



# Bergen County Parking Garage Solar Canopy

Torrington, Connecticut




The Bergen County Parking Garage Solar Canopy is constructed of steel joists and girders engineered specifically to house solar panels on the rooftop of the garage with no impact to the structures parking slots. Bergen County's prior success with galvanizing on their bridge projects made hot-dip galvanizing a stand alone choice for this project, as it could withstand the coastal New Jersey weather and offer longevity with minimal future maintenance.

The need for a quality product was crucial because of the high visibility of the garage. The county wanted the project to have a clean, attractive, rust-free appearance, as well as be low maintenance throughout the life of the project. The catch phrase "erect it and forget it" was uttered during the preliminary specification discussions and reiterated at the completion of the project. Communication between the engineer, fabricator and galvanizer ensured a high-quality design visually pleasing as well as structurally sound for decades to come.

The Canopy is also a highly sustainable project. Not only are the supporting joists enhancing a source of renewable energy, but the steel used in the project was produced from recycled scraps as well. Recycled material, low maintenance, and sustainable solar power mean big savings for the community, making the Bergen County Parking Garage Solar Canopy a win-win for all.

An aggressive schedule of completion was established for this roof system, with the owner and contracting team heavily dependent upon an

expeditious delivery. The assurance the galvanizing process would not be held up by inclement weather or other unforeseen obstacles allowed them to concentrate on other challenges. The project was completed ahead of schedule, in large thanks to the specification of hot-dip galvanizing.

In addition, the galvanized product made the erection process easier, as the joist and girders had to be lifted upon the roof of a multi-story parking garage. The durable hot-dip galvanized coating minimized touch-up areas and facilitated the speedy completion with nominal disruption. 

## Galvanizer

American Galvanizing Co., Inc.

## Engineer

Innovative Engineering, Inc.

## Owner

Sunlight General Capital

## Specifier

Pfister Energy

## Fabricators

Canam Steel Corp.  
Structural Steel Fabricators, Inc.

# electrical, utility, & communication



American Galvanizers Association