

News Release



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CONTACT: Eric Jones, Public Relations Committee Chair, 541-954-2938, eric.r.jones@ci.eugene.or.us

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Public Works Association Announces Projects of Year

The Oregon Chapter of the American Public Works Association has recognized five major public works projects in the state of Oregon as “projects of the year.” The awards, which were presented at the association’s fall conference in Welches, cited accomplishments in five categories: transportation, drinking water, wastewater, stormwater and special projects.

TRANSPORTATION PROJECT OF THE YEAR

Boeckman Road Extension

Agency – City of Wilsonville

Consultant – HDR

Contractor – Kerr Contractors

This project successfully addressed many challenges, opportunities and features such as the potential for 20 inches of settlement beneath the road, 11 wildlife crossings, the possibility of floating water mains designed for pressures of 250 pounds per square, use of pervious sidewalks, the addition of interpretive markers, significant wetlands mitigation and the use of a roundabout to facilitate future road extensions.

WATER PROJECT OF THE YEAR

Downtown Main Improvement

Agency – City of Portland

Consultant – Murray, Smith & Associates

Contractor – Moore Excavation

This water main improvement project had three huge challenges: an extremely dense utility corridor that sometimes precluded the use of shoring; a heavily used transportation corridor including pedestrians, light rail, buses and other vehicles; and a large number of businesses that could be affected by construction. Through a flexible design, adjusted construction schedules and significant interaction with the public the project was completed with minimal disruption.

SANITARY SEWER PROJECT OF THE YEAR

Pine Street Project

Agency – City of Grants Pass

Consultant – Parametrix

Contractor – James Fowler

This project was used as a platform to make major improvements to multiple public facilities, and included elements such as enhancing fish spawning grounds through modified storm drainage practices, adding alley manholes to facilitate future sewer expansions, and total reconstruction of streets. Construction was continually adjusted based upon business access requirements, school busing schedules and groundwater monitoring.

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STORM WATER PROJECT OF THE YEAR

Columbia Slough Storm Water Treatment Facility

Agency – City of Gresham

Consultant – Brown & Caldwell

Contractor – Tapani Underground

This project was a public/private venture to provide stormwater facilities for 965 acres of commercial and industrial land. The improvements were designed for a triple purpose that included stormwater treatment, hazardous spill containment and education.

SPECIAL PROJECT OF THE YEAR

Gold Hill Dam Removal

Agency – City of Gold Hill

Consultant – River Design Group

Contractor – Slayden construction

The removal of this dam was done as an environmental enhancement for fish passage and also as a safety step for recreation on the river. To get this project done the City worked with 14 different agencies and had hundreds of volunteers.

HONORABLE MENTIONS

Three projects also received honorable mention in the judging for projects of the **year**:

18th Avenue Pedestrian & Bike Improvements

Agency – City of Eugene

Consultant – City of Eugene

Contractor – Eugene Sand Construction

This included significant improvements to pedestrian and bicycle movement, the addition stormwater swales, protection of a local cemetery with retaining walls and the addition of parking bays.

US 20 Philomath Couplet

Agency – ODOT & City of Philomath

Consultant – Murray Smith & Associates

Contractor – Knife River

The final design of this project included a hybrid couplet in order to address the needs and issues of the local businesses, schools and ODOT. Environmental issues such as endangered species and fish passage were also key elements of the project.

Beavercreek Road Improvements

Agency – City of Oregon City

Consultant – Wallis Engineering

Contractor – Dirt & Aggregate Interchange

This project included major upgrades to one of the busiest street in the community. The City took the extra steps to make this a special project such as recycling much of the excavated material, using green street design methods for storm water, and made special safety arrangements for the elderly, disabled and the school children during construction.

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