

## Commercial Non-Profit Pavilion Construction

As part of my internship with Turner Construction during the Summer of 2025, the intern cohort was tasked with building a pavilion for the local non-profit “TreeFolks” within a confined budget of \$5000. After deliberation in our first meeting I was elected to be the project manager, where my specific responsibilities included budget management, specification requests with the client, and labor coordination for all construction days. The following document details what this process looked like from start to finish.



*Entrance to TreeFolks Headquarters in Austin, TX*

The non-profit Turner Construction was collaborating with, “TreeFolks”, was centered around volunteer programs to raise saplings in their greenhouses, transplant trees from areas that would otherwise be demolished, and plant new trees in green areas around Austin. After I had discussion with both the property manager and CEO, the company ultimately sought a spot that would provide rest to their volunteers, with the following specifications for the pavilion:

1. Provide complete shade coverage
2. 20ft. x 10ft. in dimensions
3. Partial backscreen to block heavy wind but allow for cooling airflow
4. Slanted roof to allow for rainwater collection

Shortly after I had received these requests from the TreeFolks team and relayed it to our intern team at Turner, we got to work over the next few weeks in a series of meetings that included input from our estimation, safety, and engineering team on how to get the project to completion. Seen in the pictures on the next page is an example of what these meetings looked like on the left, and preliminary renderings I worked with the engineering team to provide the clients with.



*Project Coordination Meeting*



*Initial Rendering*

A lot of my time during this initial phase was spent managing requests between the clients, engineers, and estimation team. While \$5000 dollars was certainly doable, there were a lot of constraints regarding cosmetic requests, material procurement for more obscure roofing items to allow for the rain collection, and figuring out cost-efficient ways to level the ground and dig holes for the posts. After deliberation, I was able to get our budget tied up at \$4700.

At this point in the project it was now time to flesh out the logistics for our build days during the 3rd week of July, which included a) an initial foundation and layout day on Monday, b) a primary build day that was supported by volunteer labor from the company on Wednesday when our concrete had dried, and c) a small cleanup/photo-op on a Thursday Morning. While managing my primary work responsibilities on my daily site, I managed to get approval for this activity from the clients, draft a safety/logistics plan with our safety team to email all labor participants with company approval, and create a full labor roster of who and what resources would be available during the build week. As seen in the pictures below, our team was very involved in the physical labor to get this project done!



*Post-Hole Digging Using an Augur*



*Laying Concrete Foundation*

After completion we were informed the project was one of the most successful intern projects Turner Austin had done to date. The project finished under budget, under expected labor hours (I had originally budgeted for 25 hours, but it was completed in 22 hours), and had 0 safety incidents or concerns. Despite working in muddy conditions from heavy rains the previous weekend and some material items arriving late, all parts of the plan from safety to budget were thorough enough to account for setbacks and the pavilion was delivered with complete client satisfaction. The finished project can be seen below.



*Final Product*