CHAPTER PROJECT PROFILE

DELL PEDIATRIC RESEARCH INSTITUTE
AUSTIN, TX

42% energy cost reductions

30% recycled content in construction materials

Diverted 75% of construction debris from landfills

LEED® Facts

Dell Pediatric Research Institute
Austin, TX

LEED for NC 2.2
Certification awarded July 10, 2009

Gold 48*

Sustainable Sites 11/14
Water Efficiency 4/5
Energy & Atmosphere 12/17
Materials & Resources 7/13
Indoor Environmental Quality 9/15
Innovation & Design 5/5

*Out of a possible 69 points

The information provided is based on that stated in the LEED® project certification submittals. USGBC and Chapters do not warrant or represent the accuracy of this information. Each building’s actual performance is based on its unique design, construction, operation, and maintenance. Energy efficiency and sustainable results will vary.
DELL PEDIATRIC RESEARCH INSTITUTE

State-of-the-art Medical Research Facility
Meeting high sustainable design standards

PROJECT BACKGROUND

The University of Texas’s Dell Pediatric Research Institute is one of the anchor projects in the first phase of the larger redevelopment of Austin’s Robert Mueller Municipal Airport (RMMA). It is a state of the art research facility dedicated to the investigation of new drugs and techniques in healthcare for children.

STRATEGIES AND RESULTS

The Dell Pediatric Research Institute being a part of the Mueller location had advantages which included available municipal reclaimed water for irrigation; access to public transportation, parkland and greenways; and the availability of the Mueller Energy Center, a combined cooling, heating and power plant (CHP). The Mueller site was considered as a brownfield redevelopment.

Site, Land-use and Utility: The facility’s roof is bright white, with a high solar reflectance index. Native and adaptive trees are planted along the parking lot providing shade for more than 50 percent of site hardscape. Interior lighting is controlled by occupancy sensors and motion detection, and is automatically switched off after business hours. Exterior lighting helps preserve a dark night sky (a stated priority at Mueller) by preventing up-lighting and limiting light trespass beyond the property line.

In addition to nearby Capital Metro bus stops, the building features four showers and changing rooms for bicycle or pedestrian commuters. Fifteen prime parking spots are designated for low emission and fuel efficient vehicles, and fifteen more are reserved for car and vanpools.

Water Management: Low-flow toilets, urinals, and showerheads and metered low-flow lavatory fixtures reduce indoor potable water use by more than 30 percent compared to a conventional building. Outside the building, the landscape design features drought-tolerant native and non-invasive adapted plants. The high efficiency irrigation system uses municipal reclaimed water available from The City of Austin, ensuring that no potable water was used for irrigation.

Energy & Atmosphere: Energy conservation efforts are one of the greatest accomplishments of the project, which modeling simulations indicate will result in energy cost reductions of 42 percent when compared to a conventional building of the same size and type.

Materials & Resources: Construction materials contain nearly 30 percent recycled content. Many materials were extracted, processed and manufactured within 500 miles of the project site, including the Leuder’s limestone used for the façade, which reinforced the building’s regional aesthetic. More than 95 percent of the wood used is Forest Stewardship Council-certified, based on cost.

ABOUT THE DELL PEDIATRIC RESEARCH INSTITUTE

The Dell Pediatric Research Institute is a State-of-the-art research facility dedicated to the investigation of new drugs and techniques in healthcare for children. The Institute’s more than 200 projected full-time employees, including more than 100 laboratory research professionals, will develop new drug therapies, operate a research vivarium and collaborate with the University of Texas at Austin research community as well as the University of Texas System’s six health institutions.

“The DPRI will help take pediatric care in Central Texas to a new level. Our faculty and students will be collaborating with practitioners at the Dell Children’s Medical Center to enable advances in critical areas such as childhood obesity and cancer.”

Steven Leslie, Provost of the University

Owner: University of Texas System, Board of Regents
Architect: HOK, Mckinney & Associates
Civil Engineer: Jaster-Quintanilla/Blayne Stansberry Engineering
Commissioning Agent: Sebesta Blomberg and Associates, Inc.
Contractor: Hensel Phelps Construction Co.
Landscape Architect: Coleman & Associates
LEED Consultant: Center for Maximum Potential Building Systems
MEP Engineer: HOK, Tom Green & Associates
Structural Engineer: Jaster-Quintanilla
Project Size: 149,653 gross sq. feet
Total Project Cost: $88,500,000
Cost Per Square Foot: $591/SF(TPC), $430/SF(Const.)
Photographs Courtesy of: Peter Staats

ABOUT LEED

The LEED® Green Building Rating System™ is the national benchmark for the design, construction, and operations of high-performance green buildings. Visit the U.S. Green Building Council’s website to learn more.

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