

PROJECTS SUMMARY



OPTERRA in the Midwest: **A Trusted Advisor and Partner for Comprehensive Capital Projects**

OPTERRA Energy Services (OPTERRA) has a proven record of helping local public sector organizations in the Midwestern U.S. modernize and improve their infrastructure and deliver large capital projects on time and budget. Our comprehensive, turnkey, guaranteed approach takes care of major programs from start to finish and enables organizations to help offset the costs through operational savings. Based on the strength of our performance and experience, customers come back to us repeatedly for complex, multi-phase projects as needs evolve over time. With OPTERRA, customers get more than a contractor; they get a trusted advisor for the long term capable of turning their master plan into reality.

[Read on to learn more about how we help public institutions in the Midwest modernize and grow in this summary of key projects in the region.](#)



Dakota Community Unit School District (CUSD) 201

Looking to modernize its facilities via a turnkey process that guaranteed success, Dakota CUSD joined forces with OPTERRA. OPTERRA oversaw a range of capital improvements, including athletic facilities, security and communications systems, windows, multi-purpose room renovations, and more. OPTERRA provided a sole source of accountability, helping Dakota CUSD pass a voted referendum, reduce risk, and reduce disruption to school programming. The project was so successful, the district engaged OPTERRA for a second phase of work, which included the construction of vehicle and pedestrian traffic calming measures, softball/baseball facilities, windows, roofing, flooring, and more. Through this second phase of work, the district has been able to improve safety and future-proof its facilities.

Meridian Community Unit School District 223

Meridian CUSD 223 partnered with OPTERRA to address aging infrastructure and achieve key board goals focused on safety, reliability, and long-term value. OPTERRA's comprehensive scope included health/life safety upgrades, architectural collaboration, roofing improvements, traffic calming measures, and integrated digital solutions for IT, security, and surveillance. Athletic facility enhancements, flooring upgrades, and asbestos abatement further supported the district's mission to protect assets and reduce risk. By avoiding new costs and generating funds, the district preserved resources for students while building a trusted, flexible partnership for future growth.

Oregon CUSD 220

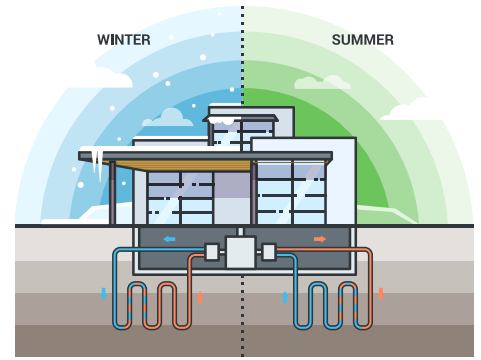
The district engaged OPTERRA as a long-term partner to help deliver its master plan for wide-ranging improvements. OPTERRA co-developed and delivered two major projects, managing all work from beginning to end. Projects included geothermal heating and cooling systems, security vestibule entrances, and surveillance systems (phase 1) and design-build of a new district office and IT building, remodeling a high school, and upgrading athletic facilities (phase 2). All work was delivered on time and on budget, underpinned by a performance-based agreement. By working with OPTERRA, Oregon CUSD reduced its exposure to supply chain and labor issues and avoided overwhelming its internal staff.

Riverton CUSD 14

Needing to clear a huge backlog of deferred maintenance issues and projects for its three school buildings, Riverton CUSD launched a major building modernization project. Lacking internal expertise to manage such a large project, the district brought OPTERRA on board to help. Having co-created a master plan for the improvements, OPTERRA oversaw all phases of work, including design, subcontractor selection, and materials sourcing to inspection and approval of all completed work. For phase one of the project, net reduction in energy, repair, and maintenance costs will save the district between \$50,000 and \$91,000 every year for the next two decades. Over the life of the program, these savings will add up to about \$1.4 million. The project was so successful that the school board opted to partner again for a phase two with the OPTERRA team of experts.

Mexico Public Schools

Looking to improve comfort and efficiency, reduce carbon emissions, and save operations costs at two of its facilities, Mexico Public Schools enlisted the help of OPTERRA. By installing building automation systems, HVAC, and heat pump systems, as well as over 700 windows, OPTERRA helped Mexico Public Schools eliminate 753 metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions, the equivalent of removing 159 cars from the road. The district now benefits from savings of 850,000 gallons of water annually and \$2.3 million in utility savings over the life of the program.



Howell Public Schools

Needing to accommodate more students and modernize its aging infrastructure, Howell Public Schools turned to OPTERRA. Over a long-term multi-phase project, OPTERRA delivered a range of building envelope improvements, illumination with controls, building automation systems, and plumbing upgrades, among others. As a result of the work, students and staff are benefiting from a more comfortable environment and more reliable systems. The program was procured through OPTERRA's performance contracting vehicle which enabled the district to avoid large capital outlays to fund the improvements.

Oakland University, Michigan

To enhance campus sustainability and resilience, Oakland University partnered with OPTERRA to deliver a comprehensive infrastructure upgrade. The centerpiece of the project is a 5 MW cogeneration plant that improves energy efficiency and reliability across campus. OPTERRA also implemented energy conservation measures, electrical and mechanical system upgrades, and water-saving technologies. These improvements have reduced utility dependence, eliminated outages, and boosted operational flexibility. Funded through energy and operational savings, the initiative supports STEM education and strengthens the university's commitment to community safety and sustainability.



"The operation of the cogeneration system, real-time energy monitoring, data for energy savings, + reduction of emissions will be a learning tool for students + a valuable educational experience."

– Siraj Khan, Former Director of Engineering for Facilities Management

John Wood Community College, Illinois

Focused on achieving strategic board goals, John Wood Community College partnered with OPTERRA to deliver a comprehensive infrastructure upgrade that supports workforce development and the local economy. OPTERRA's turnkey approach enabled self-funding without a voted referendum, tuition hike, or tax increase, while preserving flexibility for future expansion. The project included architectural collaboration, campus safety and security enhancements, mechanical system improvements, building automation upgrades, LED lighting, and electricity conservation measures—positioning the college for long-term operational efficiency and growth.

A Turnkey Solution

With OPTERRA, school districts, higher education, and local and state government organizations benefit from a holistic, end-to-end approach that supports their entire modernization program across its lifecycle including:



Strategy & Planning

- Opportunity Assessment
- Solution Integration
- Funding & Financing
- Stakeholder Communications



Implementation

- Engineering, Mechanical & Electrical Design
- Financial Incentive Application Support
- Procurement
- Project & Construction Management



Operations & Optimization

- Post-Construction Field Services
- Energy Monitoring
- Performance & Savings Reports
- Measurement & Verification
- Student & Community Engagement

For 50 years, OPTERRA has served thousands of municipalities, schools, and universities throughout the U.S. Our approach to building infrastructure improvement is market-proven, and each program is designed to meet the specific needs of our customers.

About OPTERRA Energy Services

OPTERRA partners with public sector stakeholders to meet the unique goals of communities nationwide. Our team customizes projects with top-tier technology to deliver lasting impact, enhancing fiscal savings and community engagement. With over 50 years of experience, we ensure our customers' long-term success through tailored solutions that support their vision. By deeply engaging and understanding specific goals, we deliver on the mission our customers envision.



You may qualify for a no-cost opportunity assessment.
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