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Brockton architect helps auto-seller expand

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BROCKTON, Mass. — The renovation and expansion of the Honda Gallery located in Reading was successfully completed by the team of BKA Architects, Inc. of Brockton, Massachusetts provided the design services, and Senate Construction Corporation, of Shirley, was the general contractor.

Submitted Photo BKA: Architects, Inc. of Brockton, and Senate Construction Corporation, of Shirley, teamed up on recently-completed renovations at the Honda Gallery in Reading



BKA Architects was asked to transform the existing buildings situated on a landfill site into a facility that would meet the requirements of the prototype for a Honda dealership and incorporate the Gallery's own requirements. Of the two existing buildings, it was determined at the start of the project that the condition of the existing service building did not allow for its reuse while the existing showroom building was deemed acceptable. The result was that the existing 2-story, 20,000-square-foot showroom building was renovated, and the existing service building demolished in order to allow for the construction of a separate, two-story 31,000-square-foot facility that would house a state-of-the-art Service Department with 32 service bays, parts and customer areas.

Throughout the project, a fundamental challenge was the site itself. The soils required remediation in order to bring them up to a bearing capacity and stability that was sufficient to support the planned building. Geopiers, or compacted cylinders of earth, were hammered into earth to provide this support and stability. Other constraints included a 40-foot sewer easement near the West side of the planned service building and the town line of Reading and Wakefield that is located close to the East exterior wall of the service building.