



## Montana State University Billings, Montana

Of the 810<sup>+</sup> projects Paul Mack has designed and/or constructed, this one is his favorite parking structure. Others acknowledge that this garage is special because it won the **First Place Award for a Public Facility** presented by the Montana Contractors Association, as well as the **Award of Excellence in Parking Design** from the International Parking Institute. From the beginning, the University set the tone that this garage would make a visible statement to the public that MSU is proud of its campus and wants its students, faculty, and visitors to feel welcome. The architecture blends with other buildings close to the garage, and its clever use of curved shapes draw the attention of all who pass by the busy intersection that is the gateway to the University.

The 2-bay, 5-level mixed-use facility accommodates Police and Parking Division offices on the lower-level. A sky bridge crosses a busy street, connecting the garage to neighboring buildings. An unusual safety feature is an external ADA accessible walkway around the parking area that allows parkers to avoid walking through traffic. While the superstructure is a post-tensioned frame, a precast concrete deck spans an adjacent canal, linking the garage to the main campus. Masonry wall panels with precast concrete caps are supported by cantilever concrete ledges around the perimeter.



Photos by Collaborative Design Architects, used with permission

Footprint	Spaces	SF/Space	Superstructure		
125' x 342'	485	310	Post-Tensioned	5-Levels	2-Bays

*“MSU, Billings, wanted a state-of-the-art parking structure as the gateway to the campus. We contracted with Paul Mack to lead the design effort for structural and functional design of the garage. His overall performance was very professional and his work exceeded our expectations and was totally acceptable to our client. Together we worked out a way to provide a deck over a canal which added many spaces and tied the facility to an existing surface lot. We appreciated his creativity and have used him as a parking consultant on other projects in Montana.”*

Jeffery Kanning, AIA  
Vice President,  
Collaborative Design Architects  
2280 Grant Road, Suite C  
Billings, MT 59108  
406-248-3443

Founder Paul Mack, P.E. had significant involvement in phases of this project while at another firm