

# contract

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Part of cover story:  
Designers of the Year: John Peterson & John Cary: Public Architecture



Like many firms participating in The 1%, Paulsen Architects in Mankato, Minn., spends more than 1% of its time on pro bono work. "We have a high level of expectation for all of our employees to be involved in community activities," says principal Bryan Paulsen. Adds Eric Lennartson, Assoc. AIA, designer and marketing development coordinator at Paulsen, "It's nice to find a national organization that believes in the same thing." Past projects include working on a training camp proposal to retain the Minnesota Vikings in Mankato (top rendering). While the Vikings are hardly a nonprofit in need, keeping the training camp in Mankato was key as it provides more than \$5 million economically and lures 80,000 visitors to the region annually. Also in the sports realm, in 2008 Paulsen served on the development team for Fallenstein Field, a.k.a. Miracle Field (above photo) in North Mankato. The cushioned, synthetic turf field is barrier free and handicapped and wheelchair accessible. Built according to National Wheelchair Softball Association (NWSA) specifications, the field provides opportunities for children and adults with all types of disabilities to actively participate in softball/baseball activities. What's more, tournaments on the field, which is one of only a handful of full accessible fields in the country, bring in millions of dollars for the community.