



Southern Arizona Branch

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Southern Arizona Branch of American Public Works Association announces annual award winners

The Southern Arizona Branch of the American Public Works Association announces the winners of its annual Public Works Project of the Year awards.

Category: Large Transportation Projects

Kino Parkway/22nd Street Grade Separated Intersection Project

This \$20.6 million project reconstructed one of the most congested intersections in Southern Arizona and was the first grade-separated intersection constructed by the City of Tucson. It was part of the \$2.1 billion, 20-year Regional Transportation Authority plan approved by voters in 2006 and funded by a half-cent sales tax.

Owner: City of Tucson

Consultant: AECOM

Contractor: The Ashton Company

Category: Small Transportation Projects

State Route 86 from Sells to Fresnal Improvement Project

This \$7.7 million project improved public safety on a treacherous stretch of State Route 86 east of Sells by widening shoulders, extending seven major and six minor drainage structures and replacing existing pavement.

Owner: Arizona Department of Transportation

Consultant: Kimley-Horn and Associates Inc.

Contractor: Combs Construction Company Inc.

Category: Environment

Paseo de las Iglesias: Santa Cruz River Bank Protection, Ecosystem Restoration, and Linear Parkway from Ajo Way to Silverlake Road Project

This \$14 million environmental restoration project included bank protection and other flood control installations, habitat restoration, recreational elements and cultural education outreach elements that are consistent with the Pima County Desert Conservation Plan.

Owner: Pima County

Consultant: Psomas

Contractor: The Ashton Company

Award Banquet, March 30

The winning project teams and individuals will receive their awards at the APWA-SAB annual award banquet on Wednesday, March 30, 2016, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Tucson Electric Power building, 88 E. Broadway Blvd. The banquet is being catered by Feast and is open to APWA members and non-members. Must RSVP by March 25 by emailing apwa.sabranch@gmail.com. Tickets are \$25 and are payable at the door.

Category: Structures

Tucson Drainage Project-Phase 2B, Increment 4: High School Wash Storm Drain

This \$4.2 million storm drain project is the penultimate part of the Tucson Drainage Area/Arroyo Chico Multi-Use Project, a multiphase flood control, environmental restoration and recreation project in central Tucson.

Owner: Pima County Regional Flood Control District/U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Consultant: Tetra Tech Inc.

Contractor: Hunter Contracting Co.

Individuals are also recognized each year.

Jeff Biggs, Strategic Initiatives Administrator for **Tucson Water**, will receive the Outstanding Public Works Employee award for outstanding performance at a managerial level at a federal, state, county or municipal agency.

Jessie Sanders, Project Coordinator for the **City of Tucson Department of Transportation**, will receive the Citation of Exemplary Service to Public Works, which recognizes agency personnel at the operational level who perform in an exceptionally efficient and/or innovative manner.

The APWA Public Works Project of the Year was established to promote excellence in the management and administration of public works projects by recognizing the alliance between the managing agency, the consultant/architect/engineer, and the contractor who, working together, complete public works projects. All the individual and project nominations received by the Southern Arizona Branch were forwarded to the APWA Arizona Chapter, which will announce statewide awards in August and nominate individuals and projects for the APWA National Awards Program.

Since 1937, the American Public Works Association has developed and supported the people, agencies and organizations that plan, build, maintain and improve our communities. The Southern Arizona Branch started more than 20 years ago and:

- Organizes monthly luncheons where members and non-members network and hear presentations about public works projects and issues.
- Provides scholarships to individuals seeking to advance careers in the field of public works.
- Organizes an annual scholarship golf tournament in conjunction with the annual Roads & Streets Conference. This year's tournament is Wednesday, March 23, at The Golf Club at Vistoso. For more information, email mike.holder@live.com.