



Photo: Hedrich Blessing and Architect Hammond Beeby Rupert Ainge

## **Joan W. and Irving B. Harris Theater for Music Dance Receives Citation of Merit**

AIA Chicago recently awarded a Citation of Merit Award to the Joan W. and Irving B. Harris Theater for Music and Dance under its Distinguished Building Awards program.

“Located in Chicago’s Millennium Park, this new theater required that most of the building be located below grade. Yet the architect was able to express the exterior directly to the site

in the park. Inside, they created a flexible stage large enough for classical dance, small enough for a soloist, with impeccable acoustics and site lines. Jurors felt like all of the goals and more were accomplished on a tight budget. The structure is all about illusion, nothing appears to be what it is; even the lights have a magical quality. “There’s life in the theater whether the lights are on or off,” a juror commented.”

(Text from “Focus” October 2005)

CEG, the precast structural engineer for the project, teamed with Prestress Services, Inc. to value-engineer a structural solution in precast, as the cost and schedule of a domestic steel frame proved unworkable. The main roof consists of 108’ bulb tees carried by 30” x 54” girders and 30” columns creating a 65’



*(continued from page 1)*

high audience hall above stage level. Except for the entry lobby and raised area over the stage, the entire roof is part of the park and covered with soil and plantings weighing up to 500 PSF in some areas.



*Lobby (above) and Stage (right)*

The theater opened in November 2003 and is one of the cornerstones of the magnificent new Millennium Park in Chicago.



*Photos: Hedrich Blessing and Architect Hammond Beeby Rupert Ainge*

## **CEG-FL and Coreslab Tampa Expand Florida Hospital Orlando**

Florida Hospital Orlando, the fastest growing hospital in central Florida, is experiencing “growing pains”. This growth has made it necessary for an addition to their existing parking structure and possible plans for a new stand alone parking structure.

The new relationship between the CEG-FL office and Coreslab Tampa led to becoming a member of a design-build team led by Brasfield and Gorrie’s Orlando division. The expansion project gives the hospital the capacity to meet their current needs and with plans to open a new facility currently under construction in 2008, the completed addition also has the capacity to meet future expansion needs as well.

This structure marks the first project that CEG-FL has completed with Coreslab Tampa as the specialty engineer providing detailing and design. With four additional projects on the books with Coreslab Tampa, and CEG’s commitment to providing exceptional service, the CEG-FL office should soon be experiencing some “growing pains” of their own.





## ***CEG Parking Planners Assist Portsmouth, New Hampshire***

All development requires planning but development projects near a church where George Washington once worshiped demand particular attention. A city with a 375-year-old history, Portsmouth, New Hampshire offers a mix of small retail, professional offices, restaurants, entertainment venues, and residential opportunities. It also offers a number of historic sites that entice visitors to the downtown area. Downtown Portsmouth maintains a steady volume of visitors year round but there is a noticeable increase of out of town visitors during the months of May-September. Weekend nights also see a significant increase in downtown activity. The variety of people who live, work, or visit downtown requires a range of parking services. To assist the City in the allocation of its parking services, CEG was retained to work with the City and its stakeholders.

To ensure a comprehensive study of its parking issues, the parking planners of CEG divided the project into several phases including a review of parking rates and fines; an analysis of parking service delivery; and an assessment of parking supply and demand.

The City implemented new hourly rates for its parking garage within the past year. The primary issue regarding rates was to respond to the appropriateness of its revised rate structure. CEG first examined legal mandates regarding rates to ensure any recommendation complied with local regulations. We then made a comparison with other cities in the region and similarly sized municipalities across the nation. The next step was to examine the parking goals of the City. After that review, the staff examined the financial impact and quantity of customers before and after the rate adjustment. Finally, we studied the advantages and disad-

vantages of the several rate options introduced by citizens. Based upon this comprehensive review, we then were able to recommend a rate structure to complement the parking goals of the City.

To examine the delivery of parking services, we looked at both on-street and off-street assets. The High/Hanover Garage is the City's largest parking facility with 900 spaces. Patrons exiting the garage on weekend evenings reported excessive delays. The CEG staff observed and carefully recorded the parking activities. In addition, we examined a number of interior factors (equipment placement, staffing levels, etc.) and external factors (street traffic, weather) to better understand the parking conditions. A similar approach was taken with on-street parking. The CEG parking planners reviewed meter repair records, enforcement activity, and collection methods. We also explored several optional methods of collecting revenue and enforcement of on-street parking prior to formulating potential service enhancements to their program.

Using current data on the existing supply of parking, CEG examined the parking demand of several new developments either underway or being planned. Parking spaces being provided as part of the developments was included in the analysis. This review provided insights into future parking conditions enabling the City to address parking shortfalls over the next five years.

Draft reports are currently under review by the City. Upon the conclusion of that process, CEG will analyze the feedback and produce the final document for the City.

# News Bites

# CEG

The Consulting Engineers Group Inc.

## **CEG/Carl Walker Inc., in Las Vegas**

The CEG/Carl Walker Inc. joint venture recently exhibited at the Design-Build Institute of America (DBIA) convention in Las Vegas. The reception from the DBIA community was excellent. The concept of simultaneous drawing generation and the associated timesavings was the focal point of our presentation to attendees. Looking ahead, the joint venture also introduced to the attendees the concepts behind 3D parametric design and drafting utilizing the latest software developed by members of the precast, prestressed concrete industry.



- CEG is pleased to welcome **Amy Fon** to our Illinois office and **Rick Luna, Ricardo Rocha, Leyla Rodriguez, Mario Rodriguez, and Jose Ayala** to our Texas office.
- Congratulations to the following employees who received service pin awards at their respective Christmas parties: **Walt Korkosz** 25 years, **Sammy Ip** 20 years, **Vern Lore** 10 years, **Nikolay Kirilenko** 5 years, **Scott Winch** 5 years, **Matt Huslig** 5 years, and **Claudia Langarica** 5 years.
- Congratulations to **Scott Winch** for passing the Professional Engineering exam and receiving his Professional Engineer's license in the state of Illinois.
- Congratulations to **David Nasser** and **Keith Allen** on their election to the CEG Board of Directors.
- CEG recently completed work in conjunction with SEH, Inc. to completely re-design the public parking management agreement and facilitate public bidding of the management contract for the City of Minneapolis. The process included RFP documents, contracts, and a pre-proposal meeting. The result was the receipt of five proposals and the City's award of the contract to Ampco System Parking. The contract covers over 25,000 parking spaces operated by the City of Minneapolis in a variety of parking ramps, garages, and surface lots.

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