

# CPOutlook

University of Washington | Capital Projects Office | July 2011

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## PROFILES



CPO supports the University's Business Diversity Program through outreach to MBE, WBE, small and new A/E firms. "PROFILES" will feature one such firm that seems particularly well suited for work here. A/E Firms featured in "PROFILES" have expressed a strong interest in working on our projects. Feel free to contact these firms directly or contact Doug Jennings for more information.

This month's featured firm is:

	<b>Lawhead Architects P.S.</b>	12342 Northup Way
	architecture   planning   interior design	Bellevue, WA 98005
	<a href="http://www.lawhead.com">www.lawhead.com</a>   <a href="mailto:flawhead@lawhead.com">flawhead@lawhead.com</a>	p. 425.556.1220
		f. 425.556.1228

**Stability and flexibility:** Those are the words that kept coming to mind as I interviewed Frank Lawhead, owner of Lawhead Architects, P.S. Frank started his Bellevue office in 1990 after six years with Mithun, Inc. For over twenty years, through our tumultuous economy, he has maintained a stable workload, allowing him to keep a dedicated staff of six to eight members. Minimal personnel changes have resulted in a cohesive, creative, flexible and efficient design team. This stability and the firm's office organization complement the complexity and diversity of their projects.

**Lawhead Architects, P.S.** has designed a huge variety of project types, from renovations and challenging retrofit projects to new buildings varying in type and size, including an award-winning \$18 million LEED Gold Certified Service Center for Puget Sound Energy. Frank is well versed in the LEED certification process and has facilitated scoring on multiple LEED projects. By maintaining a smaller practice, Frank is able to be personally involved in all the firm's projects, resulting in repeat work from clients who value his personal participation.

**Design Style:** Frank's design style could be described as handsome, simple and direct. His buildings have good clarity of purpose and function, and are attractive without being overstated. Six of Lawhead Architects' fire stations have received national recognition and top design awards. Frank is also comfortable in designing very utilitarian buildings, and always looks for ways to give even the simplest design a special appeal. Lawhead Architects, P.S. started using Computer Aided Drafting and Design (CADD) in 1993 (earlier than most) and has a full set of electronic competencies, including Building Information Modeling (BIM), rendering, building fly-thru animation, and full 3D document capability. The company has performed electronic building modeling and fly-thru services for other architects in the past, and coordinated electronic documentation directly with construction contractors.

**Public Sector Experience:** As his work is almost exclusively with public sector clients, Frank has a keen understanding of the unique challenges of these clients, including how to build consensus with the many (sometimes conflicting) interest groups on a single project. About 35% of his work is renovation, 65% new buildings, and the firm also has provided On-Call services for various term contracts. A few of his clients are: King County Housing Authority, City of Seattle (On-Call Architectural Services), State of Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR), the Cities of Richland, Mountlake Terrace, Redmond, Everett, and Tacoma, as well as over ten different Fire Districts. Project types include: master planning, city halls, offices, K-12, fire stations, housing, service centers, and challenging retrofit projects (working with occupied space).



Lawhead Architects, P.S. has applied for work at UW/CPO and would love to do a project for us of any size. To see more of Lawhead Architects' work, visit the Shared Procurement Portal, as well as their website at: <http://www.lawhead.com/> or phone Frank direct at: (425) 556-1220. Lawhead Architects, P.S. is certified by OMWBE as an MBE and would help us meet our MWBE goals.

LAWHEAD ARCHITECTS, P.S.  
By Doug Jennings



UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON