

Hurricane Harvey Parking Garage Recovery HOUSTON, TX

ELECTRICAL CONSTRUCTION CASE STUDY

Houstonfirst

Owner

Houston First Corporation

Contract Type

Electrical Construction

Contract Amount

\$4,300,000.00

General Contractor

Gilbane Building Company

Engineering Firm

Halliwell Engineering
Associates

FSG Assists in Downtown Houston Parking Garage Recovery Project Following Hurricane Harvey Flooding

Challenge

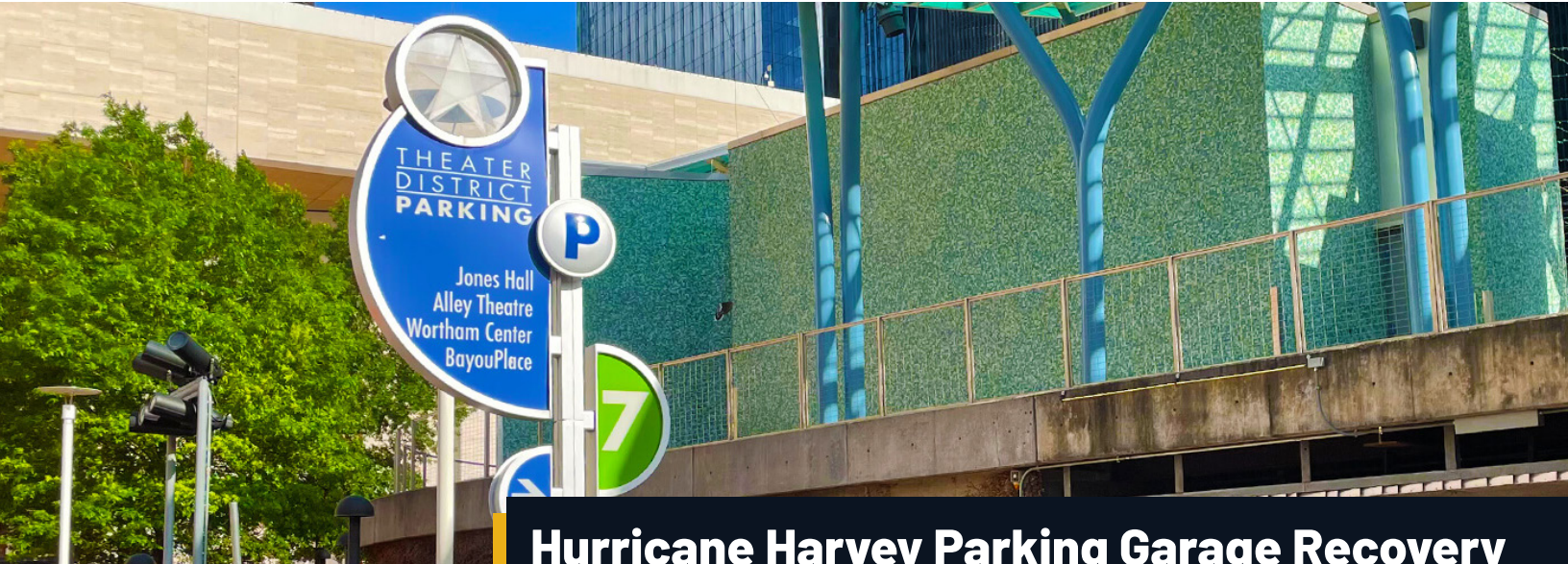
Hurricane Harvey swept over the Texas Gulf Coast on August 25, 2017, and for the next several days Houston was inundated with record-breaking rainfall and flooding. Downtown, in the city's Theater District, the Civic, Large Tranquility, and Small Tranquility parking garages were completely submerged for days. When the floodwaters receded following the flood, crews were called in to start cleaning up the mess.

Houston First Corporation engaged Gilbane to direct the recovery projects for the three main downtown parking structures in the Theater District. Gilbane turned to FSG's Houston branch to execute the electrical work scope for this project.

Solution

Power to the three parking facilities was de-energized by the local utility company and FSG brought in multiple generators, including two (2) 1-mW and four (4) 36-kW units, to supply power and temporary lighting for the clean-up crews. Switchboards were rented to distribute the power to the different work areas and pieces of equipment needed for the clean-up effort. As the waters receded and the mud and muck were finally cleaned out, it was time to survey the damage.





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All electrical, mechanical, and plumbing equipment had to be refurbished or replaced. FSG replaced one (1) 500-kW generator, one (1) 180-kW generator, and refurbished various switchboards and Motor Control Centers to their original working condition on site. The project owner wanted to have all three garages open for business by Thanksgiving, for the start of the Christmas season. This was a very aggressive schedule, and it required all lighting to be in place, along with working supply and exhaust fans, emergency power for egress lighting, and sump pumps powered and ready to go.

As one part of a larger, regional recovery effort, FSG raised its game and delivered the parking garage recovery project to Gilbane as requested, helping to restore Houston's vital downtown economy after a devastating storm.

