

Burt Hill LEEDing the way for CCP's campus addition

The architects at international firm Burt Hill know a thing or two about green building at colleges and universities.

Burt Hill has worked on projects such as an installation at the Pittsburgh Institute of Culinary Arts; a culinary school for the Midwestern Culinary Institute at Cincinnati State; and student centers at the University of Scranton, Saint Joseph's University, the University of Iowa and the University of North Carolina-Wilmington.

So the Community College of Philadelphia selected the firm, which has one of its largest offices in Philadelphia, to design its culinary school and student center, which will be built on 17th Street on the school's main campus in Center City.

"We're targeting a LEED [Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design] silver rating on this project, so we're hoping to exceed the standards for minimum LEED rating," explained Burt Hill Director Anton Germishuizen. "We will be using a commissioning agent throughout the process, which will ensure that our energy standards are being met and upheld. [We're also] diverting 50 percent of the construction waste to be recycled."

Germishuizen said that the projected square footage of both the new culinary school and student center, a two-story building tentatively called "the Pavilion," is 45,500 square feet.

The building will boast cutting-edge green features such as green roofing to allow for enhanced stormwater runoff, a high-performance exterior skin designed to reduce heat and recycled linoleum and carpeting. Seventy-five percent of the space inside the building will be reached by sunlight to reduce the use of artificial light and light spillage from the building, said Germishuizen.

In addition to the Pavilion, Burt Hill will be designing an 8,000-square-foot addition and a 60,000-square-foot renovation on the college's Bonnell Building, which will also



An Artist's rendering of the new Burt Hill designs on 17th Street.

conform to green standards wherever possible.

"We are pretty close to breaking ground. [We're] sort of in the final throes here of getting the construction documents completed and we will be going to bid shortly," said Germishuizen.

He said that Community College hopes to break ground on the project by the end of this year.

Banking on green

From its internal "green team" think tank to its "go green" blog, 3rd Federal Bank is making strides internally and externally to go green. The green team brainstorms way to improve the bank's energy efficiency and environmental awareness by, for instance, reducing paper and expanding its recycling program. Externally, the Newtown-based community bank, which has 15 branches serving Philadelphia and Bucks counties in Pennsylvania and Mercer County in New Jersey, is also the official lender for 201 Green Condominiums, a mixed-used building in the Northern Liberties section of Philadelphia. And 3rd Federal offers special loans for customers interested in purchasing solar panels for their homes.

Caring by sharing

Meyer Design Inc., an interior and architecture firm in Ardmore, announced in July it became the first company on the Main Line to join PhillyCarShare, by donating two of its parking lot spots to be exclusive car share spots. Meyer employees now have the option of renting the PhillyCarShare's hybrid cars as an alternative to public transportation. In addition, Meyer Design announced that project designer Suzanne Linus received her Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification.

Preserved reserve

Malvern-based Pohlig Organization is taking steps to construct its retirement community in Haverford, called Athertyn at Haverford Reserve, with environmental considerations in mind. Athertyn will be built on more than 120 acres of protected open space in the footprint of a former hospital. The surrounding land, woodlands, valleys and meadows will be protected and preserved. Other green features of Athertyn include a system of nature trails, a stormwater management system that will reduce runoff by 50 percent and pollution reduction methods to improve the remaining runoff.

— Morgan A. Zalot