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DEVENS IN THE NEWS:

Regenerative Design – Beyond Doing “Less Bad”: Part 1

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<https://www.apa-ma.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/MA-Planning-Sum25.pdf>

Regenerative Design – Beyond Doing “Less Bad”: Part 1

by Neil Angus, FAICP CEP, LFA, LEED AP

This is a two-part article diving into the topic of regenerative design. Part I focuses on what regenerative design is, why it is important, and dives into life cycle considerations and the circular economy. Part II, in the next issue, will cover how biophilic design, carbon emissions, and embodied carbon are beginning to influence our planning and development decisions, using project examples and providing additional tools and resources planners can use to lower embodied carbon, integrate regenerative design principles, and build climate resiliency in your community.

As planners, we are always striving to make the places we live, work, learn, and play, more livable while reducing negative impacts. But what if we could eliminate the negative impacts all together and plan developments that are actually regenerative and restorative? Like in nature. Sound like a pipe dream? Not anymore—and it's a critical next step in tackling the ongoing climate crisis—living in harmony with nature and designing better and healthier places where people and nature can co-exist.

What is Regenerative Design?

Remember the three “R’s” of waste management: reduce, reuse, recycle. Well Regenerative Design, like nature, views waste as a resource—so when we talk about Regenerative Design, those three “R’s” transform into restore, renew and replenish. It's a systems-thinking approach to planning and design. Systems

thinking approaches to planning involve an awareness of the interrelatedness of decisions and have long been at the core of environmental planning—taking a more holistic approach. This helps explain the growing popularity of [scenario planning and digital twins](#)—exploring plan, policy, and regulatory options through simulations and data analysis. This allows planners to better understand the impacts of certain decisions beforehand and modify their approaches to avoid unintended impacts.

Regenerative Design Principles

According to the [Living Future Institute](#), at the heart of the regenerative movement, there are three interconnected pillars: climate resilience, human health, and social equity. These build off of the three pillars of sustainability: economic, social, and environmental and take them to the next level through regenerative and restorative practices that help regulate climate

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Remember the three “R’s” of waste management: reduce, reuse, recycle.

Climate Resilience

Human and Ecological
Health

Social Equity

Marty's Corner Cafe works because of its focus on a unique local community

by Marley Smith · Friday, August 15, 2025

Harvard Press:

In the heart of Devens, where thousands of employees from all different businesses come and go every day, Marty's Corner Cafe & Deli thrives on the community's uniqueness. "If I moved one mile down the road into Ayer, I don't think I would be as successful," owner Marty Twomey said.

Marty's Corner Cafe focuses on the Devens community through local sourcing of food, catering to local events, and donating food to the local Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry. Devens is why Marty's Corner Cafe works, Twomey said.

After years of working in the food industry, having managed the now-closed Devens Grill for 10 years, Twomey decided to launch her own cafe in June 2021. Twomey created her menu based on the needs of residents and workers; she knew her food had to be quick to make and pick up, as people are going off to work.

Items on her menu are named after local businesses and her own family traditions. They have a Dragonfly poke bowl, in honor of their nextdoor neighbor, Dragonfly Wellness Center. They also have Big Nana's meatball sub, based on Twomey's own Italian culture. The sub is her grandmother's recipe, which she said only a select few know. Chef Diego Quefau said he is also able to include some dishes on the specials menu from his own Ecuadorian culture.

Marty's Corner Cafe also operates a food truck named "Foxy," in which Twomey attends local sports tournaments, fairs, and festivals. Quefau said many people come to Devens for the tournaments or to stay at local hotels, which gives them a chance to get to know people from different states and cultures.

Kiera Skuntz, a student at University of Vermont who is working in the front of the house for the summer, said the kitchen is like nothing she has ever seen while working at other restaurants. She said everyone is friendly with no drama or fighting. Skuntz also said in just the three months she has been in Devens she has gotten to know some members of the community. One regular she has become acquainted with is Joe, who is treated as part of the cafe's family, Skuntz said. Twomey said every year on Joe's birthday they will do something to celebrate him, such as wearing silly hats or giving him a birthday cupcake.



Chef Diego Quefau chats while cleaning up. He has added some dishes from his Ecuadorian culture. (Photos by Jen Manell)

Marty's Corner Cafe sources as much of its food locally as possible. Twomey said they get fresh produce every day from someone local, and they get their greens from Little Leaf Farms in Shirley. Twomey said she likes to support smaller and local companies whenever she can, but with rising prices that can get tricky. Twomey said she would one day like to open another location, but she would need to find another area where quick but healthy and hearty food is needed and where there is local support. "They [the Devens community] have been great to us," Twomey said.



Jene Gallant packs a carryout order.

Veranova's Devens Site Passes FDA Inspection

August 13, 2025

By: Rachel Klemovitch

Contract Pharma.com

The site is also expanding its High Potency Active Pharmaceutical Ingredient and Antibody Drug Conjugate capacity.

<https://www.contractpharma.com/breaking-news/veranovas-devens-site-passes-fda-inspection/>



[Veranova](#), a leader in the development and manufacture of specialty and complex active pharmaceutical ingredients (API) for the pharmaceutical and biotech sectors, announced that a routine current Good Manufacturing Practice (cGMP) surveillance inspection of Veranova's Devens, Massachusetts site, completed by the FDA New England District on July 31, 2025, concluded without any Form 483s and with a "No Action Indicated" (NAI) classification.

This FDA inspection outcome continues Veranova's strong compliance track record at its Devens, Massachusetts site, which produces multiple commercial products and provides solutions from early development through scale-up and clinical manufacturing.

The site is actively expanding its High Potency Active Pharmaceutical Ingredient (HPAPI) and Antibody Drug Conjugate (ADC) capacity and recently initiated a new investment in Bioconjugation development and additional cGMP manufacturing capabilities.

"This successful inspection outcome is one crucial piece in a more comprehensive approach to strengthening and growing our Devens operation, underpinned by a rigorous, continuous quality improvement plan," says Lucas Sauer-Jones, Vice President and General Manager of Veranova, New England. "We are happy with this outcome but continue to work hard and redouble our efforts every day to ensure we maintain this same standard for our customers, and ultimately the patients, who derive the most value from our work."