UMD Pocomoke Building Renovation Achieves LEED Gold Certification

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The U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) recently certified the Pocomoke Building renovation to the Gold level. This project was a major renovation of this 30,000 square foot building on Route 1 across from the South Gate.

The LEED rating system, developed by the USGBC, is the foremost program for buildings, homes and communities that are designed, constructed, maintained and operated for improved environmental and human health performance.

The Pocomoke building was constructed in 1946. Some still refer to it as the Old Firehouse.

The renovated facility will serve as the home of the UMD Department of Public Safety, consolidating its operations in an up-to-date, secure facility close to both the campus and the heart of College Park.

Sustainable features of the renovation that contributed to the achievement of Gold certification include water efficiency, building reuse, use of recycled content and local materials in construction, and construction waste management.

FM Capital Projects team was led by Project Manager Dan Pierce during design, and Project Manager Richard Tucci and On Site Construction Representative John Malcolm during construction.

In addition to UMD Capital Projects, the project team included Grimm + Parker Architects, GIPE (Mechanical, Electrical, Plumbing), Site Resources (Civil Engineering), DEI Consulting (Commissioning), Plano-Coudon, LLC (General Contractor) and Lorax Partnerships, LLC (Sustainability Consultant).

FM Capital Projects Sustainability Manager Martha Shrader observed, “Renovating existing buildings – especially older buildings such as the Pocomoke Building – is often a much greater challenge than building new from the ground up. The project team managed to deliver a refreshed building that will save significant energy (35%) and water (41%) over similar buildings while maintaining the character of the building. In addition, they were able to preserve 81% of the building structure, thereby reducing the need for new materials and the energy needed to produce, manufacture and ship those materials to the site. Congratulations to the entire project team for this achievement!”