

## **Saltzman Offers Green Building Initiative for Sustainable Development 8/99 -**

It is hard to pass through any major street without running into a construction site. Portland is experiencing a building boom the likes of which haven't been seen since the construction of the transit mall. City Commissioner Dan Saltzman states that "Building giant concrete slabs with no thought whatsoever to their environmental impact has got to stop". On 9:30 am on Wednesday, September 1st, Saltzman will bring the Green Building Options Plan for City Council review.

The Study, done by the Portland Energy Office and the Sustainable Portland Commission contains in-depth research on methods and incentives the City of Portland should use to implement and promote green building practices.

### **Green Building Practices make sense because they:**

- Promote energy, land use, environmental and growth-management policies
- Save building owners and tenants money through increased operations and maintenance efficiencies.
- Improve indoor air quality and related health, well being, and productivity of occupants.
- Minimize local ecological degradation (habitat, air, soil, and water) through efficient site design, low impact building practices a material, and reduced operating costs.
- Keep more money in the local economy and create new local industries and jobs.

Saltzman stated that "Cities all over the world are doing this sort of pioneering, but in small stages. Portland has the potential to pull it all together. I want to see green buildings with the capacity for energy and water conservation, reduced stormwater runoff and on-site energy production become an integral part of every new plan in Portland. "

The roll-out of the study will be held at City Council on Wednesday, September 1st, the Energy Office will then have 90 days in which to lead the efforts of the City Bureaus to develop a workplan, timelines and budget implications related to developing a City-wide green building policy. Bureaus will be reporting back on December 1st with their recommendations and plans for action.

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