

Mayor Sam Adams Lobbying in DC for Oregon Sustainability Funding

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Mayor Sam Adams wrote on his [blog](#) today about the challenges ahead in closing the \$35 million funding gap to make the [Oregon Sustainability Center](#) a reality.

Our pitch to 12 federal offices in 2 days: partner with us to build the Oregon Sustainability Center — a project with real national impact. The greenest, most ready-to-go building project in the nation. A project that can help compete with China's \$200 billion, five-year push to be the world's hub of clean-technology products and services.

The recent hiring of Susanne Hashim (which we wrote about [here](#)) as the Director of Fundraising for the OSC and this week's lobbying effort in Washington, DC are all positive signs that Oregon's leaders are rallying behind the building. However, there is a lot of work ahead before the center will rise beside the PSU campus. As Sam says:

Getting to "yes" on projects like this never happens in one meeting; it takes months, sometimes years. But the initial reaction to our pitch for funding Oregon Sustainability Center has been a bit of "shock and awe" to the climate-positive goal of this project, but very positive. The federal government yet does not readily have a single "go-to" funding source for cross-disciplinary sustainable projects like ours. We will have to look for smaller funding sources for specific elements of the project.

We will continue to follow the progress of the Oregon Sustainability Center and be looking for what we in the community can do to help make it a reality.