



St. Paul Western District Police Station Gets the Gold

The St. Paul Western District Police Station in St. Paul was awarded LEED Gold Certification by the US Green Building Council. This is the first Gold certificated police station in Minnesota.

Planned and built by Flannery Construction of St. Paul, the construction of the 2-story, 38,000 square foot building was completed in November 2007. The 2.3-acre site is located at 389 Hamline Avenue N. in St. Paul's Midway neighborhood. The building includes office space, an indoor parking facility, and outdoor rain gardens.

The LEED Green Building Rating System is the nationally accepted benchmark for evaluating sustainable sites, water efficiency, energy efficiency, material and resource selection, and indoor environmental quality.

The St. Paul Western District Police Station received the award for reducing its measured environmental footprint. The building is 50% more energy efficient than traditional architecture, provides healthy indoor air quality, and 39% reduced water consumption. Almost 60% of the building materials were locally extracted and manufactured.

This low-maintenance, high-efficiency building is another example of why green building makes financial sense. While there was a 4% increase in up-front construction costs on this project, the owner will see a 7-year payback on the investment. The police will save at least \$34,000 annually in energy costs after the payback period.