

Faciliteq Tour Shows Nevada Senator Potential For Existing Buildings

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Written by [Bryan Howard](#)

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On Wednesday, Nevada's [Faciliteq building](#) opened its doors to Senator Dean Heller (NV) and [USGBC Nevada Chapter](#) leaders as part of a tour that will hopefully inspire upgrades to other existing buildings in the state.

Faciliteq, an architectural interiors firm, purchased the 1950s building in 2005. Formerly an auto repair shop, it's now the home of a [Haworth](#) furniture dealer, a sustainability consulting firm and other small businesses in the green building industry, creating a sustainable idea lab in downtown Las Vegas. The Faciliteq Building earned a LEED for Existing Buildings: Operations and Maintenance Silver certification, an Energy Star score of 85 and was able to achieve a 33% reduction in water use.



"The Faciliteq Building has shown the benefits to small business owners seeking LEED certification: not only is the building leasing rate up, the energy and water savings are saving money every month, showing a green benefit to the bottom line," said Jennifer Turchin with Sellen Sustainability, the sustainability consulting firm on-board for the project.

Dave Ray, President of the USGBC Nevada Chapter, spoke with Senator Heller about the success of Faciliteq and other LEED-certified buildings in the Las Vegas area, reinforcing the value of certification, especially in a down economy.

"In addition to the wonderful renovation project mixing the existing architectural features with new high performance technology, Faciliteq has become an incubator for conservation, conversation and the sustainable momentum in downtown Las Vegas."

The tour also included a good exchange about Nevada's [Green Building Tax Abatement](#) program and the [federal energy efficient commercial building tax deduction](#) - important policy considerations as owners continually struggle to obtain the financing needed to tackle upgrades like the one at Faciliteq.

Policymakers around the country, like Sen. Heller, are increasingly seeing the economic value in advancing energy efficiency and water conservation in our built environment.

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