



# Wingspan Event and Conference Center

## Project Newsletter

June 2020

Vol. 22

### Temporary Certificate of Occupancy!

by Washington County Project Manager, Geoffrey Kavulya

After more than 18 months of planning, design and construction, the new 90,000-square-foot Wingspan Event and Conference Center reached a major milestone on May 29th, receiving a temporary certificate of occupancy (TCO). This paves the way to begin other auxiliary activities such as procurement and installation of brand-new furniture among others. We have ushered in the month of June with a definite spring in our step having achieved a long awaited TCO.

The next chapter is to take the project to the finish line which culminates with final certificate of occupancy. In terms of safety and logistics, the project site has remained safe since groundbreaking. With expected activity ramp down in the next few weeks, safety is of utmost importance. We have clocked over 90,000 work hours thus far. On a COVID-19 related update, we continue to ensure a safe working environment by deploying appropriate PPE gear and abiding by social distancing guidelines.

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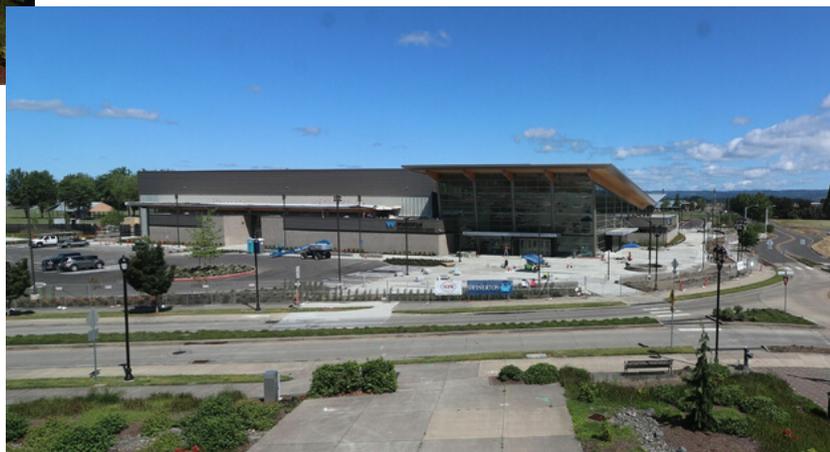
#### Contact Information

#### Note from the Editor



Shown Left: The project site on June 1, 2019

Below:  
The Wingspan Event and Conference Center on June 1, 2020

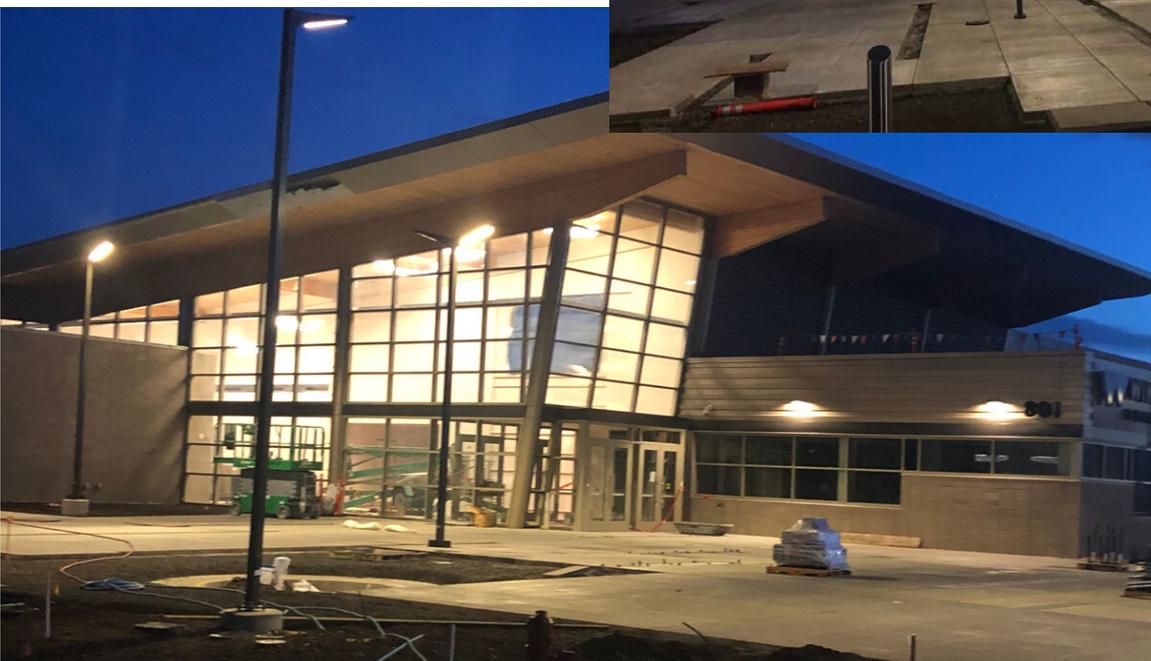


## WHAT A DIFFERENCE A YEAR MAKES

Spotlight on....

Project Updates

Showing a sneak preview of the Wingspan Event and Conference Center during evening hours



## Temporary Certificate of Occupancy (TCO)!

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In terms of schedule, we are tracking two critical paths that run concurrently. The first path entails procurement and installation of video-wall, commissioning, training and punch list activities. The second longest path runs through the automated gates. Landscaping efforts are wrapping up well and admittedly, each tree, shrub or flower has an interesting story to tell.

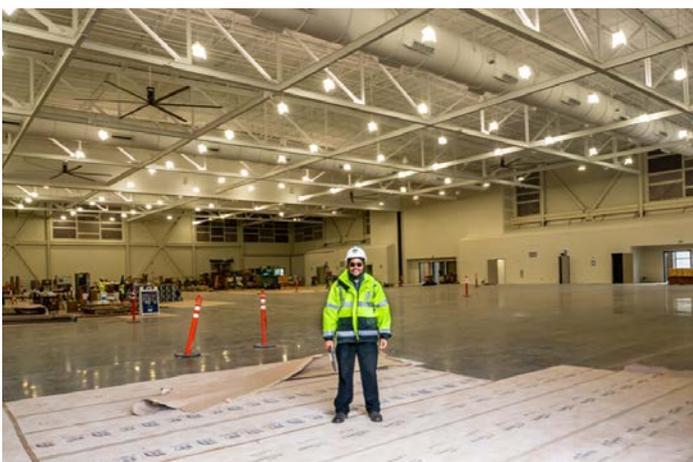


On the renewable energy front, solar PV installation on the Expo Roof is 100% complete. We have been working closely with Energy Trust of Oregon to secure renewable energy rebates. Moreover, EV car charging infrastructure and power panel installation is on schedule.

On behalf of the project team, I would like point that we are fortunate to have a myriad of talents in our midst, that make translating drawings into a built form a breeze. John Olinger, the project's site superintendent, continues to do an exemplary job in overseeing the construction process. Moreover, Mr. Olinger has expertly assumed the responsibilities for overall construction activities and executed them within the established design, budget and scheduling guidelines. John has established himself as a superstar in maintaining the highest construction standards, with safety being a top priority. Thank you and keep keeping on John.

As we march towards project's final project completion, a big thank you to all our stakeholders, County leadership and all the fans of Wingspan Event and Conference Center for their continued and firm support. We look forward to a ribbon cutting event at a future date. Remember to check our time lapse camera via: <https://app.oxblue.com/open/washingtonco/eventcenter> for quick project snapshots.

As always, thank you for all you do.



Top Left: members from the County Finance team tour the project site with John Olinger and Geoffrey Kavulya

Center: Close up of the signage and bike rack amenities

Bottom: Project Manager Geoffrey Kavulya in the vast Expo hall



# SWINERTON



## Team Spotlight: John Olinger Project General Foreman

By John Ciepiela

John has lived in the northwest off and on since 6th grade and finally settled in Woodland, WA in 1997. John has been in the industry since 1995 working in commercial, hospitality, tech spaces, and healthcare. As the Project General Foreman, John's

responsibilities can be summarized as whatever is needed to get the job done; coordination of subcontractors on a daily basis, week-a-head planning, site logistics, site safety and quality control, managing the Swinerton labor crew, and managing the general health of the job. Some of John's most memorable projects are the OHSU ground up and seismic projects, large build-outs at Intel and work for some of our other tech clients, and (his least favorite type of construction) papermill renovations in southern Washington. John joined Swinerton five years ago for two weeks and haven't been able to get rid of him since.

Outside of work, John is easily the most knowledgeable and die-hard Seahawks fan I have ever had the pain of listening to. John and his family have been season ticket holders since 1983, when the first game he saw was against the Baltimore Colts. John and his son and daughter are heavily involved in motorsports, traveling all around the country on a national circuit, working with a factory to develop custom car parts as well as a patented design for a chassis manufacturing company.

"Grandpa" is pretty much up for anything and prides himself on mentoring the young people in his family and needless to say, he is frustrated by COVID as he has not been able to see his newest granddaughter as often as he'd like. John has been one of the most impressive general foremen I have had on a project and has been the heartbeat of the job since we started foundations. His "go get it" attitude never wavered through weird hours and frustrating challenges. Thank you, John!

*The editor would like to thank John Ciepiela for his hard work and dedication to the newsletter over the project lifespan!*





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## Note from the Editor

### Delay of Issue

By Nancy Karnas, Project Assistant

One thing that can always be said of life is that the road is always paved with good intentions. June should have marked the last issue and completion of this marvelous project. As we have all seen this year, everyday brings a new complication and change is inevitable.

The project continues through its commissioning and the next issue will be our last communication from the project team. We apologize for the late distribution of the newsletter this month, but hope you enjoyed it.

Thank you for your support!

## Archive Issues:

[www.co.washington.or.us/Fair/washington-county-event-center.cfm](http://www.co.washington.or.us/Fair/washington-county-event-center.cfm)



## Watch the project:

<https://app.oxblue.com/open/washingtonco/eventcenter>