

*Design Profile*  
*Wilmette Public Works*  
*Facility Expansion*

WILMETTE, ILLINOIS

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Architecture  
 Interiors  
 Engineering  
 Construction

Creative Solutions for a Sustainable Future

## Wilmette Public Works Facility Expansion

WILMETTE, ILLINOIS



The Village of Wilmette, in an effort to improve the quality and efficiency of their Public Works operations, commissioned Epstein to provide architectural design services for the expansion of their existing 15,000 square foot facility at 711 Laramie Avenue. The expansion project consists of a 5,000 square foot administration building and a 5,000 square foot wash bay building.

The administration building accommodates offices and open work station areas for supervisors and superintendents from the streets, forestry, water and sewer departments. The wash bay building can accommodate four trucks simultaneously

and two of the wash bays are automatic while the remaining two are manual. The wash bay equipment has been specified with a unique water recycling system.

The building has also been designed with a translucent clerestory to maximize natural light and minimize electrical energy usage and Epstein is pursuing LEED-NC Gold for this expansion project.

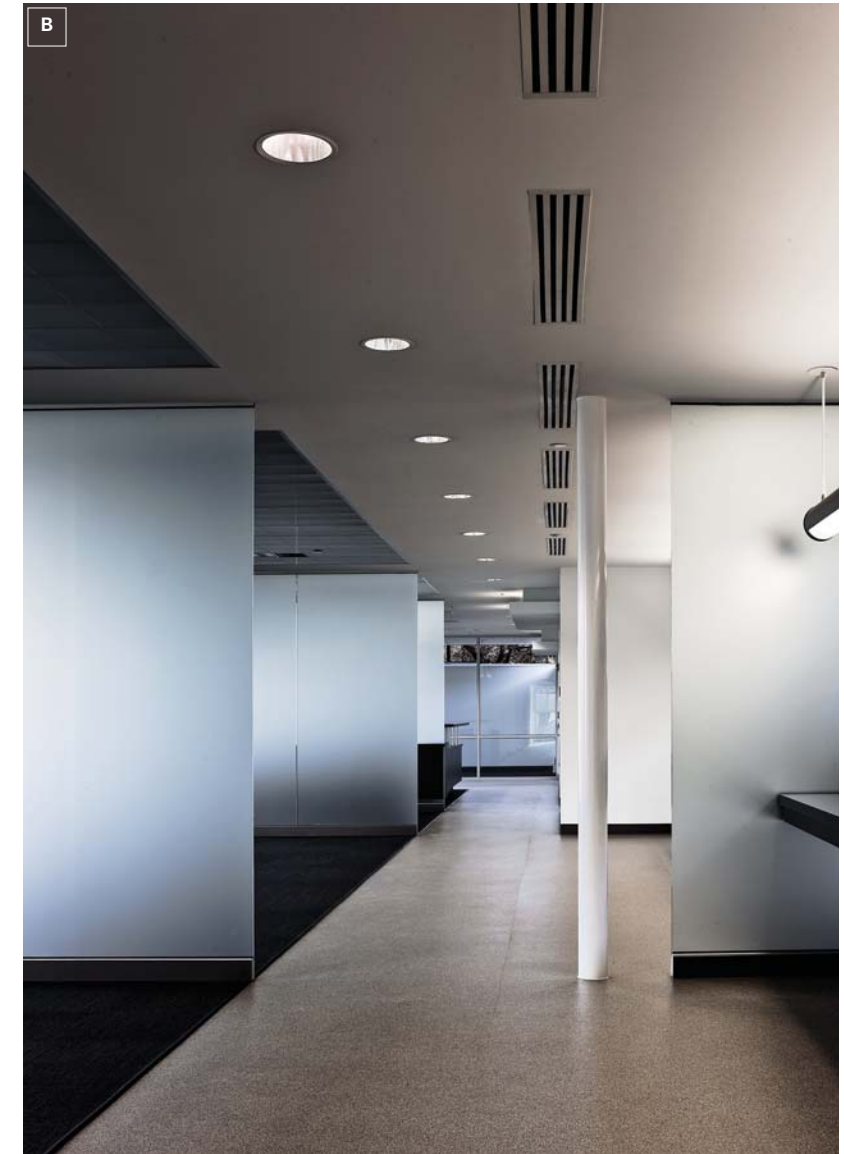
The existing Public Works Facility is an amalgam of various buildings, constructed over a period of approximately sixty years. Existing buildings on the site range from a 1950's Bowstring Truss Building, to various pre-engineered out-buildings. The priority with this project was to provide a new humane work environment which would enhance the quality of work-life for municipal workers as well as the quality of the work produced.

To promote these values, the building was designed as a linear structure (25 feet wide by 250 feet long) in order to ensure that all work areas have access to natural light and natural ventilation.

The major glass façade is oriented to the north, providing for constant visual monitoring of trucks entering and exiting the facility, as well as tempering heat gain effects in the summer.

The south façade, facing the existing building, is a highly insulated metal panel façade, enhancing energy efficiency as well as acting as a visual screen from the existing Bowstring Truss building.

The linear addition is connected to the existing masonry building by a small free-standing glass entry vestibule, which provides for a separation between the new building and the existing structure. This architectural and structural isolation strategy not only provides the opportunity to wash the building in natural light, but also enables the existing building to be demolished and replaced in the future without any modification to the new addition.



Wilmette Public Works Facility  
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A: Main Entrance Detail  
 B: Office Corridor



D

E

F

G

D: Night Exterior Detail  
 E: Wash Bays  
 F: Day Elevation  
 G: Wash Bay Interior

**Sustainable Features**

The Village of Wilmette Public Works Facility Expansion features the following sustainable design elements; water-efficient landscaping, alternative fuel vehicle and carpool parking, geothermal heating/cooling system, white membrane roof system, natural lighting and ventilation, recycled and regional materials and the innovative use of ash wood.

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**About the *Design Profile***



Epstein's *Design Profile* is a brief in-house publication addressing our recent design and construction projects and discussing today's industry challenges.

Since 1958, the *Design Profile* has covered our project history, from warehouse and distribution facilities to award-winning architecture and interior design projects.

Now in our fifth decade of publishing the *Design Profile* has now transformed into a completely electronic publication. In a effort to be as sustainable an organization as possible we no longer print and distribute the *Design Profile* via traditional mail. Each issue is now "published" to our readers through a e-mail message that is linked to our website. We hope that this little step in sustainability inspires you to find opportunities to become "green" with your publications/communications.

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