water: 41.5% savings with water-saving shower heads, toilets and urinals;
- Energy: 18.5% savings with day light dimming, efficient boilers and variable frequency drive motors; reduction of urban heat island effect and energy costs with use of white roof;
- Recycle: More than 88% of construction waste diverted from landfills to be recycled or reused;
- Building Systems: ensure proper performance of all energy consuming systems;
- Sustainable Materials: all materials contain an average of 22.85% recycled content; all wood was Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certified wood; long-life /low maintenance terrazzo flooring requires no harsh chemical cleaners; and low VOC-emitting sealant, paint and other finishes provide the best indoor air quality;
- Transportation: Carpool preferred parking, bike racks and shower facility encourage alternative, more sustainable, modes of transportation.

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“The renovation of the War Memorial Recreation Center has greatly enriched the community and the recent LEED Silver certification demonstrates the City of Cambridge’s commitment to building a sustainable environment that benefits all of our citizens,” said Richard C. Rossi, Deputy City. *We have seen a significant increase in usage since we reopened the War Memorial and we are continuing to work to provide programming that meets the interests of Cambridge residents.”*

The War Memorial Recreation Center provides recreational programming for all ages. The Recreation Center is open Monday - Friday from 5:15-9:15 p.m., Saturday from 8:30 a.m. - 5:15 p.m. , and Sunday from 11:45 a.m.-5:15 p.m. Swimming lessons and classes are offered for Toddler thru adults. The program includes a youth Swim team, a synchronized swim team and adult and Senior Aqua Aerobics.

Recreational activities include instruction in children's gymnastics, tennis and karate as well as Zumbatomic, a new workout program for parents and children, Thundercat, a Mini Sports for 4-6 year olds and an instructional soccer skills program for children of all ages. Programming for adults includes access to the swimming pools, weight and cardio rooms, tennis lessons, pick up and league volleyball, and Zumba and Laido classes.

The City of Cambridge also achieved LEED Silver Certification from the U.S. Green Building Council and verified by the Green Building Certification Institute for the Cambridge Public Library Project designed by William Rawn Associates and Ann Beha, Associate Architect for the Historical Restoration. For more information, visit www.cambridgema.gov.

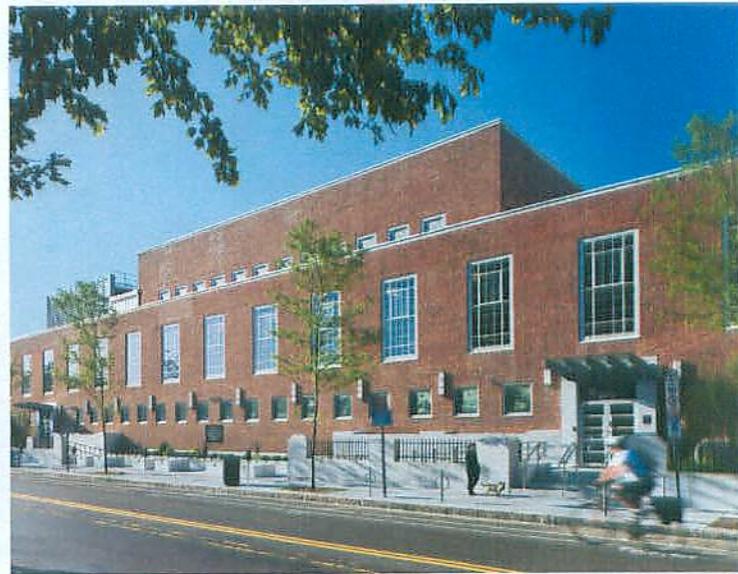
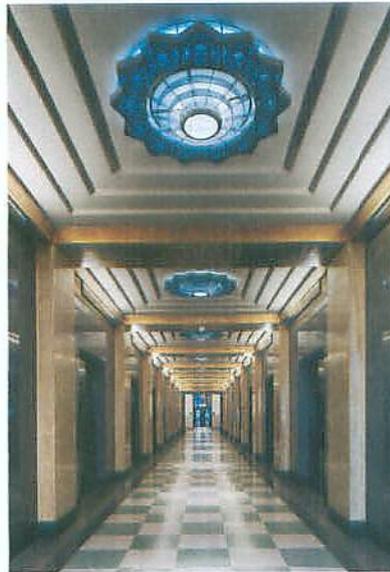
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**War Memorial
Athletic Facility**
Cambridge, MA

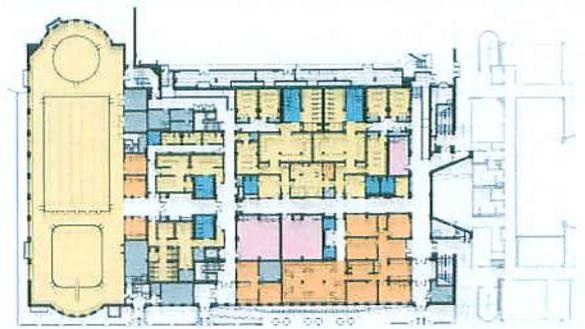


The Cambridge War Memorial Recreation Center is a LEED Silver Certified, 107,700 sf, two-story facility located on the campus of the city's comprehensive public high school. With its three pools, gymnasium, field house, and multi-purpose rooms, War Memorial serves 1,900 students daily and functions as Cambridge's central community athletic facility. HMFH's renovations help the city better serve its various user populations by creating separate spaces for students, athletic teams, and community users, with easy circulation between spaces used by each group. The student entrance opens into bright, spacious corridors lined with classrooms and administration, allowing for supervision of students as they move toward team locker rooms and physical education spaces, while the community entrance brings users directly past the reception desk and offers simplified navigation toward frequently-used facilities. Distinct administrative spaces have been created for team coaches, physical education, and the city's recreation department. Daylighting, vibrant tile work, and wave-patterned terrazzo flooring add visual appeal, durability, and sustainability to the Center.





Site Plan



First Floor

