

Cedar Rapids Central Fire Station

CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA

Defying devastation from 100 year floods, Cedar Rapids rebuilds a new Central HQ Station



ASSOCIATE ARCHITECT
Lemay Erickson Willcox Architects

ARCHITECT OF RECORD
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WORK STATUS
Completed 2013

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Five years after the Flood of 2008, the Central Fire Station has reopened in a new, more prominent location on First Avenue SE. Its striking red brick exterior, keystones and arched details above the garage doors and windows give a nod to the station's important place in Cedar Rapids history.

This new 67,000 s.f. facility includes 8 bays, 7 of which are drive-thru bays, an underground parking garage for the crew, kitchen/dining/day room, library, fitness room, 17 private bunkrooms, a training conference room, and built-in training features. The dramatic two-story public lobby also houses Fire Department memorabilia and serves as a museum.

The station was designed and constructed with the assistance of FEMA not only to serve as a working firehouse, but also to house the fire department's Administrative Headquarters as well as the Emergency Operation Center. Designed to be self-sustaining, this facility can operate "off-grid" within a matter of an hour if a catastrophic event were to leave the city without water, gas, electrical or telecommunications systems.

Central Fire station received LEED Platinum Certification by incorporating such features as geothermal wells, low SRI roofing, low flow plumbing fixtures and regional materials.

- 2014 F.I.E.R.O. Fire Station Design Awards
Award of Merit (Silver)

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