

March 3, 2020

Meco Henne Contracting
4140 South 87th Street
Omaha, NE 68127

RE: St. Vincent de Paul Parish Center, Omaha, NE
Reference Letter

To whom it may concern:

RDG Planning and Design had the pleasure of working with Meco Henne Contracting on the St. Vincent de Paul Parish Center project in Omaha. This project was a two-floor, 23,000 sf addition to a church facility that Meco Henne had constructed 20 years ago. It consisted of a parish hall, meeting rooms, kitchen, large lobby, and a choice food pantry facility. This project was competitively bid to a select group of general contractors, and Meco Henne was the low bidder. Meco Henne got the job by creatively developing a shoring plan that saved time and money, and by figuring out how to utilize their own cranes and equipment to develop a staged erection plan that again saved a large amount of money for the church. This was discovered during post-bid interviews with the two lowest bidders, and at that time it was obvious that Meco Henne's approach had the best interest of the parish in mind.

Meco Henne's team, including Project Manager Mike Emanuel, and Field Superintendent Chris Emanuel, and Jim Wolz in the office, were critical to the success of the project. RDG likes to establish collaborative, open, problem-solving relationships in the job trailer right from the start, and the Meco Henne team was all-in. Owner-Architect-Contractor meetings were productive, and were all about problem-solving, with no finger pointing. RFI's were replaced with phone calls, where Chris, Mike and I worked out potential solutions, decided on one, and then closed the issue with a confirming RFI or AIA change documentation if it was a bigger issue. No matter what, we all knew what the answer was going to be, and we determined it together. When tough construction issues surfaced, there was a "roll up our sleeves" collaborative attitude that helped us get to the right answer as quickly as possible, with the least possible impact for the client.

Meco Henne did a good job navigating a tricky schedule and poor weather conditions. Although the staged schedule was a cost-saver, it also left the excavation open for a longer period, which caused issues with record-setting rainfall in both the fall and the spring. Mike and the team did an excellent job giving regular updates, and kept the team informed of schedule and weather-related changes. A plan was put together to minimize the schedule impact caused by the historic weather conditions, and the job was completed in a timely manner.

Meco Henne had excellent quality control on the project. From their own quality workmanship, to the expectation of quality from their subcontractors, quality was at the forefront for the entire project duration. Many times, substandard shop drawings or work were refused before they even got to my review. That is refreshing to see in the current "get it done quick" environment we live in. Closeout has also been excellent, with a very small punchlist for a project this size.

We appreciated having Meco Henne as part of our team to construct the new SVDP Parish Center. We certainly recommend Meco Henne Contracting, and look forward to opportunities to work with them again.

Sincerely,

RDG Planning & Design



Robert R. Krupa, AIA, CSI/CDT, LEED AP BD+C
Senior Partner

