

ACE Award Entry – Category 5 - Best Building Project – Specialty Contractor (\$2 - \$6 Million)

BrightView Landscape Development for the Vermijo Avenue and Sierra Madre Streetscape Renovation

Solutions of Special Projects: BrightView Landscape Development (formerly operating as ValleyCrest Landscape Development) was selected as a critical trade partner on the Vermijo & Sierra Madre Streetscape Renovation project for a number of reasons. A national company with a spread of resources that cares about the communities within which we live and work, BrightView had the largest combined resume on suspended pavement systems (e.g. Silva Cells) as well as a commitment to resources to make sure that this transformative project was brought to completion on time and without sacrificing quality.

The impetus for the streetscape renovation was both for the creation of the new United States Olympic and Paralympic Museum (U.S.O.P.M.) as well as a longer plan for rejuvenating the southern edge of downtown Colorado Springs to match the City's world class reputation. Contracting through Wildcat Construction, BrightView was ultimately under separate contracts held by both the City of Colorado Springs and the Southwest Downtown Business Improvement District. There were numerous other public and private stakeholders with Nor'wood Development being a key patron both in terms of investment and design. Every project BrightView undertakes requires a commitment to customer satisfaction however projects such as this require extra attention.

Excellence in Project Execution and Management/Team Approach: The project was bid and contracted under 60% CD plans which any seasoned contractor knows will require additional assistance in the development of the final design. BrightView participated in design charrettes with the aforementioned stakeholders as well as a strong design team that included AECOM, Dig Studios and Hydrosystems-KDI among others.

After confirming budget and identifying significant value engineering cost and time savings, BrightView area superintendent Adam Rice was given the keys to the project with design brought to 100% CD level. Overseeing both operations and project management, Adam utilized support from our operations team including operations manager Randy Stoiber and general superintendent Todd Donnelly. Additional assistance from our Atlanta operation – which focuses almost solely on decorative hardscape – assured that we were able to perform the granite paving as efficiently as possible from the day the first stone was laid.

Pre-planning and coordination with multiple trade partners was imperative in meeting the critical deadline imposed by the grand opening of the U.S.O.P.M. Little did anyone know that this deadline would ultimately push due to a global pandemic; however with construction being deemed an essential business in Colorado operations were allowed to continue and the grand opening put back on the calendar. In addition to our local craft labor, BrightView was able meet the deadline by leveraging our national resources and bringing in skilled

tradesmen and women from as far away as Orlando. Given that this streetscape is tied to a museum celebrating the United States we found it particularly special that BrightView had input from all across the county.

Construction Innovations/State-of-the-Art Advancement: A factor contributing to BrightView Landscape Development's selection as the landscape trade partner was our national expertise in Silva Cell installation. This suspended pavement system has been used in multiple projects across the county but is still a new practice in the Colorado market. Several smaller installations have been performed however the Vermijo Avenue and Sierra Madre Streetscape Renovation is now the single largest Silva Cell project in the state of Colorado.

Silva Cells, along with other suspended pavement systems, are becoming increasingly popular as a means to provide a healthy soil profile for urban trees while still having a stable, compactable surface for any type of hardscape. These cells were installed to give the army of specimen Honeylocusts from Idaho the best chance at quickly establishing and providing a shady canopy for the reinvigorated pedestrian thoroughfare. Coordination with a large number of subtrades makes these suspended cell systems much more complicated than meets the eye – survey is critical to establish subgrade for a proper finish grade; with wet and dry utilities running through the system we had to work hand-in-hand with electrical, water and sewer contractors, suddenly making landscape a critical path activity; lastly concrete and paving is contingent upon proper installation of the cells and the compacted subgrade above.

Environmental/Safety: Safety is and always will be the top priority for any job that BrightView undertakes. There is no substitute for a strong safety culture within the construction industry. BrightView has daily tailgate talks, team stretch and bends, and weekly national safety calls to try and keep us ahead of any of the pitfalls that might confront our crews on the front line. No one could have expected that our critical spring 2020 deadline would have been upended by the COVID-19 pandemic. With input from our national partners as well as strong support from the AGC of Colorado, BrightView was able to stay in front of the epidemic and keep our highly visible crews safe, informed and working. Masks, social distancing, sanitizing of all hand tools and equipment – the daily norm changed quickly but has since become the routine. The opening date for the highly anticipated U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Museum ultimately pushed but BrightView was able to keep our crews working safely and complete the project on time without sacrificing quality.

Excellence in Client Service and/or Contribution to Community: The project in itself is a testament to the pride that Colorado Springs has in the beauty of its place and people. Olympic City U.S.A. is working to further define itself as a primary place to live, work and recreate. The investment to create the museum for the nation as a whole and to invest in this pedestrian gateway is something that only world class communities make a priority. BrightView Landscape Development is proud and honored to have been a trusted trade partner in the success of this project.









