

FOR THE EXCLUSIVE USE OF KIVES@AIAKY.ORG

From the Louisville Business First:

<https://www.bizjournals.com/louisville/news/2026/06/11/people-to-know-construction-katie-butsch.html>

SUBSCRIBER CONTENT:

Commercial Real Estate

20 People to Know in Construction: Katie Butsch



Image: Anthony Seitz, Falls City Photography

Katie Butsch, partner and director of operations, Work Architecture
ANTHONY SEITZ, FALLS CITY PHOTOGRAPHY

By Amy Higgs
Jun 11, 2026

Listen to this article 3 min

Katie Butsch

Partner and director of operations, Work Architecture

Years in current job: four

Years in construction: nine

Looking for a better way to start your day?

The Morning Edition Newsletter has you covered.

+ Opt In

What do you like most about working in the construction industry?

For me, it's the people and the transformation. I love working with contractors and trades who bring a level of knowledge you can't learn in a textbook. Being part of the process that takes an idea and turns it into a real place, something you can walk through and experience, is what keeps it exciting.

What's one misconception people outside the industry often have about construction?

A common misconception is that construction is just about what happens in the field. In reality, it's a highly complex business: balancing budgets, schedules, coordination and constant problem-solving. The work on site is critical, but

there's an entire layer of strategy and decision-making behind the scenes that makes a project successful.

What project are you most proud of?

The project I'm most proud of is a mixed-use development at 15th and Lytle streets, where we're transforming two 200-plus-year-old warehouses into commercial space and housing. It's been incredibly rewarding to help bring new life to historic structures while contributing to the continued investment in Louisville's West End. Projects like this show how thoughtful development can honor the past while creating something meaningful for the future.

How have tariffs or the overall economy impacted your work?

It hasn't stopped projects so much as reshaped them. We've had to adapt – switching materials or adjusting construction methods, but it's really about staying flexible and keeping things moving despite changing conditions.

Have changes in immigration policy affected your labor force?

Not directly for our team, but it does impact the trades and overall labor availability in construction, which can influence projects more broadly.

How do you approach a complex problem or situation?

My approach is to first understand the full picture, gathering information and considering different perspectives before making a decision. From there, it's about prioritizing what matters most and working collaboratively to find a path forward. Complex problems usually don't have one perfect answer, so it's about making informed decisions and keeping the team aligned.

What motivates you when you first get started on a new project?

I'm motivated by the client and the story, understanding who the project impacts and how it fits into the bigger picture. That perspective drives more thoughtful,

meaningful decisions from the start.

What technology has made the biggest impact on your day-to-day work?

It's less about one specific technology and more about how integrated our tools have become. Platforms that allow for real-time coordination and documentation have significantly improved how we collaborate across teams and keep projects moving efficiently.