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**Orange County Public Works and Engineering Departments Receive Prestigious APWA Accreditation and Re-Accreditation**

**KANSAS CITY, MO.** – The Orange County Public Works and Engineering Departments in California have recently been awarded the prestigious American Public Works Association (APWA) Accreditation and Re-Accreditation respectively. The APWA Accreditation program recognizes public works agencies that go beyond the requirements of the management practices established nationally in the public works industry, as contained in the APWA Public Works Management Practices Manual. The Orange County Engineering Department (a branch of OC Public Works) was first accredited in 2012, and the OC Public Works Department received overall Accreditation on May 5, 2016.

The OC Public Works Accreditation and Engineering Re-Accreditation will be awarded by APWA Board Region VIII Director, Shahn Ahmad, P.E., who will make the presentation to the departmental staff on Tuesday, May 24, 2016 at 9 a.m. in the County Hall of Administration Building at 333 W. Santa Ana Boulevard, Santa Ana, CA.

Orange County’s Public Works and Engineering Departments’ Accreditation and Re-Accreditation indicate the department has met all applicable documentation and practices. “The awarding of the APWA Accreditation and Re-Accreditation shows we have dedicated ourselves to concepts of improvement and in-depth self-assessment of department policies, procedures and practices, said Public Works Director, Shane Silsby. “The heroes of these prestigious APWA awards are the public works and engineering staff whose mission is to provide efficient public works projects and initiatives, innovative programs and outstanding customer service that contribute to making Orange County a great place to live, work and play.”

The OC Public Works Department mission is to protect and enrich the community through efficient delivery and maintenance of public works infrastructure, planning, and development services. Service areas include Administrative Services, Development Services, Facilities Design and Construction, Fleet Services, Construction, Environmental Resources, Facilities Maintenance and Central Utility Facility, Infrastructure Programs, Operations & Maintenance, and Survey.

For Accreditation and Re-Accreditation review, a team of public works professionals from Victoria, British Columbia, Cherry Hills Village, Colorado, and Kansas City, Missouri completed a thorough evaluation of operations during their April 11-13, 2016 visit. “It’s great to have Orange County Public Works reach full compliance with their practices. I commend their continued and renewed commitment to the detailed review of the agency’s policies and procedures to qualify,” said APWA Director of Accreditation, Ann Daniels.

The Orange County Public Works Department became the 80th Accredited agency in North America and joins Contra Costa County, Berkeley, Oakland, City/County of San Francisco, Palmdale, Thousand Oaks, Encinitas, Ventura, Alameda County, San Luis Obispo County, and Ventura in California.

For more information about Orange County Public Works, contact Strategic Communications Officer Shannon Widor at [shannon.widor@ocpw.ocgov.com](mailto:shannon.widor@ocpw.ocgov.com), or Orange County Accreditation Manager Eileen DePuy at: [Eileen.depuy@ocpw.ocgov.com](mailto:Eileen.depuy@ocpw.ocgov.com).

For more information about APWA Accreditation, please contact APWA Director of Accreditation, Ann Daniels at [adaniels@apwa.net](mailto:adaniels@apwa.net). For APWA media queries, please contact Laura Bynum, APWA Media Relations and Communications Manager at [lbynum@apwa.net](mailto:lbynum@apwa.net).

**About APWA**

The American Public Works Association ([www.apwa.net](http://www.apwa.net)) is a not-for-profit, international organization of more than 29,000 members involved in the field of public works. APWA serves its members by promoting professional excellence and public awareness through education, advocacy and the exchange of knowledge. APWA is headquartered in Kansas City, Missouri, has an office in Washington, D.C. and 63 chapters in North America.

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