

LIBERTY FIRE
STATION

Butler Builder®:
Billings Construction
Company, Liberty,
Missouri

Architect:
HMN Architects, Inc.;
Overland Park, Kansas

Size: 5,720 square feet

Butler® Systems:
Widespan™ structural
framing system

Flat StylWall® II wall sys-
tem with
Texture-Cote™ finish
system

StylWall® II fluted fascia
system

MR-24® standing seam
roof system

Liberty Fire Station

“The city will enjoy a huge low-cost maintenance benefit”

The city of Liberty, Missouri, is growing, and with growth comes expansion of city services. Liberty's fire department was no exception.

In order to house its firefighters and meet the response times required to properly serve its citizens, the city called on Billings Construction Company, a Butler Builder® in Liberty, to build a new 5,720-square-foot firehouse. It needed both men's and women's dorms and restrooms, a dayroom, a dining room, storage space, an office, a public restroom and three equipment bays.

Although Liberty Fire Station #2 was intended to be a conventionally built facility, the cost was too high.

“The original plans came in way over budget,” recalls Steve Hansen, director of public works/development services for the city of Liberty. “Billings told us they could save money by switching to systems construction. We decided we would give it a try.”

“We explored our options with Butler® systems and decided their construction products provided an excellent solution to our budget concerns without sacrificing the quality of the facility,” adds Don Niemackl, chief architect for HMN Architects Inc. in Overland Park, Kansas.

“Without the economy of systems construction, the project couldn't have unfolded as well as it did. Billings gave us just what we wanted and needed to see it through.”

For maximum flexibility, they chose a Widespan™ structural system for the new station. A weathertight MR-24® roof system ensured a life-time of low maintenance costs. And a tan Flat StylWall® II wall system with a stucco-like Texture-Cote™ finish system, accented with a blue StylWall® II fluted fascia system gave the building an attractive exterior. A block wall to one side serves as a memorial to fallen firefighters.

The station was completed a couple of months ahead of schedule, and since time is money, Billings saved taxpayers around \$100,000. The fire station is located in an area of Liberty zoned for industrial developments. Billings also met all of the zoning requirements and left the community with a facility it considers an asset.

“The new station has all the same basics as our other fire stations, but with many extra perks,” says Hansen.

“There's a lot more room in here than in some other fire stations,” says Fire Chief Richard Lehman. “My team now has a comfortable facility with all the amenities we could need.”

He points out that the members of the fire department were able to contribute to the construction process. “We had a great deal of input on the design. We formed committees and sat with the architect to iron out what we wanted and needed. I speak for all of us when I say our needs were definitely met.”

“For the money and the needs of the city, Billings offered a great package,” says Gary Trusler, former building inspector for Liberty. “The city will enjoy a huge low-cost maintenance benefit thanks to the quality of construction and the building systems used.”

Steve Hansen sums it up: “Billings did an excellent job for the city. They are knowledgeable and competent, and we couldn't be more satisfied.”

