

Renovation of Metro Bank Park Revitalizes Baseball in Harrisburg

APRIL
15
2010



Kansas City, Mo. – Starting with only a field on a flood-prone island and a limited budget, how much ballpark can a city get?

For Harrisburg, Pa., the answer has turned out to be quite a lot.

The Harrisburg Senators' home opener April 15 culminates a dramatic, two-year renovation of Metro Bank Park. Led by 360 Architecture, the \$48 million project added:

- + A new public plaza and entrance in left field
- + A new boardwalk that enables fans to walk all the way around the stadium
- + An upgraded scoreboard and new sound system
- + New left-field seating, an outfield bar with drink rails, and new seating beneath the scoreboard
- + A new 8,600 square-foot Operations Building, housing the team's front offices, security, first-aid, a new box office, along with a new souvenir store, concession stand and public rest rooms
- + A roof over a majority of the seating bowl
- + 20 suites with sweeping views of the field and the Harrisburg skyline
- + A "Midway" with activities and specialty areas for children, teenagers and families
- + New concessions and restrooms on elevated concourses
- + Upgraded picnic areas
- + A new press box including new media and scoreboard control rooms

Metro Bank Park is located on City Island, a 62-acre waterfront park and sports complex on the Susquehanna River. Because of the location, the ballpark is prone to being flooded, most recently during the 2006 season. The next time, however, the facility will be ready.

Starting at the potential flood-height elevation, 360 Architecture created a "boardwalk" that encircles the stadium, giving fans a 360-degree perspective of the game, offers amenities along the way and connects to a walking trail. Below, at field level, are moveable fan amenities that can be relocated to higher ground, and areas that can be sealed off during potential flood periods. Above the boardwalk level are the majority of permanent seating and premium fan amenities, and the upper suite level, which provides panoramic views of the game and the downtown Harrisburg skyline.

New features of the stadium also include wayfinding and environmental graphics designed by Tilt, a subsidiary of 360 Architecture.

"360 Architecture's team turned obstacles into opportunities, creating a dynamic experience," said the Senators' CEO Bill Davidson. "There are so many amenities given the tight budget. The circulation through and around the stadium is exceptional. The ballpark's presence is dramatic, making it one of the best and most unique environments in minor league baseball."

360 Architecture is an innovative architectural practice widely recognized for excellence in planning, design and execution across a wide range of project types, including corporate and commercial office buildings, sports arenas and stadiums, mixed-use districts, recreation centers, residences, restaurants and municipal facilities. 360 Architecture is headquartered in Kansas City, Missouri and has offices in Dallas, San Francisco, and Columbus.