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Construction of HDPT Facilities Recognized with Award

Harrisonburg, Va. – The design of the Harrisonburg Department of Public Transportation (HDPT) facilities was recently recognized with the “Best Project” award in the airports and transit category by Engineering News Record MidAtlantic. The architect on the project, RNL Design, submitted the award nomination.

Engineering News Record MidAtlantic, a respected organization in the construction industry, announced the winners of the 2015 Best Projects competition, which recognizes the top projects in Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia. An independent jury decides the winners and named 34 projects in 17 different categories. Just 17 projects were recognized with the highest honor of “Best Project” in their respective categories.

“We are proud of the recognition our facility received,” explained Reggie Smith, director of HDPT. “After nearly 40 years of service, the HDPT space was in need of renovation and repair. RNL’s design helped us focus not only on improving the functionality and efficiency of the space, but also on creating a better work environment for our employees, including administration, operations and maintenance staff and all drivers. It takes real talent and understanding of the transportation business to design such a specialized facility as we have, and RNL came through for the city in that regard.”

Situated on a shared use 16-acre site, HDPT’s project called for the replacement of the previous metal building with a 12,678 square foot administration/operations building, a 29,247 square foot maintenance and wash building, a separate fueling facility, and parking for 120 employee vehicles and 117 buses.

One key aspect of the award-winning design on the HDPT project was light. In the operations building, a light monitor was designed to bring light deep into the building on both levels through an open stair system. The entire west façade is a ribbon storefront with sunshade system that keeps the building light and airy, but also allows the dispatch, operators, and administration staff to have expansive views of the vehicular operations on site. Light sensors were incorporated so lights turn off after 10 minutes of inactivity.

On the maintenance side, the building brings light into the facility through translucent wall panels above overhead doors and clerestory windows at the central spine and forklift aisle of the facility. The building is open and airy with shared functional areas like the welding shop and tire storage centrally located. The light colored roof reflects the sun which serves to minimize the heat-island effect.

To learn more about HDPT, visit www.HarrisonburgVA.gov/HDPT or to follow them on social media visit their [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#) sites.

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Pictured above: The exterior of the Administrative Facility.

Pictured right: An inside look of the lounge designed specifically for bus drivers.

Pictured bottom: The Central Garage where all city-owned vehicles are serviced and repaired by city staff.



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