



Cecilia Barker

Senior Manager, Strategic Programs

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SUMMARY

Senior strategic project and program management leader with 10 years of progressive experience delivering capital, facilities, construction, **transformation**, and **operational excellence** initiatives across medical technology and regulated manufacturing environments. Holds an MBA and PMP certification, translating enterprise priorities into governed portfolios, executable roadmaps, budgets, schedules, resource plans, and measurable outcomes. Leads **cross functional programs** with engineering, operations, quality, EHS, finance, procurement, contractors, and executive stakeholders. Applies practical knowledge of **construction means and methods**, contract administration, cost controls, scheduling, project governance, risk management, change management, Agile, Waterfall, and hybrid delivery. Builds trust through clear decisions, disciplined reporting, and thoughtful mentoring. Can help organizations connect strategy with safe execution, financial control, compliance, and lasting business value.

EXPERIENCE

Senior Manager, Strategic Programs

Meridian Surgical Technologies 📅 February 2023 - Present 📍 Somerset, NJ

Owns a portfolio of capital, facilities, construction, and transformation programs across regulated medical technology operations. Leads project managers, workstream leaders, internal functions, and external contractors while connecting investment decisions with safety, quality, financial control, governance, and **benefit realization**.

- Built governed roadmaps for capital programs, aligning **scope**, budgets, schedules, resources, and benefit measures.
- Directed facility modernization with engineering, EHS, quality, procurement, operations, and **external contractors**.
- Established milestone reviews, risk registers, decision logs, and financial tracking for interdependent initiatives.
- Resolved portfolio dependencies through decision forums, aligning sponsors on mitigation, priorities, and resource tradeoffs.
- Delivered **executive reporting** on milestones, capital spend, forecast variance, risks, **quality**, and business benefits.
- Mentored project managers on methodology, contractor **governance**, stakeholder communication, and performance management.

Program Manager, Capital Projects

Pinnacle Life Sciences Manufacturing 📅 July 2020 - January 2023 📍 New Brunswick, NJ

Managed large capital and facilities programs in regulated manufacturing, coordinating design, construction, equipment installation, commissioning readiness, and operational handoff. Connected integrated schedules, commercial controls, risk decisions, and executive reporting with safe delivery and investment objectives.

- Coordinated design, construction, equipment installation, commissioning readiness, and operational handoff across functions.
- Built integrated schedules, cost forecasts, resource plans, and **contract administration** routines for **capital projects**.
- Applied **construction** methods with EHS and quality partners across controlled environments and site constraints.
- Evaluated change impacts across **schedule**, **budget**, quality, and operations before sponsor decisions.
- Connected physical progress, contractor performance, financial health, milestones, and risks through executive reporting.
- Supported capital portfolio prioritization using readiness, **regulatory** drivers, benefits, resources, and execution risk.

STRENGTHS

- 🏗️ **Portfolio governance**
Built decision forums, risk registers, and benefit measures that gave senior leaders a clear view of execution.
- 🏢 **Capital delivery**
Guided construction and facilities work through scope, schedule, cost, safety, quality, and contractor decisions.
- 👥 **Stakeholder alignment**
When priorities collided, structured escalation helped sponsors choose practical tradeoffs and keep teams moving.
- ♥️ **Change leadership**
Mapped impacts early and paired communication with readiness actions, helping new processes gain lasting adoption.
- 👤 **People development**
Mentored project managers through governance, contractor conversations, and performance reviews, building confidence across teams.

SKILLS

Strategic thinking

Risk management Budgeting

Scheduling Governance

Influencing Portfolio management

Stakeholder management

Cost controls

Change management

Performance tracking

Capital delivery

Talent development

Executive reporting

Benefit realization

LANGUAGES

English Native

Spanish Intermediate

MY CAREER



- Senior Manager, Strategic Programs at Meridian Surgical Technologies (3.7 Years)
- Program Manager, Capital Projects at Pinnacle Life Sciences Manufacturing (2.5 Years)
- Senior Project Manager, Medical Device Initiatives at Nova Orthopedic Systems (2.2 Years)
- Project Manager, Regulated Operations at Garden State Bioprocess Solutions (1.8 Years)

Senior Project Manager, Medical Device Initiatives

Nova Orthopedic Systems 📅 April 2018 - June 2020 📍 Bridgewater, NJ

Led product, operations, facility, and equipment initiatives within a medical device organization. Converted strategic objectives into charters, delivery plans, governance routines, and decisions that supported regulated execution and stronger sponsor alignment.

- Coordinated engineering, quality, regulatory, supply chain, manufacturing, finance, and commercial stakeholders.
- Converted strategic objectives into charters, work breakdown structures, budgets, schedules, and success measures.
- Managed facility and equipment work with contractors, tracking sequencing, costs, commissioning, and readiness.
- Applied **Waterfall** and **hybrid** delivery methods across documentation, milestones, and iterative planning.
- Facilitated risk reviews and change assessments, assigning mitigation owners before critical milestones.
- Presented financial trends, decisions, and risks to **senior leaders**, accelerating resolution of constraints.

Project Manager, Regulated Operations

Garden State Bioprocess Solutions 📅 June 2016 - March 2018 📍 Edison, NJ

Managed engineering and operational improvement projects in a regulated **life sciences** setting. Developed project controls, coordinated facility modifications, supported change adoption, and built reliable reporting habits under senior program leadership.

- Developed scopes, schedules, budgets, stakeholder plans, and controls for engineering improvement projects.
- Coordinated facility modifications and equipment installation with engineering, **EHS**, quality, vendors, and contractors.
- Maintained cost tracking, purchase records, contract documents, schedules, risk logs, and action registers.
- Prepared steering materials covering progress, decisions, issues, and upcoming milestones for functional leaders.
- Supported process and facility changes through stakeholder mapping, communication planning, and readiness actions.
- Applied structured problem solving to delivery issues, improving planning consistency and closeout documentation.

PROJECTS

Enterprise Capital Portfolio Governance 📅 2024

Created a common governance model for interdependent capital and facilities investments. Connected milestone reviews, risk decisions, financial health, and benefit realization for senior portfolio discussions.

Regulated Facility Modernization Program 📅 2022

Coordinated design, construction, equipment installation, and operational readiness across regulated manufacturing stakeholders. Kept safety, quality, schedule, cost, and contractor decisions visible.

LEADERSHIP & AWARDS

- PMP certification recognized by leadership as a foundation for consistent project governance and delivery discipline.
- Mentor, New Jersey Project Management Leadership Forum, supporting practical growth for emerging project leaders.
- Member leader, Women in Capital Projects Network, contributing to peer learning across capital delivery.

EDUCATION

Master of Business Administration

Rutgers University 🎓 GPA: 4.0 📅 2020 📍 New Brunswick, NJ

Coursework: Strategic management, finance, operations management, organizational leadership

Bachelor's Degree in Industrial Engineering

New Jersey Institute of Technology 🎓 GPA: 4.0 📅 2016 📍 Newark, NJ

Coursework: Engineering economics, operations research, quality systems, facilities planning

CERTIFICATIONS

- Project Management Professional, PMP 📅 2019
- Program Management Professional Development 📅 2021

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- **Project Methods:** Agile, Waterfall, hybrid delivery
- **Portfolio Management:** Portfolio prioritization, capital planning, benefit realization
- **Project Governance:** Milestone reviews, decision logs, PMO standards
- **Risk Controls:** Risk registers, mitigation plans, change impact analysis
- **Financial Controls:** Budgeting, cost controls, forecast variance
- **Scheduling Tools:** Integrated schedules, critical path, resource plans
- **Construction Management:** Construction means and methods, contractor oversight, site execution
- **Facilities Delivery:** Facility modernization, equipment installation, commissioning readiness
- **Compliance Systems:** EHS, quality systems, regulatory compliance
- **Reporting Systems:** Executive dashboards, portfolio reports, performance tracking
- **Contract Administration:** Purchase documentation, commercial obligations, contractor governance
- **Change Management:** Stakeholder mapping, communication planning, readiness activities

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- New Jersey Project Management Leadership Forum, Mentor
- Women in Capital Projects Network, Member

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Work Status : Authorized to work in United States. No sponsorship required.

REFERENCES

AVAILABLE ON REQUEST