

Real Estate Update

SCB Announces Sustainable Development Practice Group

To better assist our clients with legal issues relating to "Green Buildings" and other sustainable development, we are pleased to announce our new **Sustainable Development Group**.

As discussed in the article on page 2, Green Building demand continues to increase dramatically, even in the current uncertain real estate market. This new practice group brings together expertise in Green development, construction and real estate, land use, municipal law, environmental regulation, and water law to advise our clients on designing, constructing, leasing and managing Green Buildings, including assisting them through the LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design)[®] certification process.

Initial members of the Sustainable Development Group are:

John Sullivan, Chair (real estate, construction contracts, and LEED[®]);

Tom Kilbane (brownfield redevelopment and environmental regulation);

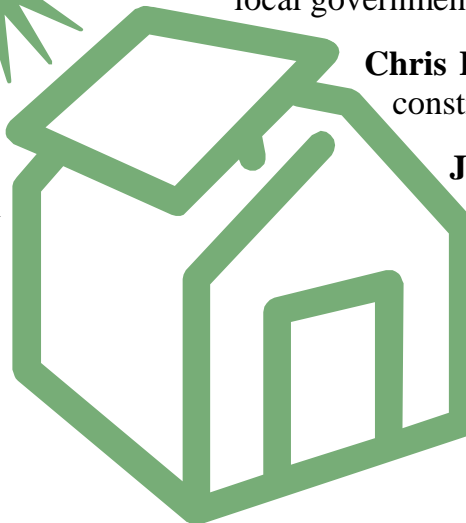
Bob Klein (real estate);

Scott Missall (land use, development, and local government);

Chris Pothering (real estate and construction contracts);

Jennifer Sanscrainte (water law and environmental regulation); and

Roger Jacques (paralegal).



Obama Stimulus Affects Building Construction and Operation

Except for those who have been living in a cave, we're all aware of the more than \$1 Trillion in federal government spending that has been passed as part of the Obama administration's American Reinvestment & Recovery Act of 2009 (the "Stimulus"). However, most of us have not read the 1,000 page Act and are not aware of exactly where the money will be going and whether there are the restrictions and requirements associated with some of this future spending.

So far, the Department of Energy has targeted approximately \$2.2 Billion for Washington, including \$60,000,000 for weatherization (especially in low income housing), \$61,000,000 for state energy

programs, and \$56,000,000 for the Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grant Program. Much of the Block Grant funds are allocated to Puget Sound areas, including King, Pierce, Kitsap and Snohomish Counties, and the cities of Seattle, Tacoma, Auburn, Bellevue, Edmonds, Everett, Federal Way, Kent, Kirkland, Lakewood, Puyallup, Redmond, Renton, Sammamish, and Shoreline.

Obviously, this presents opportunities for our local government and construction clients, and makes it even more important for them to understand the energy efficiency and environmental criteria that will need to be met to obtain funding and contracts.



For further information on this or other real estate matters, contact:

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SCB Webinar Survey

The results are in!

Based on the responses to our survey, the preference is for a 45-60 minute Webinar during the noon hour. As topics arise that we think you may be interested in, we will schedule Webinars – more about that in future Real Estate Updates.

Thank you for participating in the survey!