Recreation Center Replaces Roof, Improves Energy Efficiency

**CHALLENGE**

For years, maintenance personnel at the Nash Recreation Center in Oregon, Illinois, have been patching and repairing the facility’s old ballasted EPDM roof. With the roof somewhere between 30 and 40 years old, Don Griffin, superintendent of environmental services for the Oregon Park District, determined it had far exceeded its useful service life. “It became evident that we pushed the envelope as far as we could on the membrane roof,” Griffin said.

The replacement of the roof was just one part of the recreation center’s renovation. Other improvements included new rooftop HVAC units, an upgraded fire alarm system, extensive repairs to the pool, and various other energy efficiency improvements. The Oregon Park District was awarded a $1.5 million Park and Recreation Construction (PARC) grant, which covered 75 percent of the total cost of the renovation and minimized the impact on local taxpayers.

**SOLUTION**

Griffin reached out to a local Garland representative for help determining the best solution for the roof. Aware of the district’s commitment to sustainability, Garland recommended replacing the original roof with a high-performance, mineral-surfaced modified membrane that would provide energy savings. Garland’s StressPly® E Mineral eco-friendly modified bitumen membrane is certified by UL Environment for its incorporation of 27 percent pre-consumer and 8 percent post-consumer recycled content and 2.5 percent biobased content. In addition to the roof replacement, Garland’s architectural wall panels were installed on a 2,000-square-foot section of the facility, helping to improve aesthetics. Garland coordinated the roof installation with Sterling Commercial Roofing, Inc.

Garland also recommended the park district take advantage of the U.S. Communities Government Purchasing Alliance™ (U.S. Communities) contract for roofing materials and services. The contract, currently held by Garland/DBS, Inc., was competitively bid nationwide by a lead agency member of U.S. Communities, in keeping with national and regional requirements of other agency participants. Purchasing cooperatives such as U.S. Communities allow public agencies to pool their purchasing through nationally solicited contracts, helping to save time and money compared to the traditional procurement methods.

Griffin was very pleased with Garland throughout the entire project. He explained, “It’s been great having Garland involved. The fact that we had somebody on site to provide project management has been extremely helpful since I’ve been very busy with other parts of the renovation project.”

Scott Goehring  
(847) 312-8648  
sgoehring@garlandind.com