



HOMES OPEN FOR TOURS IN LARGEST SOLAR NEIGHBORHOOD IN WASHINGTON STATE

BAINBRIDGE ISLAND, WA. 8/10/2012 – Model homes were today announced as ready for public touring at the highly anticipated *Grow Community*, an 8-acre, solar-powered neighborhood located on Bainbridge Island. Developed by Asani, a company committed to creating sustainable neighborhoods, Grow Community is an intentional neighborhood designed for an inter-generational mix of residents with a range of floor plans ideal for families, young professionals and seniors. Grow Community is adjacent to Winslow town center and a short walk from the ferry terminal.

“We are excited to see our vision take shape; a community designed intentionally for happier, healthier and more sustainable lifestyles,” says Marja Preston, President of Asani. “With the opening of these model homes we will be gathering feedback and continuing to involve the wider community as we launch the next stage of design.”

The three models are representative of the homes in the first of a series of pocket neighborhoods that will make up Grow Community, powered entirely by renewable energy and designed to make a sustainable lifestyle easy and attainable for its residents. The first phase of Grow Community will be comprised of approximately 45 residences including single family homes, attached homes and multifamily rentals. Those seeking more information about Grow Community, or interested in touring the model homes, may visit www.growbainbridge.com.

The Largest Solar Community in Washington State

With the goal of making zero-carbon living both attainable and affordable, Asani has worked with local partners BlueFrog Solar and Itek Energy to provide an optional solar package for each of the homes, creating what could be the largest solar community in Washington state. Each home is designed to achieve net-zero energy consumption, with enough solar panels to provide sufficient energy to power the home.

Grow Community will foster a “five minute lifestyle” where residents can walk to local amenities and urban attractions in Winslow town center, reducing their dependency on automobiles. The car share program at Grow will include an electric car charged by a solar-powered station—a unique zero-carbon transportation option for residents.

Possibility, Connection and Happiness

During a rigorous two year concept phase, Asani invited participation from the local community and asked the question, “What kind of neighborhood do you want to live in?” What emerged from those discussions was an idea for a new kind of community; one based around the ideals of health and happiness, possibility, and deeper connections with the community and the land. With that goal in mind, Asani worked closely with local organizations and with architect Jonathan Davis, of Davis Studio Architecture + Design to design and implement the community vision.

The Grow design team adopted the One Planet Communities framework to guide the planning and development of the project. Based on the 10 principles of sustainability developed by *BioRegional* and *The World Wildlife Fund (WWF)*, One Planet Living envisions communities in which people everywhere can enjoy a high quality of life within the productive capacity of the planet. The project has now been endorsed as the second One Planet Community in the United States. “Using the One Planet Living framework, Grow Community gives us the opportunity to demonstrate how neighborhoods can be designed both to minimize ecological footprints and to create positive opportunities for true community to take form,” says Marja Preston.

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ABOUT ASANI: Bainbridge Island-based Asani is a working community of planners, architects, contractors and developers working to positively impact communities and the environment with profitable projects that are both socially responsible and ecologically sustainable. Past and current projects include Vineyard Lane, Island Gateway, the Kid’s Discovery Museum, Bainbridge Island Museum of Art and Grow Community.