

Texas Construction

Best of 2008

BEST OF
2008
AWARDS

UH-Downtown Shea Street Parking Garage & Building

BEST OF AWARD: Higher Education, Design

The new University of Houston-Downtown Shea Street Building – home to the university's College of Business – and the accompanying 620-space parking garage - overlook downtown Houston. Located at the terminus of the METRO Light Rail line, the new structures anchor the redeveloping area.

The Shea Street Building is a critical piece of the university's master plan and its plans to meet Houston's higher education needs. Its location extends UHD's campus to the other side of Interstate 10 and continues UHD's expansion from a single building to a growing five-building campus serving the downtown area. The glass-encased four-story entry inspires faculty and students and provides expansive views of the downtown Houston skyline as well as the One Main Building. Located in a relatively dense urban area, the Shea Street Building will serve UHD's commuter population and its location, accessible by light rail, provides convenient access for students who attend part-time while working downtown. It will provide further benefit in the near future as plans progress to locate a new Intermodal Center in the neighborhood.

Project features include a four-story glass atrium with views of the existing campus, fully integrated technology and wireless access throughout the building.



Also contributing positively to the overall impact of the facility are the green design components that were employed in the design and construction of the Shea Street Building. Aluminum louvers were used over the low-insulating glass windows to control light and the brick materials specified throughout the project were produced within 500 mi of the site.



Key Facts

Submitted by: PGAL

Owner: University of Houston-Downtown System, Houston

General contractor: Manhattan Construction Co., Houston

Architect: PGAL, Houston

Associate architect: NATEX, Houston

Structural and civil engineer: Walter P Moore and Associates Inc., Houston

Mechanical and electrical engineer: Carter Burgess, Houston

Security consultant: Ferguson Consulting, Magnolia

Landscape architect: Knudson and Associates, Houston

Audio-visual consultant: PMK Consultants, Dallas