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SERA-designed LinkedIn campus in Silicon Valley goes live

LinkedIn employees in Mountain View, Calif., have a new 24-acre campus to call home – and it was designed by local firm SERA Architects.

More than two years in the making, the project by SERA's Workplace studio unifies three existing, disparate office buildings and their asphalt surroundings into an intuitive, cohesive and environmentally-conscious campus. The result is an inspiring destination that fosters community and provides employees access to an array of amenities and unique places.

Originally a project awarded to SERA by Google in 2015, the campus changed hands in a property deal with LinkedIn in 2016. SERA worked with LinkedIn to adapt select areas of the project to meet its specific and unique operational needs, teaming with XL Construction to realize the 300,000 sf project.

“The SERA and XL team forged a strong partnership through early socialization and strategic planning, which made it easy to meet the project budget and excel amid the transition from Google to LinkedIn,” said Stuart Colby, SERA Principal and Workplace Director. “We really enjoyed our partnership.”

Onsite, a central promenade organizes circulation through a series of pathways and bridges. The structure spans a 5-acre meadow that's irrigated through innovative and ecologically-sensitive water capture strategies.

At each of the three buildings, entries were reoriented to maximize connectivity to the meadow. On the interior, front porches lead to new, prominent stairways and skylit entry lobbies, further reinforcing this relationship between outdoor and indoor environments. Shared amenities along the perimeters of the buildings, including a fitness center, juice and coffee bar, and 500-seat café, attract users to views of the meadow.

Wellness was a core strategy for the interior planning of Middlefield. The addition of large skylights, clerestories and solar tubes allow daylight to reach the entirety of each building's deep floorplates. Teams of between 30 and 60 people are arranged around collaboration and social gathering areas – spaces dedicated to meetings, games, music, phone calls and lounging – creating neighborhoods that break down the large floorplates.

“The new offices feature ample views, access to nature, and accommodate a wide variety of working styles expected in the modern workplace,” said Colby.

Brand and identity graphics were provided by Gensler.

INCLUDED: Photos, credit: Marco Zecchin

ABOUT SERA

SERA is a 100% employee-owned Architecture, Interior Design and Urban Design & Planning firm specializing in sustainable placemaking at all scales. Founded in Portland, Oregon, in 1968, SERA holds a key role in the development of the city's national reputation for livability. Today, the firm builds on its early experience of adaptive re-use and historic renovations with design and planning for hospitality, workplace, mixed-use housing, higher education and civic projects. Now with a second office, in Silicon Valley, its vision remains to create places that enrich the human experience, evoke delight, and provide an enduring legacy for future generations.

Serving diverse clients like the University of Oregon, Marriott Hotels and the U.S. General Services Administration, SERA's portfolio of multi-award winning projects includes the Edith Green – Wendell Wyatt Federal Building modernization; The Collaborative Life Sciences Building and Skourtes Tower; and the Pearl District Residence Inn.

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