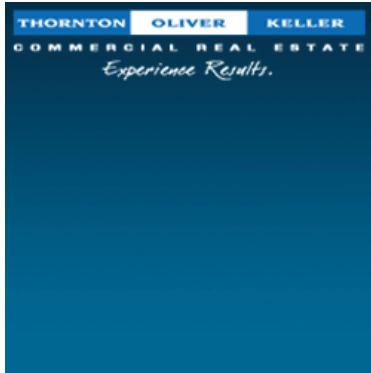


Idaho Business News

Move to "green" Meridian City Hall upcoming

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by Brad Carlson



City of Meridian departments are scheduled to start occupying the new Meridian City Hall in October. Phased move-ins are planned Friday and Saturday, Oct. 17-18, and Oct. 24-25, city spokesperson Shelly Houston said.

The departments occupy the existing City Hall and other buildings in Meridian.

General contractor Petra Inc. and building designer LCA Architects plan to showcase environmentally friendly features of the new Meridian City Hall during a media tour Sept. 30. Houston said the building subsequently will be sealed for two weeks so crews can complete a "flush" to remove impurities.

Petra said in a release that construction crews used recycled building materials for about 20 percent of all materials in the new building - sited off Broadway and Main streets, and Meridian Road. More than 80 percent of construction material is being recycled or has been recycled from the project, Petra said. Crews removed contamination from the site, where a former creamery building stood for many years. They used brick from the creamery to create the Heritage Building in the front plaza and water features in front of the City Hall complex.

Other environmentally friendly features of the new Meridian City Hall include specialized HVAC, lighting and plumbing systems; heat-reflective roofing materials; and materials low in volatile organic compounds, Petra said. The building is designed to use more than 20 percent less energy than traditional construction. Energy efficiency will be measured and monitored after a baseline is established.

Petra and LCA Architects seek a LEED Silver certification from the U.S. Green Building Council. "LEED" stands for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design.

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