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# Roof Upgrade Brings High Praise from Local Church

A leaking roof is a quick way to put a damper on Sunday morning service. Fortunately, Harmony Presbyterian Church didn't have to look far for help when replacing the deteriorating EPDM flat rubber roof on their 1996 single-story expansion structure.

“One of the church members on our governing board had experience with Fort Collins Utilities' Efficiency Works™ program and recommended we consider it for our roof replacement,” said Russell Moore, an Elder and former President. “When meeting with potential contractors, we discovered that certain types of roofing would qualify for an Efficiency Works rebate. That became a big factor in our evaluation of the proposals.”

Founded in 1980, the growing church underwent a 1996 expansion that included a single-story flat-roofed structure attached to the original pitched-roof church. The expansion paved the way for an additional 12,000 square feet of classrooms, meeting rooms, office space and a kitchen.

- The Efficiency Works rebate is for Energy Star™ certified Cool Roof products that help reduce cooling load and increase comfort.
- The rebate is based on square footage of product installed. Rebate is \$0.09/ft<sup>2</sup>.

### Insulation Rebates

- Adding insulation at the time of a roofing project is another way to increase comfort, energy savings and rebate amount.
- Insulation rebates are also based on square footage of product installed. The amount of additional insulation required for a rebate is dependent on the construction of the facility. The rebate is \$0.16/ft<sup>2</sup>.



“At the time, the black EPDM synthetic rubber roof membrane was the conventional flat-roof approach,” added Moore. “After installation, it was ballasted with fist-size river rock to hold it down against wind gusts.”

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**“Not only did the Efficiency Works rebate save money on installation, the new roof cut monthly costs through greater efficiency and reduced air conditioning load.”**

*–Russell Moore, Harmony Presbyterian Church*

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Years of foot traffic, however, led to minor punctures in the membrane from rock fragments. Additionally, the membrane seams started to separate and weather, resulting in numerous minor leaks. Although the roof was patched many times, maintenance issues became an escalating problem.

“In early 2013, we requested bids for a new roof from five contractors,” said Moore. “We received proposals for similar black EPDM (synthetic rubber) membrane, white Duro-Last (PVC) membrane and white

TPO (thermoplastic) membrane. With help from our contractor, RTN Roofing Systems, we decided on the white Duro-Last membrane. It’s been used on a number of local buildings and holds up well against hail and wind.”

“The new roof has been tremendous,” said Moore. “Leaks are a thing of the past and since it’s visible from the street, we even get compliments on the appearance.”

“A special thanks to RTN, who helped make the entire process a breeze,” added Moore. “RTN acted as our sole contact and managed all of the other interactions. They even provided us with weekly progress reports and photos.”

Beyond cosmetics, the roof is already paying dividends on the monthly utility bill. Current electric demand is down 1.9 kilowatts per month, with an expected annual energy savings of 5.5 megawatt hours per year.

“Not only did the Efficiency Works rebate save money on installation, the new roof cut monthly costs through greater efficiency and reduced air conditioning load,” Moore concludes. “Thanks to Fort Collins Utilities, Efficiency Works and our outstanding contractor, we couldn’t have asked for a better outcome.”



*Platte River*  
POWER AUTHORITY