Bowie City Hall

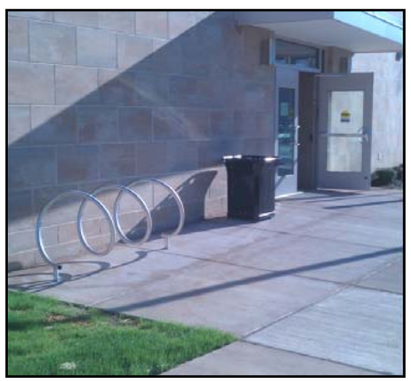
City Hall is a certified **LEED® Gold** building located on a 6.2 acre site at 15901 Excalibur Road, adjacent to the Bowie Town Center, with nearly 80,000 square feet of space for most of the City's offices. From the building's conception, the decision was made to pursue energy efficiency and LEED® certification, as had been done at the City's Parks & Grounds building in 2008 when it received a LEED® Silver rating.

LEED® stands for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design and is a third-party certification process that ensures that a new structure (building, neighborhood, etc.) was built using strategies to improve performance in the following six categories: Sustainable Sites, Water Efficiency, Energy and Atmosphere, Material and Resources, Indoor Environmental Quality, and Innovation & Design. The LEED features introduced in this brochure are just a few of the 42 incorporated throughout City Hall.

Sustainable Sites

Alternative Transportation

City Hall was designed to provide several opportunities for staff and visitors to use alternative methods of transportation. For example, the site is than one-fifth of a mile from two Metro bus stops, and a bicycle storage rack is provided near the employee and main entrances. For staff and visitors driving to City Hall, reserved parking spaces are provided for low-emission or hybrid vehicles.



Stormwater Management

Under the parking lot is an underground stormwater treatment device called StormFilter®. This device uses a series of cartridges with filter media to remove pollutants such as nutrients, oil, metals and fine sediments from stormwater runoff from the building and parking lot. The water then flows into the existing stormwater pond for further treatment before being discharged to a nearby stream.

Heat Island Effect

During construction, hard surfaces such as buildings and parking lots replace formerly-vegetated surfaces. This change can cause developed areas to be warmer than their more rural surroundings, forming an "island" of higher temperatures. One of the features used to minimize this effect is a partial green roof just outside of the Council Chambers, atop the roof of the Police Department. The pre-vegetated, modular tray system includes drought-resistant native plants to minimize irrigation needs.

Materials and Resources

Recycled Content

For this credit, at least 10% of all content throughout the building must be from recycled materials. The City incorporate more than 20% recycled content with the following items: concrete, masonry and metals (steel frame, beams decking, joists); wood base, veneer, chair rails, and sills; doors and windows; casework; and various on-site utilities (PVC pipes, storm filter structures, manhole pipe connectors, etc).

Even though it does not count towards the certification, much of the wood furniture installed in the building has recycled contents in the finished products.

Certified Wood

The goal of this credit is to encourage environmentally-responsible forest management. It requires that a minimum of 50% of permanent, wood-based materials and products, be certified by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) for wood building components. In City Hall, the wood used in the casework, paneling, grille system (near the mobile), ceiling and other areas like chair rail and sills are made of FSC-certified wood.

Water Efficiency

Internal Plumbing

Bathrooms in City Hall use low-flow, motion sensor-operated fixtures. In the ladies' rooms, dual-flush toilets regulate the amount of water needed for each flush, and the men's rooms have waterless urinals. In the locker rooms, low-flow shower heads use only 1.1 gallons per minute. These features helped reduce potable water use by nearly 50%.

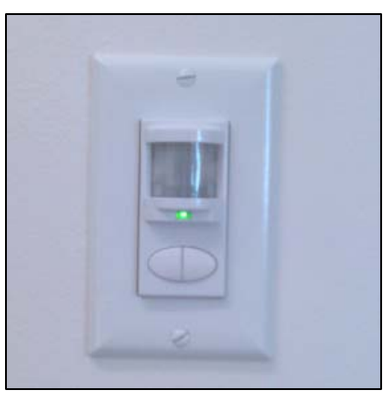
Indoor Environmentally Quality

Low-Emitting Materials

Construction materials typically emit volatile organic compounds (VOCs) that are potentially irritating and/or harmful and can reduce indoor air quality. Throughout the building, the paints, sealants, adhesives and carpets were selected for their low VOC content. Additionally, wood products low in resin, which can be another indoor pollutant, were used.

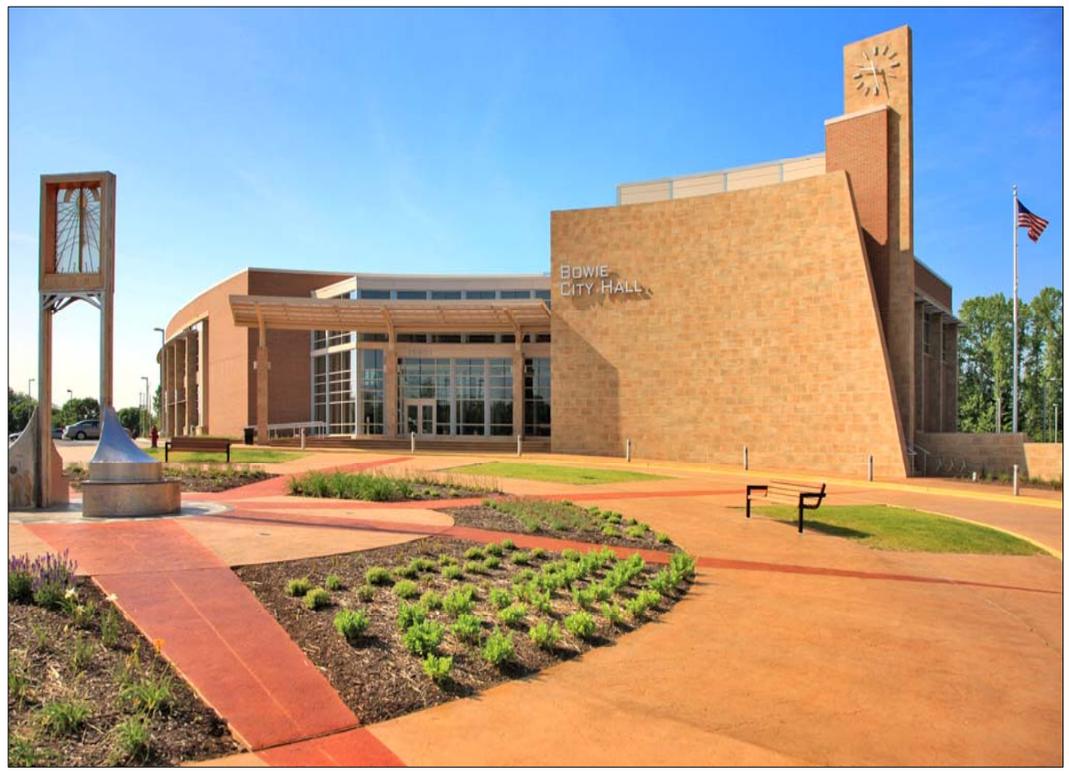
Controllability of Systems

Room lighting is managed by two different control switches. One turns off one set of lamps, which reduces lighting levels by one-third. The second switch turns off to 2 lamps, reducing light by two-thirds. The top of each switch has a sensor that automatically turns off lights when a room is not in use. Large rooms like the Council Chambers and training rooms have multiple dimming switches. All shared multi-occupant spaces are controlled by sensors.



Bowie City Hall:

LEED® GOLD



GREEN BOWIE

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