

of Labor Statistics, construction was one of only two major industries where there are now more women on the payroll than before the COVID-19 pandemic. In August 2021, there were nearly 1.2 million women on employer payrolls in the construction industry, 30,000 more than in February 2020.

In addition to the growing presence of women, the industry itself is brimming with opportunities as it expected to add approximately 400,000 new jobs from 2020-2030. Salaries vary by opportunity depending upon training and experience, though, the annual median salary in 2022 for a Construction Manager is \$116,000.

With this in mind, we seized the opportunity to speak with

the women in Engel Burman's Construction division to hear their real-life perspectives of what it's like for women in construction. We were interested in hearing their thoughts on the industry in general, not their necessarily their opinions of any specific company or employer. The group included, from left to right in photo above, Kim Pitterson, Assistant Project Manager; Martha Xuereb, Director of Preconstruction; Eileen Calaci, Assistant Project Manager; Shaleen Porter-Awong, Payroll Administrator; Diane Ambrosio, Assistant Project Manager; Kelly Gardner, Assistant Project Manager; and

WOMEN IN A MALE-DOMINATED INDUSTRY

For the most part, women are becoming more accepted and gaining more respect. In fact, many men have been very welcoming of women into the field as they appreciate the different perspective that women can bring. More women are also being seen in various roles including the trades, vendor partners, and managers.

THE CHALLENGES WOMEN FACE

About the Author

As the Director of Corporate Marketing, Donna Bahena is responsible for the Engel Burman brand. In this role, she works to maintain the consistency and integrity in all Engel Burman communications and the alignment of all divisions – EB Development, EB Construction, EB Management, EB Living. She has over 20 years of experience in stewarding brands and developing and implementing strategic marketing plans across a wide array of industries and in a wide array of roles. She has led large internal marketing teams as well as multi-disciplinary teams within some of the world's largest advertising agencies.

[Engel Burman](#) is a fully integrated real estate company consisting of Development, [Construction](#), and Property Management. Engel Burman has developed over 10 million square feet of commercial and residential property with a market value over \$3 billion. The company's portfolio includes more than 5,000 multifamily and senior living condos and apartments, 25+ assisted