Marlene Crosby Receives APWA Top Ten Leader of the Year Award

One of the most coveted and prestigious public works awards is sponsored each year by APWA and is presented to ten individual leaders from both the public and private sectors in North America whose excellence in public works earns them the distinction of the Top Ten Public Works Leaders of the Year. The honorees are awarded this recognition for their professionalism, expertise and personal dedication to improving the quality of life in their communities through the advancement of public works services and technology. APWA announced the 2020 Top Ten Public Work Leaders of the Year in May and the Colorado Chapter is pleased to announce Marlene Crosby, Public Works Director, Gunnison County, is one of this year’s recipients.

As APWA Past President Richard Ridings once said, “It is one of the greatest of all honors to be recognized by your peers as one of the top leaders in public works.” APWA is proud to recognize Crosby as a Top Ten Public Works Leader of the Year who has significantly contributed to the public works profession, to her community, and to the people she serves.

Marlene Crosby has been employed with the Gunnison County Public Works Department for more than thirty-five years. She began her employment as an Administrative Assistant and was promoted over the years to the positions of Road and Bridge Supervisor, Public Works Director and Deputy County Manager/Public Works Director. She has been the Public Works Director since January 1995. She oversees a staff of 42 year-round employees and several seasonal employees, and manages a budget of more than $11 million.

Gunnison County took over ownership and operations of the only landfill in Gunnison County in 1986. Several years later this site became a part of the Public Works Department and fell under Crosby’s responsibilities. During her career there have been many changes at the landfill that she has overseen and enforced. The guard shack has been moved and upgraded, scales have been installed for weighing product brought into the landfill, a new compliant D cell has been created, and stormwater monitoring is in place. There are also products like refrigerators, freezers, appliances, steel and mattresses that are recycled from the landfill.

The North Gunnison Sewer Project was a massive project, done in four phases to extend a sewer line north of the City of Gunnison. As old septic systems that served individual homes and multi-family dwellings began failing it became apparent that there needed to be more done than just replacing those systems. Crosby worked with two local engineers on

Continued on Page 2
project development, applied for, and received USDA grant/loan funding for the construction of a sewer main that extended to the three-mile planning boundary north of the City of Gunnison. The extension was largely in the City of Gunnison’s wellhead recharge area. As each home was connected, their individual sewage disposal system was properly disabled. The North Gunnison Sewer project includes a SCADA system which allows remote monitoring of the system. There are currently 357 users of this system. Crosby and her staff completed all the temporary and perpetual easement and construction bids and contract documents.

“Working for local government provides a lot of opportunity to do good things for your department and your community. The tasks that are done provide quality experiences for residents and visitors,” Crosby stated in her 2016 Past President Spotlight article.

Marlene’s commitment to the APWA Colorado Chapter is outstanding. Since 1986, she has been the Chair of the West Slope Snow & Ice Conference held in Gunnison. Each year, Marlene and her staff host the event that allows for small or rural agencies in the area to receive needed training and education. In the early 2000’s, APWA began responding to the call for recognition of the fact that over half of their members were not from agencies of over 500,000 and the Urban Forum was not addressing their needs. Marlene participated in the original “think tank” held in Flagstaff, Arizona with Beth Denniston from APWA National. She attended the meeting with the APWA Board when the proposal to either make the group a forum or an official committee was presented. She was the Small Cities/Rural Communities Forum Chair in 2003-2004 and a committee member from 2008-2011. She continues to be an active proponent of an organization to meet the needs of small cities and rural communities.

Marlene has served the Chapter and National APWA in many roles; She has been a director, President-Elect and served as Colorado Chapter President in 1998. In 2004, Marlene received the Williams E. Korbitz award for exceptional service, the Colorado Chapter’s highest honor.

“Marlene began as a pioneer in the advancement of Gunnison County Public Works and her commendable drive has her leading the charge for continued improvement in the community, within the agency and as an individual. Inspiring excellence in the industry and beyond, she exceeds the honorable requirement of this award,” remarked APWA Colorado Chapter President, Renée Railsback.

Marlene is also active in her community serving on numerous committees and volunteering with local charitable organizations. One of her passions is being involved with the residents at the Willows Assisted Living Facility. She and her husband Don decorate this facility for all holidays. The also entertain the residents with piano playing and sing-alongs, as well as bringing refreshments. They provide resident activities such as pumpkin decorating, Christmas tree trimming and other holiday activities. During good weather you can find Marlene planting and tending flowers so the residents have beautiful views from their rooms. Marlene and Don do so much to make sure that all the residents of the facility are loved, respected and not forgotten in the later years of their lives.

APWA President David Lawry was a 2012 Top Ten Award recipient and had this to say of the award: “Receiving this award as a recognition by my peers has meant more to me than any other professional or individual accomplishment. This award recognizes a person’s public works body of work. The selection is made by other Top Ten recipients, those persons already having achieved this great recognition, so is that much more special knowing you are being identified by other exceptional public works professionals.”

Gunnison County Commissioners Jonathan Houck, John Messner and Roland Mason note Marlene is a hardworking, dedicated, and skilled leader whose contributions to the County have been tremendous. “She is an exemplary public servant. The organization and the community are fortunate to have benefitted from her work over many years. We cannot think of anyone more deserving than Marlene for this recognition!”

As a native of Gunnison, Marlene Crosby has had a vested interest in the community. It’s not just where she works but where she has grown up, raised a family and continues to live, work, and contribute to that community. It is evident that Marlene is proud of her community, but the community has a lot to be proud of in their hometown girl!

The Top Ten awardees are typically recognized locally during National Public Works Week and at PWX. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we were not able to hold these celebrations. The Colorado Chapter looks to a time soon where we can gather to celebrate this incredible achievement by such a remarkable woman!
I would like to sincerely congratulate all of our Chapter leaders, members, and sponsors for Colorado APWA’s recent achievement of being awarded the National APWA Presidential Award for Chapter Excellence (PACE) for our activities completed in 2019. We take great pride in achieving excellence in serving our members to the highest standards, sharing with our community advancements in public works practices, and elevating awareness of the importance of public works services. Although we only just received notification of this award, the best practices outlined in the PACE criteria are always guiding us to assure we continue to increase the value we provide to our members and partners. Now more than ever, it is important for us to be here to assist you and your agency in responding to your ever-changing needs, to provide the necessary resources for you to succeed in a prolonged stress environment, and to help your teams remain engaged through outreach and extensive professional development activities.

It is important to your APWA chapter leaders to continue developing the ideas and initiatives we have outlined in our new Chapter Strategic Plan in order to continue to provide innovative programs in support of excellent service to chapter members – despite recent gathering restrictions.

Public Works is experienced in overcoming challenges encountered in times of disaster. Let’s show National APWA how public works CAN succeed even during a pandemic! Have you increased awareness of the role of public works with your elected officials? Promoted sustainability in public works management? Participated in alternative educational programming? We need you to SHARE your recent best practices in our Newsletter for the benefit of your peers; BRAG about successful projects and staff by submitting to the Awards program; and PARTICIPATE in our upcoming virtual conference and networking sessions.

Our family is grateful that the Boulder Valley School District acknowledged the significance of recognizing the accomplishments of their district high school seniors by recently holding beautifully composed in-person (socially-distanced) Graduation Ceremonies for each of its high schools. Those were the cleanest porta-potties I’ve ever experienced – being sanitized after every user! How has your agency OVERCOME recent challenges??

We hope you will continue to remain fully engaged in our upcoming activities and events including a River Cleanup networking event, Leadership seminars, and creative experiences like a virtual escape room. We welcome your suggestions!

Coming soon to digital media near you - join us for the virtual Snow & Ice Conference September series being offered in lieu of our annual Loveland winter maintenance training event. One-hour sessions will be offered twice each week – Wednesdays for Operators and Thursdays for Supervisors. This FREE series is a great (affordable!) way for your agency to continue to train employees and prepare for winter. Register for the FREE sessions online at https://www.westernsnowandice.com.

I would also remind everyone - as you are all making decisions about projects, construction, and training in the COVID-19 environment, don’t forget to seriously consider your own health and safety. Even if your organization or your governmental body has no restrictions or limited restrictions, your primary care doctor and specialists that you see regularly will have advice on your own personal risk level as associated with COVID-19. While it is good that we focus on fulfilling the needs of our customers, we need to make sure we take care of ourselves as well and have patience and acceptance for others who feel the need to do so. Remember, even if you are working alone on a piece of equipment, the virus has been shown to persist on surfaces for hours or even days, so it is essential to clean and disinfect agency vehicles and equipment. The New York LTAP has developed a handout for local agencies titled “A Clean Truck is a Healthy Truck” that reminds workers of a few things we all can do at the end of a shift to make sure department vehicles are clean and disinfected for the next user. That Safety Tailgate Talk document is available online here. Even if you just make an effort to eat healthier or take the time for a daily walk or bike ride, all these efforts will help to keep our bodies fit and healthy at a level capable of successfully recovering in case you are exposed – I look forward to seeing you all skipping around town soon!

Renée Railsback, CDOT/Colorado LTAP
The Rhythm of Public Works
May 17-23, 2020

“The Rhythm of Public Works” is the theme for the 2020 National Public Works Week poster. This year’s poster challenges members and their citizens to think about their communities as a symphony of essential services, working in concert to create a great place to live. Every community has a rhythm, a heartbeat that reflects its essence and tempo of life.

Public Works keeps a community’s rhythm moving by providing an orchestra of infrastructure services in transportation, water, wastewater and stormwater treatment, public buildings and spaces, parks, and grounds, emergency management and first response, solid waste and right-of-way management. Public Works provides the harmony needed for collaboration with all the stakeholders in capital projects, infrastructure solutions, and quality of life services.


Mark Your Calendars!
2021 National Public Works Week
May 16-22, 2021

National APWA has resources and ideas to help agencies celebrate Public Works Week. Check it out online: https://npww.apwa.net/

If your agency would like to share its celebration, please submit articles to Pamela Weimer, Colorado Chapter Administrator, at bdweimer@msn.com.
Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, it was still important to celebrate the amazing work of public works personnel. Now, more than ever, it is critical to energize and educate the public about the importance of public works - planning, building, managing and operating at the heart of local communities to improve quality of life each day.

The Colorado Chapter is so proud of the work you do every day, during National Public Works Week, and during this time of the pandemic to keep our communities safe.

This year, APWA recognized that there may not be any face-to-face public works events during this week, but encouraged agencies to still seek NPWW proclamations from elected officials and to find ways to celebrate remotely. Many agencies used social media to share photos of public works at work in their communities.

The City of Golden used social media to recognize their Public Works Department during NPWW.

Happy Public Works Week, blow a kiss, no touching, to those who provide safe water, sanitation, drainage, roads, etc. Thanks to all our citizens who have helped us during these exceptional times.

#NPWW

#NPWW Social Media Spirit Week

APWA Colorado Chapter - Monday Funday!

Kids looking for a break from school? Download the PW Paws coloring page and share your kid’s masterpieces here!

APWA Colorado Chapter - Thankful Tuesday

The Colorado Chapter would like to salute our fellow first responders and all the essential workers out there who are caring for us and our communities. We appreciate you!

APWA Colorado Chapter - Rhythm Wednesday

The Colorado Chapter did a little happy dance with the announcement of Marlene Crosby, Gunnison County, named a Top Ten Leader of the Year!

APWA Colorado Chapter - Throwback Thursday

Fun celebrations from the past with the next generation of public works professionals! Thanks Greenwood Village, Breckenridge, Longmont and Arapahoe County!

APWA Colorado Chapter - I Spy Friday

I Spy the Town of Telluride at work in their beautiful community!

I Spy Arapahoe County Crews working throughout the pandemic to keep the community safe!
The APWA Western Snow & Ice Conference is offering FREE Snow & Ice virtual sessions every Wednesday & Thursday at 8:00am (MDT) during the month of September. All sessions are one hour in length. These sessions are designed to prepare operators and supervisors for the upcoming winter. Registration links for the sessions are available on the conference website at https://www.westernsnowandice.com/. There is no fee but you will need to register in advance to receive access to the webinar.

**WEEK 1**

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2 - Operators**
**STORIES FROM THE ROAD PANEL - Part 1**
*Sponsored by Colorado Barricade & Kois Brothers Equipment Company*

Always a popular session at the conference! There is nothing quite like experience and hearing what others have encountered while in the storm can be very helpful for all of us. This panel will share some of their experiences and how they have dealt with them - the good, the bad, and the ugly!

*Sponsor Showcase: Wickham Tractor Company*

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3 - Supervisors**
**GEARING UP FOR WINTER**
*Sponsored by CEJN & pewag*

It's early September and the odds are you are not quite ready for your first snowstorm. We'll discuss what should be on your to-do list right now and what can wait a week or two (but not much longer). Hear from some experts as they share their experiences in getting ready for the winter season that's coming our way!

*Sponsor Showcase: Kois Brothers Equipment Company*

**WEEK 2**

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9 - Operators**
**THE ABC'S OF PLOWING: LET'S GET BACK TO BASICS**
*Sponsored by Kois Brothers Equipment Company & CEJN*

What are the fundamentals that we should all be doing every time we get in that truck and head out to plow snow? Three seasoned operators share their experiences and lessons learned to allow us all to cover the basics more safely and efficiently.

*Sponsor Showcase: CompassCom*

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10 - Supervisors**
**USING ROADEOS AS A TRAINING TOOL**
*Sponsored by Colorado Barricade & GMCO*

Yes, Roadeos are meant to be fun but they can also be awesome training tools. Some of those skills that operators demonstrate in the competition are really important in the storm. Our skilled team of Rodeo Masters will share what they think are the key lessons that can be taken from a great Rodeo competition.

*Sponsor Showcase: Colorado Barricade*
WEEK 3
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16 - Operators
STORIES FROM THE ROAD PANEL - Part 2
Sponsored by Colorado Barricade & Bruckner Truck Sales
This year has certainly brought its share of challenges and many of us find ourselves facing situations that are unusual - to say the least! So, in this post COVID-19 world, how do we deal with sanitizing trucks, handling shift changes while keeping social distancing and maintaining morale when you cannot get together in the break room? Our panel of operators will share some of the solutions they have tried or have heard about so we can all be better prepared.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17 - Supervisors
CALIBRATING YOUR EQUIPMENT, LIQUIDS AND SOLIDS
Sponsored by Kois Brothers Equipment Company & Bergkamp
It’s really very simple - if you don’t measure it, you can’t manage it. If your equipment is not calibrated for both solids and liquids, you really have no clue how much you are putting on the road. This session will break down the details that you need to be sure that all of your equipment is properly calibrated for the coming winter season.

WEEK 4
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 - Operators
SURVIVING AND THRIVING IN A POST COVID-19 WORLD
Sponsored by Kois Brothers Equipment Company & GMCO
What has been happening to you and your agency in this tumultuous year? How have you handled it? Do you have good ideas (or even bad ones!) to share? This will be a wide-open session for us to share solutions for some difficult times.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24 - Supervisors
GRANULAR DEICERS VALUE VS. PERFORMANCE
Sponsored by Colorado Barricade & GMCO
Discover best practices from industry professionals and how factors like product quality, application, and storage improve efficiencies and performance on the road.

HOW TO ATTEND THESE VIRTUAL SESSIONS
Visit the APWA Western Snow & Ice Conference website: https://www.westernsnowandice.com/
Each session will be listed with the link that you can use to register for the session. Once you submit your information, you will receive a link to access the webinar.
Can’t listen in on that day or time but still want the information?
All sessions will also be recorded and posted to the conference website after the session.
Questions?? Contact Pamela Weimer, APWA Colorado Chapter Administrator, at bdweimer@msn.com.
Be the Little Painted Rock

On March 12, 2020, I was attending the first Innovation and Infrastructure Summit sponsored in part by our chapter and the American Council of Engineering Companies. We were all learning to give elbow high fives as greetings and using excessive amounts of hand sanitizer. That next week life changed, as we knew it as COVID-19 became part of our vocabulary. Quickly we transitioned from elbow high fives to, as Dan Hartman says, playing Hollywood Squares all day, as we all worked long hours to figure out what this new normal means for our families, our workplace, and our community. We adapted to virtual meetings, buying face masks, hoarding toilet paper, and strategizing how to stay six feet apart. Many of us also took to walking to force ourselves to take a break from our computer screens. On my daily walks, I started noticing little painted rocks in some yards. They were colorful with fun designs and often had an encouraging message on them. I soon found myself actively looking for them and was surprised at how many I could find. Each one put a smile on my face and reminded me to be:

- **Grateful** – someone cared enough to share their artistic talents to encourage people in a difficult time, and I can walk on my own two feet in a safe neighborhood to enjoy it.
- **Purposeful** – rocks serve a need, and so do we; it is not always glamorous work, but we can always add a little color and individual flair to make it more meaningful.
- **Present** – when you look around and are aware of your surroundings, you can find beauty, see the unexpected and feel peace at the moment without worrying about what is next.

The challenge is to be the little painted rock to everyone around you. These are trying times. We could all use little reminders to appreciate the positive things in our lives, to embrace our opportunity to take each endeavor to the next level, and to give our full attention to what is in front of us, so we do not miss little rocks with dancing stick people.

How can we help ourselves and others to be grateful, embrace their opportunities, and be present? Start by asking better questions. Instead of asking, “How are you doing?” ask, “What are you most grateful for today?” You may get a strange look, but if you follow up with an example of something you are thankful for, I bet you will get a response. The more we acknowledge the good things in our lives regularly, the happier we become – positivity is contagious. We can train our brains to see and focus on positive interactions versus our negative experiences.

Instead of dwelling on things you can’t change, ask yourself what can I/we do to add value to a situation? Moving the conversation from “why do we have to wear masks?” to “how can we provide comfortable face coverings to our team?” for example, changes the focus of the issue at hand. We can even go a step further and ask, “how can we have fun with it?” Maybe a contest for the most original or comical masks, or having each team member incorporate some unique identifier about themselves into their mask. This could achieve the goal of encouraging everyone to embrace wearing masks while also introducing levity to a stressful situation and creating topics of conversation in a time when many feel isolated and uncomfortable.

Instead of saying, “I can’t wait until next weekend,” ask who or what is in front of me right now, and what can I do to help them? We too often hurry the present along to get to the next fun or exciting thing on our calendar. Then when we get there, our attention is already on to the next thing, and we’ve missed opportunities to find excitement in the more mundane parts of life, like helping other people. This leaves us with a very unsatisfied disposition. Work on paying full attention to what is happening and who you are with at the moment. The giving of your time and energy is the greatest gift, and it will be returned to you in healthy, fruitful relationships.

I’m not sure who originally started painting rocks, but I see them in several neighborhoods now, with different styles and messages. And when I see them, it makes me smile and appreciate being part of making the world a better place. We are blessed to be in the Public Works Family, improving the quality of life for all. Sometimes it takes a little painted rock and the right questions to remind us of who we are and why we do what we do.

Be the little painted rock for those around you.
The Colorado Chapter of the American Public Works Association requests nominations for the 2020 Awards Program. This will be the 35th year of this celebration of Public Works. Awards will be presented in each category for extraordinary Colorado projects and programs as well as individual achievement. Nominations are limited to NEW projects that have not been previously submitted for an award to this program. Projects eligible for this year’s awards would have been completed between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020.

The APWA Colorado Chapter judges will be selecting one Project / Program of the Year from all the nominations submitted regardless of category and community size. Please note: The Project/Program of the Year/category winners will be expected to be submitted to the APWA National Awards program. The Chapter Board encourages all submissions submit to the National APWA Awards Program.

You may nominate more than one project/program per category, but each nomination must be submitted separately. More than one nomination in the same category from the same agency is not exclusionary!

Nominations are due by August 14, 2020! (This deadline will not be extended)

NEW THIS YEAR!! Nominations will only be accepted using the Awards Nomination Submittal Form for Projects/Programs available on the Colorado Chapter website http://colorado.apwa.net/. Please complete the submittal form and return the nomination and photos via email to bdweimer@msn.com. You will receive a confirmation email. If you don’t receive confirmation or if you have questions, please contact Pamela Weimer, Colorado Chapter Administrator, at 303.979.2190.

A description of the required items on the submittal form are listed below. When submitting your nomination, please make sure you fill out the form completely addressing all the criteria listed below. You may include up to four (4) digital pictures (jpeg format in as high resolution as possible). It is also helpful if you label the photos. Please submit photos separately (not embedded in documents):

- **Name of nominated Project, Program or Individual (Individual Award information on next page)**
- **Nominations Agency and Department**
- **Category of the Nomination (choose ONE per nomination)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>Software implementations, accreditation attainment, certification programs,</td>
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<td>education programs.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Structures</td>
<td>Public Structures, preservation/rehabilitation, municipal buildings.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>Roads, bridges, mass transit.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parks and Trails</td>
<td>Parks, trails, pedestrian and bicycle facilities.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Environment</td>
<td>Treatment and recycling facilities, landfill reclamation, sewer projects,</td>
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<td>water projects, flood control, pipeline.</td>
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<td>Operations / Maintenance</td>
<td>Maintenance operations are defined as scheduled actions or programs that</td>
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<td>are regularly completed by public works departments. Includes preventative</td>
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<td>maintenance and recurring maintenance or rehabilitation of buildings,</td>
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<td>structures or infrastructure such as roadways, storm sewer, sanitary</td>
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<td>sewer, facilities, etc.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Disaster or Emergency</td>
<td>Techniques and timing for safety, community relations, environmental</td>
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<td>protection, adverse conditions and additional considerations.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sustainability</td>
<td>Efficient delivery of infrastructure in an environmentally and socially</td>
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<td>responsible way that ensures the best choice in the long term.</td>
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<td>Public Outreach</td>
<td>Recognition of a public works agency that has developed public outreach</td>
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<td>programs or special events such as Public Works Week activities that</td>
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<td>demonstrates awareness and understanding of public works operations and</td>
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<td>issues, promotes the value of public works and educates the public.</td>
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- **Community Category:**
  - Small Community (under 25,000 in population)
  - Medium Community (25,000-75,000 in population)
  - Large Community (over 75,000 in population)

- **Accomplishment for the nominated Project or Program**
- **Criteria Participation**
  - **Innovation:** Has the program/project found new methods to provide better service to the public or to internal customers?
  - **Achievement:** Did the completed project or program achieve all set goals?
  - **Transferable:** Is the resulting improvement and innovation transferable to other communities and situations?
  - **Cooperation:** Was there special cooperation between individuals, agencies, citizens, businesses and the general public?

- **Three sentences to summarize the nomination**
### Individual Award Nomination Information

You may nominate more than one individual per category, but each nomination must be submitted separately. More than one nomination in the same category from the same agency is not exclusionary!

**Nominations are due by August 14, 2020!**
*(This deadline will not be extended)*

**NEW THIS YEAR!!** Nominations will only be accepted using the Awards Nomination Submittal Form for Individuals available on the Colorado Chapter website [http://colorado.apwa.net/](http://colorado.apwa.net/). Please complete the submittal form and return the nomination via email to bdweimer@msn.com. You will receive a confirmation email. Please include a digital photo of the nominee in a separate file (jpeg format). For questions, please contact Pamela Weimer, Colorado Chapter Administrator, at 303.979.2190.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Young Leader</td>
<td>To recognize and encourage young APWA members who have demonstrated an initial commitment to the profession and the association and show potential for future growth within the association. The award promotes the concept that length of career does not necessarily indicate leadership abilities or potential for service. Nominee must be with organization for a minimum of one year.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outstanding Public Works Employee</td>
<td>This award is given to an individual at the operational level (first line supervisor or below) who performs his/her responsibilities at an exceptionally efficient and courteous manner. Nominees need not be a member of APWA, but must have been employed by a public works-related agency for a period of not less than five years.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professional Manager of the Year Administrative Management</td>
<td>The Professional Manager of the Year Award in Administrative Management seeks to recognize outstanding achievement in the area of administration within the public works field and to inspire excellence and dedication in the public sector by recognizing the outstanding career achievements of administrative professionals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Manager of the Year Transportation</td>
<td>The Professional Manager of the Year Award in the Transportation category seeks to recognize excellence and dedication by recognizing the outstanding career service achievements, exceptional leadership, and management of public transportation professionals.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professional Manager of the Year Water Resources (Water and Sewer)</td>
<td>The Professional Manager of the Year Award in the Water Resources category seeks to inspire excellence and dedication by recognizing the outstanding career service achievements, exceptional leadership and management of potable water and sanitary sewer professionals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Manager of the Year Fleet Maintenance</td>
<td>The Professional Manager of the Year Award in the Public Fleet category seeks to recognize excellence and dedication in the public sector by recognizing the outstanding career service achievements and exceptional leadership of public fleet management professionals.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professional Manager of the Year Drainage and Flood Control</td>
<td>The Professional Manager of the Year Award in the Drainage and Flood Control category seeks to recognize excellence and dedication by recognizing the outstanding career service achievements and exceptional leadership of stormwater management and flood control professionals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Manager of the Year Engineer</td>
<td>The Professional Manager of the Year Award in the Engineering category seeks to recognize excellence and dedication by recognizing the outstanding career service achievements, exceptional leadership and management of engineering professionals.</td>
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- **Accomplishment for the nominated individual**
- **Criteria Participation**
  - **Profession:** Significant contributions to the advancement of professional discipline.
  - **Leadership:** Outstanding leadership and vision evidenced by employing techniques in the field.
  - **Innovation:** Employment of new and innovative ideas resulting in the advancement of the effectiveness of operations.
  - **Achievement:** Achievement of desired outcomes and a consistent history of achievement.
  - **Customer Service:** Maintenance of a high degree of satisfaction among customers and other stakeholders.
- **Three sentences to summarize the nomination**
Greetings from the APWA Colorado West Slope Branch!

The year, 2020, has been different from all other years and has been difficult for just about every one of us. The winter and early spring started well with respectable snowfall and then everything changed in March, April, May, and June. Our friends and families, our communities, our state, our nation, and the entire world have been challenged by the COVID-19 Virus. Firstly, our hearts, thoughts, and prayers go out to anyone who has been personally affected by the virus. The last few months have been one of the most difficult times in our entire lives. My suggestion is to focus on yourself, on your families, and on your communities. Do everything that you can to stay healthy and follow local, state, and national orders, guidelines, and recommendations.

The realities of the last few months have become evident with many individuals, families, and even whole communities struggling both with health and with finances. I suggest that we remain compassionate to others as the difficulties being experienced are real and overwhelming for some. At this time, we truly need to be taking care of one another. We are all seeking a balance between protecting our health while also providing financially for our families. The COVID-19 Virus struggle will continue into the third and likely the fourth quarter of 2020. I know we are all looking forward to a time when we can return to some sense of normalcy in our lives.

Many of the organizations that we are associated with, irrespective of whether they are public or private, may be going through challenges and even changes. During trying times like this, organizations should focus on organizational health, organization finances, and the provision of essential services. The suggestion in this regard is to try to remain flexible and remember that there may be accommodations that need to be made to others, to the public, and to your clientele. We may need to reprioritize our goals and expectations – we may also need to reschedule events or projects based on our shared fiscal year 2020 experiences and the challenging financial times that we find ourselves in. There may be a need for temporary or even permanent organizational restructuring as we strive to increase organizational efficiencies. Use any and every tool at your disposal to keep your organization running as smooth as it can during these trying times. To those who have already experienced difficulties, reach out for whatever assistance that is available, take care of yourself and your families to the best of your ability, and do your best to remain positive.

APWA has many resources available to assist you and your organizations. Although one of the great benefits to membership is the comradery and friendships we form through APWA, there are also tangible benefits in the depth of resources that APWA provides to its members.

Now may be a good time to also look into the AAS degree in Highway Maintenance Management offered by Front Range Community College. The degree can be completed online and it is possible to get credit for industry experience, skills, training and certifications.

The West Slope Branch is also looking for ways to connect with its members through the Young Professionals (YP) program and a reimagining of the annual meeting as a more family friendly, casual, social event.

We’re always looking for new ideas and additional organizational energy! If you would like to increase your involvement, share ideas or just talk about Public Works, please contact myself or any West Slope Branch Board Member.

The Colorado Chapter and West Slope Branch understand how difficult this year has been. Stay upbeat and remain compassionate of others. Take care!
We have a great opportunity for you to reconnect in a socially distant environment and do good for the community!

The Colorado Chapter will be partnering with the Mile High Flood District to do a river clean up community service project.

Space is limited. Watch your inbox for the details and how to sign up!

Save the Date! September 11

The Colorado Chapter Board wants to help you address the challenges you’re facing. To help you share your stories and learn from others, the Colorado Chapter has initiated a virtual town hall meeting, or Colorado Chapter Chats. This hour of interactive discussion will be a way for us to support you and for you to share your experiences with your public works peers.

The first two Chats have had topics that ranged from working remotely, impacts to stormwater, budgets, how to handle training during this time, and long-term positive changes.

Missed a session? You can listen to the recordings by accessing the links on the Colorado Chapter website: http://colorado.apwa.net/PageDetails/24142

Watch your inbox for upcoming Chat announcements!

This year we are being challenged to find creative and innovative ways to accomplish tasks. New challenges are being faced because of the pandemic, social issues, budget cuts and our roles as first responders. There are many topics to address and experiences and knowledge to share.

Do you have information on an emerging topic of interest, project, or news that would be of interest to our members? All members are welcome to contribute to future newsletters.

The Practitioner is published quarterly. The submission deadline for the next newsletter is October 16, 2020.

Contact Pamela Weimer, Chapter Administrator, with questions or for more details.

Government Fleet and the American Public Works Association (APWA) announced the winners of the 2020 public fleet awards during the Virtual Honors Celebration on June 16.

The Leading Fleets award, sponsored by Ford, recognizes fleet operations that are performing at a high level and leading the industry in innovations and operations. Applicants are judged by a panel of fleet managers.

The Colorado Chapter is pleased to recognize that there are two local agencies named winners of the 2020 award:

The No. 1 Overall Fleet (and No.1 Large Fleet)  
City of Fort Collins, Colorado

The No. 1 Mid-Size Fleet  
Denver International Airport, Colorado

Congratulations!!
Computers carry a lot of important and sensitive data, so keeping work (and personal!) data safe is a must. One of the best ways to do this is to regularly change your passwords.

Reusing previous passwords or using the same password in multiple places is like carrying one key that will unlock your car, office, and house. If you reuse passwords for more than one computer, website, account, or secure system, you’re only as secure as the least secure system on which you have used that password. One lost key could let a thief unlock all the doors. How do you keep the thieves out? Change your passwords regularly to keep them fresh!

Here are a few recommendations to help keep your passwords safe:

- Never use the same (or even close to the same) password on different accounts
- Use two-factor authentication (2FA) and two-step verification (2SV) whenever possible
  - 2FA and 2SV use an additional step (usually either email or text confirmation) to add an extra layer of protection to your accounts.
  - Check out this link on how to add 2FA to your accounts.
- Learn to create strong and memorable passwords. You can find guidance on how to construct a strong password here.
- Use a password manager to help you keep track of all your strong and regularly changed passwords (more info on this below).

**What is a Password Manager?**
A password manager is an encrypted digital vault that stores the login information you use to access applications on websites, mobile devices, and other services. With a password manager you do not have to remember the various pieces of login information, such as credit card information. With just one master password, you can autofill a password field and access all your password data.

**How Do Password Managers Work?**
Password managers work by storing your passwords in a database (sometimes called a vault). The password manager encrypts the vault’s contents and protects it with a master password that only you know. When you need your passwords, such as to login to your email account or online bank, just type in the master password into the password manager to unlock the vault. The password manager will automatically retrieve the correct password and securely log you into the website. You no longer have to remember your passwords or manually log into your accounts.

**How Do I Choose a Password Manager?**
There are a wide variety of password managers out there. Here are a few things to keep in mind when trying to find the best fit for you:

- Your password manager should be simple to use. If you find the solution too complex to understand, find a different one.
- Avoid any password manager that claims to be able to recover your master password for you. This means somebody else has access to your master password, which exposes you to too much risk.
- Use only well-known and trusted password managers. Be wary of products that have not been around for a long time or have little community feedback.
- Password managers should provide you with an option of storing other sensitive data, such as the answers to your secret security questions, frequent flyer numbers, and credit card numbers.
- Consider writing your master passphrase in a sealed envelope and storing it in a locked cabinet, lockbox, or physical safe.

**A Few Password Managers to Check Out**
Here is a list of reputable password tools that offer free and/or premium service plans:

- Dashlane
- Keeper
- LastPass
Colorado is proud to have participation from our local members at the National level. Earlier this year, Dan Hartman, City of Golden, was re-elected as Region IX Director and Laura Kroeger, MHFD, was elected as the Technical Director of the Leadership and Management Committee. National APWA has also assembled their leadership team for 2020-2021. National APWA works to identify quality individuals willing to take on a leadership role in an energetic, effective and positive manner. Patty Carrico, City of Arvada, will be serving on the Facilities & Grounds Committee and Dave Zelenok, HR Green Inc., will be serving on the International Affairs Committee. Dan Sailer, Town of Castle Rock, was reappointed as Chair of the Asset Management Committee.

Thanks to all of you for your continued dedication and support of APWA!

APWA National Leadership & Committees

Sustainability Committee

Are you interested in joining the Sustainability Committee or participating in their events?

Send an email to Juliana Archuleta, new Sustainability Chair, to get added to the list!

mjarchuleta@adcogov.org

Check out the Sustainability Committee page on the Chapter website for information and updates:

http://colorado.apwa.net/PageDetails/11108

2021 APWA Colorado Chapter Elections

The APWA Colorado Chapter and West Slope Branch will be extending a call for nominations for Director positions this fall on their respective Boards. The term runs for two years. Duties include attending Board meetings, events, be a liaison between the Board and committees as well as the membership and provide direction to the Chapter and West Slope Branch.

For more than 50 years, APWA Colorado has been the education and networking choice of public works professionals who seek professional excellence and quality education experiences. If you are interested in helping to lead the Chapter, watch for information in October that will detail how to submit a nomination.

Join the team!

The Emerging Leaders Academy provides intensive leadership and management training within the context of public works.

This year-long national program encourages professional growth through a strong network of peers and offers an in-depth introduction to APWA at the national, chapter and branch levels. The candidates must be professionals who have been working in the field of public works for no more than ten years, or have been working for longer than ten years but have been promoted into their first leadership role within the past three years. Candidates shall have demonstrated an interest in advancing their careers within the profession.

To learn how to apply for the program or for more information, click here.

ELA Applications due August 7

Emerging Leaders Academy
Have you checked out all the information available to you on APWA Connect? The APWA Connect environment contains familiar tools such as the infoNOW communities, as well as expanded and enhanced technical and networking resources.

When you sign in on the National APWA website, and click on “MYAPWA HOME”, you are able to access and update your profile information, use APWA Connect which includes InfoNow and other networking communities and update settings for your account including changing your password.

**infoNOW**
This resource connects you with public works professionals who have experience in the areas you have questions about. These topic-based groups provide members with a platform for sharing questions, answers and real-life experiences. Subscribe to one or all, it’s up to you.

**Technical Committees & Subcommitees**
These groups provide committee members with resources for conducting committee business as well as a comprehensive platform for exchanging ideas and information within specific public works topics.

**Professional Development**
This resource provides an online communications platform for APWA’s career development-focused working groups and committees.

**Chapters**
This resource provides APWA Chapter website administrators with a platform for exchanging ideas, obtaining website news and announcements, and troubleshooting software issues.

**Networking**
This resource provides APWA-designated program groups with an online communications platform for connecting with their peers.

**User Groups**
This is a working platform for APWA customers to receive product updates and support on their software and/or subscription purchases.

*Check it out!*

**“First Responder” Materials Available**
In the current climate, it is important to show that public works professionals are First Responders. APWA has a national “Public Works First Responder” symbol that identifies public works professionals and acknowledges their federally mandated role as first responders.

To ensure this logo has maximum exposure in as many settings as possible – such as on fleet vehicles, hard hats, letterhead, public buildings, etc. – APWA has made the symbol available to our local agencies.

The downloadable versions of the logo and guidelines are available for use at: https://www.apwa.net/firstresponder.

You can also purchase First Responder items in the [APWA Store](https://www.apwa.net/firstresponder).
COMING IN AUGUST…

With the cancellation of PWX 2020 in New Orleans, LA, APWA is going back to the drawing board! We’ve repurposed PWX sessions and added a whole host of additional virtual education and networking opportunities that will be presented, by topic, to you on a monthly basis throughout 2020/2021. There’s even a virtual exhibit floor! Mark your calendars!

TOPICS BY MONTH

August 2020 = Utilities & Public Rights-of-Way
September 2020 = Fleet
October 2020 = Winter Maintenance
November 2020 = Operations & Maintenance
December 2020 = Leadership & Management
January 2021 = Engineering & Technology/Asset Management
February 2021 = Water Resources Management
March 2021 = Solid Waste Management
April 2021 = Facilities & Grounds
May 2021 = Sustainability
June 2021 = Emergency Management
July 2021 = Transportation

Take advantage of all these great virtual education and networking opportunities!

- Live streaming events
- On-demand eLearning opportunities
- Exhibitor showcases
- New topical public works resources
- Monthly Trending Technology/Roving Reporter videos
- APWA Committee news & events
- Legislative town hall events
- Career/workforce development events & resources
- Social media events & contests
- APWA Members’ Library highlights
- APWA Store publication & product highlights

For more information visit pwx@home.apwa.net
**News & Announcements**

**Job Postings**
Does your agency have a job opening? The Colorado Chapter website can help you with getting the word out! We list public works employment opportunities on our Chapter website under Resources/Employment: [http://colorado.apwa.net/](http://colorado.apwa.net/) For more information, contact Pamela Weimer, Chapter Administrator at bdweimer@msn.com.

**Membership**

**New Members**
Colorado APWA would like to welcome the following new members who have joined in the last quarter.

- Uriel Akiva, City of Commerce City
- Bret Banwart, City of Aurora
- David Bebak, City of Commerce City
- Dean Bedord, City of Aurora
- Chris Bisio, Otak
- Shane Brantl, City of Montrose
- Carlie Campuzano, City of Aurora
- Don Christensen, Town of Castle Rock
- Mike Coffey, EnviroTech Services, Inc.
- Dan Giroux
- Bryant Gonsalves, City of Boulder
- David Gonzales, City of Aurora
- Terry Grubham, EnviroTech Services, Inc.
- Carl Harline, City of Aurora
- Amy Hendricks, City of Commerce City
- Pat Hilyer, Lamp Rynearson
- Carl Holm
- Jeff Jones, City of Manitou Springs
- Craig Koehler, City of Arvada
- Carol Konecny, Douglas County
- Matt Lemon, Town of Palisade
- Zeke Lynch, Douglas County
- Lindsay Merz, City of Boulder
- Brad Meyering, City of Castle Pines
- Nick Neurauter, City of Commerce City
- William Peacock, Town of Castle Rock
- John Perkins, City of Aurora
- Bobby Redd, City of Boulder
- David Vara, Shannon & Wilson, Inc.
- Daniel Villani, Metropolitan State University-Denver
- Willis Waterhouse, City of Commerce City
- Jason Weinberger, Vaisala

**APWA Colorado Chapter**

Although many of our events had to be canceled this year and we do miss gathering with you at all of our annual events, the Colorado Chapter is committed to supporting you as you face unprecedented challenges in this uncertain time. We are reminded of the value of the continued services of the public works community. We are grateful for the work of personnel to provide the necessary services to maintain the quality of life in our communities.

Our committees and volunteers are planning ways we can provide information, training and support to you virtually this year as well as planning for exciting and rewarding events when we can again gather together. In the interim, please contact us with any questions or comments. We want you to know that your APWA family is here for you and will continue to provide you with valuable resources and experiences that will help you in advancing your career and to do your jobs.
American Public Works Association  
Colorado Chapter  
Pamela Weimer, Chapter Administrator  
6540 South Tabor Street  
Littleton, Colorado  80127

Did you know that much of the information contained in this newsletter is also available on the Web? Go to the APWA Colorado Chapter website at http://colorado.apwa.net/

APWA Toll Free Membership Hotline  
1-800-848-APWA

2020 Colorado Chapter APWA Executive Committee and Chapter Board of Directors

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