

# Press Release

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## **Skanska Begins Construction on Nation's Most Sustainable Transportation Center in Hillsboro, Oregon**

**HILLSBORO, Ore.** – When considering highly sustainable construction projects, parking garages don't often come to mind. But, earlier this month, Skanska began the initial stages of constructing what will likely become the nation's most sustainable parking garage.

"This is an exciting project because no one else has attempted such a thing," said Chris Hartson, project manager for Skanska. "The goal is to create something that no other company or city has ever done before, and we hope the outcome will be a template for future projects."

Officially classified as the Hillsboro Intermodal Transit Facility, Skanska and the City of Hillsboro, Ore., approached this project from a design-build perspective, which allowed an entire team of design and construction professionals to be assembled before the initial designs were completed. By creating a team that had a core "green ethic," the project was able to move forward with the end-goal of building the most sustainable and financially feasible project possible.

"We knew that this was an ambitious project and we needed a contractor that understood the level of sustainability we were trying to achieve, and Skanska was the obvious choice for the project," said Karl Dinger, Hillsboro's Fleet and Facilities Development Manager... "We are very excited at the prospect of creating a template for other cities who want to create highly sustainable transportation hubs."

There are many unique elements of the project that enable the new parking garage to achieve an extraordinarily high level of sustainability. One such element is a mechanical system that has an intelligent monitoring system, which can move heat and cold around the building as needed. Renewable energy also will be generated from the building's rooftop solar cells and four wind turbines.

The project, which is on track to be completed in the fall of 2010, also includes elements such as charging stations for electric vehicles and specialized parking for bicycles including 80 locking bike bays, a locker room and showers for riders. The building also will feature a large flat-panel television display screen on the ground level of the building which will monitor and update the building's current power usage and generation.

In addition to the physical construction elements of the new building, attention has been paid to other carbon-creating activities such as sourcing supplies and working with subcontractors who have implemented sustainable business practices. Other highlights include the purchase of one acre of undeveloped land from the Nature Conservancy for 100 years in order to offset the land developed for the Intermodal Transit Facility.

This project continues a pattern of green and sustainable “firsts” for Oregon that Skanska has completed. Other projects include: the first LEED Gold Civic Center in (Hillsboro Civic Center); the first LEED Gold Hospital (Providence Newberg Medical Center); and the first LEED Gold Engineering Building (Oregon State University Kelley Engineering Building).

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