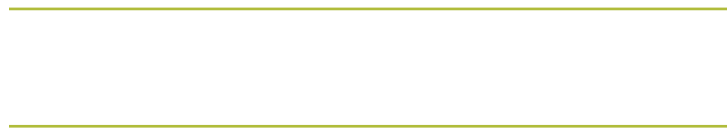


When complicated soil conditions, a global pandemic, and inspection errors threatened to derail the completion of a \$30 million, state-of-the-art senior living facility in Plainsboro, New Jersey, it was an ability to respond immediately with full-service engineering and inspection expertise that allowed the project to finish on schedule and within budget.

Maplewood at Princeton successfully opened recently, but at



so its inspectors were not performing inspections as usual. However, being a full-service firm, we were able to perform the required inspection work while following COVID-19 safety precautions.”

Working with the local construction code official, FPA performed the necessary building inspections, allowing the project to progress. “The Township was comfortable with FPA performing the building inspections based on our previous experience there,” French said. “We have been working in Plainsboro for a number of years. We have a good relationship with the Township built on trust and communication.”

Plainsboro Township and Maplewood at Princeton agreed to accept reports from FPA for the building inspections.

And this trust afforded to FPA from Plainsboro was not insignificant. Jake Dudley, who performed many of the construction inspections on the Maplewood project, explained that Plainsboro entrusted FPA’s staff to be their eyes and ears. “I think our relationship with the Township on previous work in that area, gave us the leg up.”

“This shows the advantage that FPA has that other inspection companies don’t,” French said. “Having professional engineers and multidiscipline services in-house gave us the ability to keep the project moving at a critical stage of construction.”

Final Obstacles

In speaking about the value that FPA brought to the project, Nick Gullusci, the Owner’s Representative and Project Manager,

is nearing the end of the construction timeline, the budget is becoming increasingly tight, and the supply chain is four months behind?” Rebar Bisaha asked. Since the landscape vision included specific features where substitutions would not work, the FPA landscape architectural team had to work extra hard with suppliers to make it happen.

“In the end, FPA was able to come through,” Gullusci agreed, stating “the courtyards and landscaping for the project turned out great” and are a breathtaking feature of the now-finished Maplewood Assisted Living Facility.

On Solid Footing



About the Article

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Celebrating over 48 years of engineering and consulting excellence with over 170 professionals across multiple office locations throughout the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic, French & Parrello Associates provides innovative and effective multidiscipline engineering design and environmental services for clients in both the public and private sectors. Visit www.fpaengineers.com.

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