Memorial Union Reinvestment
Sustainability Fact Sheet
July 15, 2014

Memorial Union Reinvestment was conceptualized with five main goals in mind. One goal was to increase and foster sustainability within the design. Environmental sustainability has become a significant part of the project in three ways: sustainable designs, sustainable construction and the capacity for building users to foster sustainability once completed.

- The project is on track for a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver Certification, with Gold in reach. The project has worked towards LEED Certification in the following areas:
  - Construction Activity
  - Pollution Prevention
  - Development Density
  - Community Connectivity
  - Alternative Transportation – Public Transportation Access
  - Alternative Transportation – Bicycle Storage and Changing Rooms
  - Light Pollution Reduction
- Approximately ninety-five percent of project construction waste was recycled.
- Prior to the project, the building was serviced by 29 air handling systems, some over 73 years old. The project will replace outdated mechanicals and consolidate systems, boosting efficiency.
- New operating systems, including HVAC, will likely be 37-40 percent more efficient than code requires.
- The new Der Stiftskeller bar is crafted from the salvaged wood of a diseased oak tree removed from the site prior to construction.
- Wisconsin wood and stone has been used extensively throughout the project design. Not only does this add to the character of the building, but it also reduces carbon emissions during material transportation.
- All millwork, doors and lumber used are Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certified.
- Non-volatile organic compound caulk, sealants and paints have been used throughout the project.
- Through value engineering, a new paint booth was installed featuring a 3-stage filtration system that is more energy efficient and produced cleaner exhaust than expected in the initial design.
- 120 original seats from the Wisconsin Union Theater were donated to the Young Shakespeare Players of Madison.
- Crews reclaimed original brass handrails throughout the Theater and modified them to bring them up to code.
- Special materials that reflect sunlight have been used on roofs to decrease cooling costs in summer months.
- Crews salvaged original glass blocks during demolition and reinstalled the blocks that were still useable.
- A portion of the building exterior features a beautiful limestone face that had to be moved for expansions. Crews carefully cataloged each stone before removal, with many of the stones reused and placed in their exact prior locations.
- The corresponding shoreline rehabilitation project rebuilt 800 feet of shoreline along the Memorial Union Terrace. This project resulted in more natural water flow, meaning cleaner water and a better...
habitat for fish. The shoreline project also halted for one month in the fall and one month in the spring to allow the native walleye to spawn in the shallow water.

- Phase I alone calls for more than 90 trees and shrubs to be planted on the Memorial Union property.