E xtremely proud of their extensive park system, the small suburban community of Roseville, MN, boasts nearly 30 parks for a total of more than 600 acres of open space. Providing a variety of public services and amenities including play areas, picnicking facilities, ball fields, ice rinks, trails and golf courses, the parks and recreation department is in the process of replacing many of its existing park shelters, starting with three of the system’s parks: Acorn, Central and Evergreen.

The new buildings serve a wide range of functions: a picnic shelter for groups of up to 200 people (600 sq. ft., enclosed; 4,200 sq. ft., roof area), a concession stand for little league baseball (770 sq. ft., enclosed) and two winter ice rink warming houses with rest room facilities and staging areas for summer playground activities (1,000 sq. ft., enclosed, 2,000 sq. ft., roof area). In accordance with the program, the new shelters are designed to be prototypes for other park structures that will be considered in future years. As such, all of the shelters have a consistent and durable aesthetic and remain within the $122/sq. ft. budget established by the client. Large roof overhangs are supported by an arbor-like structure of galvanized steel beams and cedar. In several years, the steel and cedar trellises will be entwined with vines, planted in the concrete bases of the structural columns. The seamless flow from interior to exterior alludes to park and recreation aesthetics of the past.

J U R O R S ’  C O M M E N T S
Creative assembly of materials and pieces; steel used in a way that celebrates its light weight and strength. The success of these structures lies in their “edges.”

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STRUCTURAL ENGINEER
Meyer, Borgman & Johnson, Inc., Minneapolis, MN

ARCHITECT
Meyer, Scherer & Rockcastle, Ltd., Minneapolis, MN

GENERAL CONTRACTOR

JURORS’ COMMENTS
An appropriate use of steel in a park setting which recalls timber construction techniques and detailing in a modern way.