

BUILDING TOGETHER

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Building Smarter Together: Introducing Lean Construction

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At EV Construction, we are always looking for ways to improve how we work—safer, smarter, and more efficiently. One of the most effective approaches gaining momentum in the industry is lean construction. While the idea is relatively new to our company, it offers powerful tools that will help us deliver projects with less waste, more predictability, and stronger teamwork.

So, what is lean construction? At its core, lean construction is about doing more with less. It focuses on planning work carefully, coordinating tasks across all trades, and eliminating anything that doesn't add value to the final project. A key piece of this process is engaging both our trade partners and our self-performed divisions directly in the schedule. By inviting their input early and often, we gain a clearer picture of manpower needs, task durations, and potential challenges. Instead of relying solely on top-down scheduling, lean creates a collaborative plan that reflects the realities of the people doing the work. This means fewer surprises, smoother workflows, and stronger project site coordination.

Lean construction is not just for management—it's for everyone. Whether you're swinging a hammer, installing panels, running equipment, or handling project logistics, you play a key role. Every employee at EV has the opportunity to share insights about what's working,

what's slowing things down, and how we can improve. Your input helps identify waste, reduce rework, and keep jobs running on schedule. Engaged teams—both in-house and trade partners—are the backbone of lean construction.

The benefits are clear. Financially, lean helps reduce delays, mistakes, and wasted material, which saves money and allows us to stay more competitive in the market. From a manpower perspective, better forecasting means we can schedule crews more accurately to avoid overstaffing one week and scrambling for help the next. This steadier workflow makes it easier to plan your time and reduces the physical and mental stress that comes with constant change.

Lean also improves safety and morale. When work is better planned and communication is stronger, project sites are less chaotic and safer. Knowing what's expected each day allows everyone to focus on quality rather than rushing. At the same time, employees feel more valued when their voices shape how the work gets done.

Simply put, lean construction benefits all of us at EV. It helps us deliver projects faster, safer, and with higher quality, while also improving the work environment. As we adopt lean principles, every one of us—including our trade partners—has a role to play in building a smarter future for EV Construction. Together, we can continue to raise the bar for ourselves, our clients, and our industry.



Upcoming Dates to Note



October 8 | Safety Meeting
October 13 - 16 | Painted Picture Group Sessions
October 20 | Friendship Village Ground Breaking
October 22 | Holland Hospital Westpark Groundbreaking
October 23 | FM/PM Meeting

Construction Terminology

Building Envelope

The physical barrier between the interior and exterior environments of a building, including walls, windows, roofs, and foundations.



We're Hiring

Help EV find your new coworkers!
Our open positions include:

Office:

Project Manager
Assistant Project Manager

Field:

Firestop Technician

Welcome to EV!



Jordan Praay
Equipment Operator



Jenifer Holly
Painter



RECENTLY AWARDED



Ridge Point Community Church - Renovation Holland, MI

- **Senior Project Manager:** Brad Loomans
- **Assistant Project Manager:** Jeremy Brandsen
- **Field Manager:** Dan Koscielski
- **Project Description:** This project is a renovation of the Fearless Chaplaincy offices. We are modifying their existing layout to create three new offices, and a reception area for Pastor Josh and his team. EV and our trade partners are donating some time and materials to help offset the costs on a project that supports their strong mission.
- **Self-Perform Trades:** Facility Services, Carpentry, Interiors, and Painting
- **Project Budget/Project Schedule:** TBD

GETTING STARTED



Holy Spirit Parish - New Parish and Narthex Expansion Grand Rapids, MI

- **Senior Project Manager:** Anthony Davis
- **Field Manager:** Justin Gould
- **Project Description:** This project includes a much-needed addition to the Child Development Center that attaches the existing CDC to the existing Holy Spirit Catholic School. The addition will include three new classrooms and an entrance lobby to welcome the children and their families. We will also be renovating the existing CDC to open up the space and reconfigure the classrooms.
- **Self-Perform Trades:** Almost all of them!
- **Project Budget:** \$7.5M
- **Project Schedule:** October, 2025 - August, 2026

UNDERWAY



Porter Hills Village The H.I.V.E. - New Construction Grand Rapids, MI

- **Project Executive:** Dan Behler
- **Project Manager:** Nick Novakoski
- **Assistant Project Manager:** Ethan Britton
- **Senior Field Manager:** Joe Shashaguay, Sr.
- **Project Description:** This 245,000-SF, three story senior living facility will feature independent, assisted, and skilled nursing units. Currently, our sitework crew is actively developing the site by laying essential underground infrastructure, and importing sand for the monitoring plates and sediment needs. This new building will encompass over 200 units and include a full continuum of amenities for the residents all under one roof. This project is now officially the largest signed contract in EV's 80 years of history!
- **Self-Perform Trades:** All of them!
- **Project Budget:** \$85M
- **Project Schedule:** May, 2025 - May, 2027

RECENTLY COMPLETED



GRFD Kendall Street Fire Station - New Construction Grand Rapids, MI

- **Senior Project Manager:** Curt Hielke
- **Senior Field Manager:** Doug Eddy
- **Assistant Project Manager:** Abby Leatherman
- **Project Description:** This is the first new fire station for the City of Grand Rapids in nearly 30 years. The 12,600-SF station features private living quarters with individual dorm rooms, kitchen and dining areas, drive-through apparatus bays, advanced exhaust systems, and a fitness room. The ribbon cutting was held on Friday, September 26.
- **Self-Perform Trades:** General Trades, Sitework, and Interiors
- **Project Budget:** \$6.75M
- **Project Schedule:** September, 2024 - September, 2025

Thrive Together Pulse

At EV Construction, our commitment to fostering a culture of wellness took a significant step forward this month with the successful completion of biometric screenings for 51 team members. These screenings provide essential baselines or updates on key health metrics, such as blood pressure, cholesterol levels, and body composition, offering valuable insights into personal health statuses. By shining a light on potential areas for improvement, this initiative empowers our employees to make informed life choices that enhance their overall well-being. Whether it's adjusting diet, increasing physical activity, or seeking medical advice, these screenings serve as a proactive tool in our collective journey toward healthier lifestyles, reinforcing that thriving together starts with individual awareness and action.

Leading up to the screenings, we rolled out a series of engaging activities to build excitement and education around healthy living. Our team delved into the benefits of health shots—quick, nutrient-packed boosts to kickstart the day—while exploring strategies for better sleeping habits to ensure restorative rest. To add a fun, hands-on element, we distributed fresh blueberries, highlighting their antioxidant-rich properties as a simple way to support brain and heart health. Additionally, representatives from our health insurance provider visited to review comprehensive benefits, and we spotlighted the importance of eye care through informative sessions on preventing strain and maintaining vision health. These efforts not only prepared everyone for the screenings, but also sparked ongoing conversations about sustainable wellness practices across our EV Construction family.

For those who were unable to make a slotted time and still want to have a screening, we will have a make up date (or dates) for you within the next month.



Award Worthy One Week. Three Honors.



EV Construction recently celebrated an incredible week of recognition, bringing home three prestigious awards that honor both our people and our projects. In just one week, George Martinez was named Craft Professional of the Year by ABC Western Michigan, our team received the Excellence in Construction Award for the Lakeshore Advantage “Next Center” project in downtown Holland, and we were honored with the Chamber Excellence Award from the Michigan West Coast Chamber of Commerce. Together, these awards highlight the skill, innovation, and dedication of our people, as well as our commitment to building strong relationships and strengthening our community.