

## New housing development gets 'silver' celebration

BY CLIFF NEWELL

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**West Linn's movement toward sustainable building construction was celebrated in a big way with the grand opening of the Maddax Bluff housing development on Jan. 30.**

Mayor Patti Galle and many other dignitaries and guests were on hand as Jack Wagon, managing director of Prairie View Homes, cut the ribbon on a project that has already earned the LEED Silver certification.

"This is the first location in West Linn to have LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Silver," Wagon said. "It's the most stringent national standard for sustainable building."

It was not achieved without a lot of effort and close teamwork between Prairie View Homes and the City of West Linn over the past year.

"The city has its own standard of its buildings attaining LEED Silver or higher," said Kirsten Wyatt, assistant to West Linn City Manager Chris Jordan. "The city council was hoping that private business would follow suit, and having the first LEED certified housing development really furthered that goal.

"Anytime such an effort to achieve sustainability takes place, the City of West Linn supports it wholeheartedly."

"I am real pleased to see the city take over leadership on sustainability," Wagon said.

Sustainable features on the two homes in the Maddax Bluff development include:

- Vegetative filtration to slow and direct rooftop rainwater and runoff.
- Bioswales to reduce the amount of untreated storm water runoff.
- Plumbing for solar hot water and a highly efficient tankless hot water heater.
- Heating and ventilating systems that utilize an energy recovery ventilator (ERV).
- The homes use less energy, water and natural resources; are healthier than non-green homes; and produce less waste.

The hallmark of the cooperation between the City of West Linn and Prairie Village is the creation of the new Burnside Park gateway.

"We made sure the public and private property rights were both protected," Wyatt said. "We made sure the pathway felt like natural landscape."

The celebration at Maddax Bluff was a great moment for Wagon, who created his Lake Oswego-based company five years ago.

"I left Intel because I was so enamored of this kind of building," Wagon said. "I thought the physics of sustainable home construction were fascinating. I founded this company to exclusively produce this kind of home."

Wagon expects to have a lot of company in his endeavor.



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This home has a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) silver certification for its green-building and sustainable design. The kitchen is open and with modern energy-efficient appliances.

green, that's great."

If that happens, however, Wagnon says, "I think this company will be a little more advanced."

Maddox Bluff is perched on the top of Burnside Park, at 1393 Buck St., overlooking the Willamette River.

Prairie View Homes was a member of the selection national pilot program to launch LEED for Homes in the Pacific Northwest.

The company worked with Earth Advantage, Inc. to obtain its LEED certification.

For more information, go to the Web site located at [www.prairieviewhomes.net/MaddaxBluff.cfm](http://www.prairieviewhomes.net/MaddaxBluff.cfm) or call 503-699-5409.

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