LEED Designation

KEXP is currently pursuing a LEED Silver designation for the design and construction of our new facility. Beginning with the reuse of a neglected but historic structure, we worked throughout the design and build process to reduce waste and plan for sustainable operation.

Sustainable Design and Function

- Overall design of the new KEXP is centered on the reuse of a historic Seattle Center building.
- A fifty year old structure was prepared for the next fifty years of heavy use and operation.
- Rather than cover the old, battered concrete floor – we polished and sealed it instead.
- We opened up to the Northwest Rooms Courtyard.
- We added daylight and views to the courtyard and Gathering Space from workspaces and DJ studios, which enhances our connection to the community.
- Staff and volunteers have ample bike storage, a place to clean up after a bike or foot commute, and incentives to take transit or carpool rather than drive alone.
- The new KEXP is located near downtown so that it is completely accessible, by car, bike, train, bus, or foot for staff, visitors, volunteers and artists.

Sustainable Building and Construction

- Of the 86.35 tons of material debris collected for the project, 75.81% of it was diverted to recycling, or 65.46 tons of construction debris recycled.
- Low VOC paints are used throughout the building.
- Low water use faucets and toilets were installed, which saves 35% over the baseline.
- The reception desk and DJ booth cladding were constructed using re-used wood.
- During construction, Best Management Practices (BMPs) were implemented, including:
  - Minimal soil was disturbed, helping to prevent erosion.
  - Filter fabric and straw wattles were installed in all city drain inlets to protect storm systems from contamination.
  - Airborne dust was minimized using sweeping compounds and grinders. Other dust creating equipment utilized dust control device attachments and vacuums to capture particles. Indoor air quality was maintained by masking ducts.
  - Fencing and plywood boxes were built around trees and other landscape elements to protect them during construction.