University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire students and Eau Claire residents enjoy a safer place to live, shop and do business. Located on the 200 block of Water Street, the four-story complex houses a grocery store, bank, office space and 87 apartment units. County Materials supplied one of the primary construction components for the structure – more than 84,300 sq. ft. of 8” hollowcore plank and 54,300 sq. ft. of 12” hollowcore plank.

The development’s location on Water Street is a welcomed addition to the area. Close to campus, students enjoy another opportunity for off-campus living. Many nearby residents benefit from a grocery store in their neighborhood. Previously, the surrounding Water Street community was designated a food desert by the USDA, meaning the area did not have a grocery store within walking distance – making it difficult for residents to quickly obtain healthy eating options and fresh produce.

Tenant safety was a primary concern when designing the multi-story building. With a 56-stall underground parking area, the development required a durable, fire resistant building material to separate the parking area from the businesses and apartments above. The project’s architect looked to hollowcore plank because of its proven fire resistance and performance. County Materials’ hollowcore systems meet fire ratings for up to three hours. Made of high-strength, steel-reinforced concrete, hollowcore is built to withstand severe temperature from fire - it does not burn or give off toxic fumes.

Hollowcore also helped meet project design requirements, allowing for longer spans with reduced support beams. This helps to open up space for the grocery store and offices while giving design versatility for each apartment unit to have large open living areas.

In addition to hollowcore systems, County Materials supplied 9,344 ln. ft. of precast columns and inverted tee beams. County Materials’ dedicated dispatch team and drivers delivered 374 truckloads of material to the site. As a result, the Eau Claire Water Street Development was completed on schedule and opened in August 2017.

Hollowcore Plank Specified for its Proven Safety Performance in Multiuse Building

CASE STUDY
WATER STREET DEVELOPMENT

HOLLOW CORE
ROOF & FLOOR SYSTEMS
Project Background

Products Used: Hollowcore Roof and Floor Systems, Precast Columns and Inverted Tee Beams

- 84,300 sq. ft. of 8” Hollowcore plank
- 54,300 sq. ft. of 12” Hollowcore plank
- 9,344 ln. ft. of precast columns and inverted tee beams

Location: Eau Claire, WI