# Maria Kowalczyk

*Architect and Project Manager*

Las Cruces · NM · US

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| **Profile**  Accomplished Architect and Project Manager with over 18 years of experience in the design and delivery of public and educational facilities across the Southwest. Licensed architect (NCARB certified) with a Master of Architecture from the University of Texas at Austin and proven expertise in managing complex, large-scale architectural projects from concept through construction completion. Recognized for leadership in sustainable design, adherence to budget and schedule constraints, and fostering collaborative relationships with clients, contractors, and municipal stakeholders. A passionate advocate for community-centered architecture, with a strong track record in public-sector projects including K–12 schools, university buildings, civic centers, and cultural institutions. Currently serving as Senior Project Manager at El Paso-based Terrasol Design Group, seeking to bring strategic planning and architectural excellence to ASA Architects, P.A.  **Skills**  Architectural Design & Planning, Project Management & Execution, Technology & Software, Sustainability & Compliance, Leadership & Soft Skills  **Languages**  English — Native  Spanish — Professional Proficiency – Conversational and Technical  **Awards**  AIA New Mexico Design Excellence Award | 2010-01-01  AIA New Mexico  Received for the $15.5M Santa Fe Community Library Expansion.  **Certifications**  Licensed Architect  State of New Mexico (License #ARC.03877), State of Texas (License #T5729)  LEED Accredited Professional | 2012  USGBC  NCARB Certification | 2006  NCARB  OSHA 30-Hour Construction Safety Certification | 2014  OSHA  **Interests**  Desert landscape preservation  passive solar design  community urbanism  architectural photography  hiking the Organ Mountains | **Experience**  **Senior Project Manager at Terrasol Design Group**  01 Mar 2018 – Present  Lead architect and project manager for public-sector capital improvement projects across West Texas and Southern New Mexico, including 6 major educational facilities with total construction value exceeding $142 million. Manage end-to-end delivery of projects, from initial client workshops to occupancy, with average on-time delivery at 94% and budget adherence within 2.3% variance. Directed design and documentation for the $28M El Paso Valley High School Renovation, reducing energy consumption by 32% through daylight optimization and HVAC system upgrades; achieved LEED Gold certification. Serve as primary liaison between school boards, contractors, and city permitting offices; facilitated 18+ public community design forums to incorporate stakeholder feedback. Mentor and manage a team of 5 architects, 2 designers, and 3 interns; improved project documentation efficiency by 30% through Revit template standardization.   * Lead architect and project manager for public-sector capital improvement projects across West Texas and Southern New Mexico, including 6 major educational facilities with total construction value exceeding $142 million. * Manage end-to-end delivery of projects, from initial client workshops to occupancy, with average on-time delivery at 94% and budget adherence within 2.3% variance. * Directed design and documentation for the $28M El Paso Valley High School Renovation, reducing energy consumption by 32% through daylight optimization and HVAC system upgrades; achieved LEED Gold certification. * Serve as primary liaison between school boards, contractors, and city permitting offices; facilitated 18+ public community design forums to incorporate stakeholder feedback. * Mentor and manage a team of 5 architects, 2 designers, and 3 interns; improved project documentation efficiency by 30% through Revit template standardization.   **Project Manager at Terrasol Design Group**  01 Jul 2011 – 01 Mar 2018  Led 11 K–12 school modernization projects for El Paso ISD and Las Cruces Public Schools, consistently delivering within tight public funding cycles. Developed construction documents compliant with Texas Accessibility Standards (TAS) and New Mexico State Fire Code, reducing agency review time by an average of 22 days. Spearheaded BIM implementation across the firm’s public projects, reducing coordination errors by 40% and saving approximately $1.2M in rework costs.   * Led 11 K–12 school modernization projects for El Paso ISD and Las Cruces Public Schools, consistently delivering within tight public funding cycles. * Developed construction documents compliant with Texas Accessibility Standards (TAS) and New Mexico State Fire Code, reducing agency review time by an average of 22 days. * Spearheaded BIM implementation across the firm’s public projects, reducing coordination errors by 40% and saving approximately $1.2M in rework costs.   **Architect II / Lead Designer at Western Design Collaborative**  01 Jan 2008 – 01 Jun 2011  Designed and documented civic and educational facilities, including the $15.5M Santa Fe Community Library Expansion, which received the 2010 AIA New Mexico Design Excellence Award. Coordinated structural, mechanical, and electrical consultants using Revit-based BIM workflows; managed submittal and RFIs for three concurrent projects. Took ownership of sustainable design initiatives; introduced low-VOC materials and regional sourcing standards across all projects, improving sustainability scoring in LEED submissions. (Note: 6-month career gap in 2011 due to family relocation to El Paso.)   * Designed and documented civic and educational facilities, including the $15.5M Santa Fe Community Library Expansion, which received the 2010 AIA New Mexico Design Excellence Award. * Coordinated structural, mechanical, and electrical consultants using Revit-based BIM workflows; managed submittal and RFIs for three concurrent projects. * Took ownership of sustainable design initiatives; introduced low-VOC materials and regional sourcing standards across all projects, improving sustainability scoring in LEED submissions. * (Note: 6-month career gap in 2011 due to family relocation to El Paso.)   **Architect I at Gonzales + Rhoads Architects**  01 Sep 2004 – 01 Dec 2007  Supported design and documentation of early public education projects, including prototypical elementary school layouts adopted by three district jurisdictions. Prepared construction documents for Title I-compliant schools, ensuring compliance with stringent state educational facility guidelines. Coordinated with landscape architects and civil engineers on site development for the 80,000 sq. ft. Mesilla Valley Middle School project. Advanced to Architect I after NCARB certification and demonstrated leadership during a compressed redesign phase for a county administrative building.   * Supported design and documentation of early public education projects, including prototypical elementary school layouts adopted by three district jurisdictions. * Prepared construction documents for Title I-compliant schools, ensuring compliance with stringent state educational facility guidelines. * Coordinated with landscape architects and civil engineers on site development for the 80,000 sq. ft. Mesilla Valley Middle School project. * Advanced to Architect I after NCARB certification and demonstrated leadership during a compressed redesign phase for a county administrative building.   **Intern Architect at Gonzales + Rhoads Architects**  01 Jun 2003 – 01 Aug 2004  Supported design and documentation of early public education projects, including prototypical elementary school layouts adopted by three district jurisdictions. Prepared construction documents for Title I-compliant schools, ensuring compliance with stringent state educational facility guidelines. Coordinated with landscape architects and civil engineers on site development for the 80,000 sq. ft. Mesilla Valley Middle School project. Advanced to Architect I after NCARB certification and demonstrated leadership during a compressed redesign phase for a county administrative building.   * Supported design and documentation of early public education projects, including prototypical elementary school layouts adopted by three district jurisdictions. * Prepared construction documents for Title I-compliant schools, ensuring compliance with stringent state educational facility guidelines. * Coordinated with landscape architects and civil engineers on site development for the 80,000 sq. ft. Mesilla Valley Middle School project. * Advanced to Architect I after NCARB certification and demonstrated leadership during a compressed redesign phase for a county administrative building.   **Education & Training**  **Master of Architecture, Architecture**  University of Texas at Austin  – 01 May 2003  **Bachelor of Science, Environmental Design**  New Mexico State University  – 01 May 2000  **Projects**  **El Paso Valley High School Renovation**  $28M renovation project reducing energy consumption by 32% through daylight optimization and HVAC system upgrades; achieved LEED Gold certification.  **Santa Fe Community Library Expansion**  $15.5M expansion project that received the 2010 AIA New Mexico Design Excellence Award.  **Net-zero energy elementary school**  Led design of the first net-zero energy elementary school in Doña Ana County, using solar integration and passive shading to offset 107% of annual energy demands.  **Mesilla Valley Middle School**  80,000 sq. ft. project; coordinated with landscape architects and civil engineers on site development.  **References**  References available upon request. |