APWA Colorado Annual Chapter Conference

The APWA Colorado Chapter held its 6th Annual Conference with the theme “Look Up and Plug In” and it was a huge success! Over 200 people attended the conference, and we had nearly 400 for the Awards Luncheon. Thanks to so many that came together to make this happen including a fantastic committee, great speakers, wonderful exhibitors, and you, the attendees. This event was held Monday, October 28th and Tuesday, October 29th, 2019 at the Arvada Center and featured two days of learning, networking, and entertainment. Nick Kittle provided our keynote presentation on Monday. Many thanks to Nick presenting this year with a great presentation “Transformations: Acknowledging, Assessing and Achieving Change”. The conference featured general sessions as well as breakouts including presentations on the Pena Boulevard Design Build project and the Stephen D. Hogan Parkway project, and other local municipal agency presentations. Presentations on Smart Work Zone Strategies and Transportation Partnerships were provided and were very informative. The conference provided insights on how we can utilize new tools on a variety of applications, and provided a good mix of project and administrative presentations.

The networking reception Monday evening featured trivia with Geeks Who Drink. Success required teamwork, knowledge, and a sense of humor! Thanks to Geeks Who Drink for a fun evening.

We held the Annual Awards Luncheon on Tuesday this year to close the conference, allowing all attendees to enjoy some additional networking time and visit conference exhibitors. Please see the separate article on the Awards Luncheon on page 4. This is the sixth year since we merged the Annual Awards Banquet with the Annual Chapter Conference which has allowed us to better position our chapter to pursue national recognition of our people and accomplishments with the National deadlines for applications. It has also created better opportunities to network and understand how we are making a difference around the state.

We are in the process of preparing for the 7th Annual Conference. The conference is scheduled for Monday, October 26th and Tuesday, October 27th, 2020. We are releasing a Call for Papers to develop our roster of presentations: see page 15 for all the details and how to submit. Watch your inbox for conference announcements and exhibitor/sponsor opportunities. Our entertainment director is working on plans for another great networking reception after the last session on Monday afternoon.

We always welcome new additions to our committee. If you are interested in being on the committee, please contact Chuck Weiss at cweiss@e-470.com or by phone at 303. 537.3420.

Chuck Weiss
E-470 Public Highway Authority
Annual Chapter Conference Chair
As we embark on a new year, I would like to begin by wishing all of you a safe, healthy, and prosperous 2020! Welcome to the new members of the Colorado Chapter board, West Slope Branch board, and other impassioned volunteers. I look forward to working with you all again this year.

As many of you are already aware, although I am entering my 20th year with the Colorado Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP), a multitude of life changes are on the horizon. I will soon be exploring new job opportunities and my son will be graduating from high school and leaving to embark on his own new life journey. Through all this uncertainty, one thing is unwavering -- and that is my dedication to you all and our public works family. Throughout the numerable changes in the coming year, I remain dedicated to serving our membership with all my usual enthusiasm and passion for your needs and the betterment of the Association.

While visiting my brother in Boston over the holidays, each night at dinner we would say what we were most grateful for that day. I would like to extend heartfelt gratitude to all of our APWA membership for trusting me to lead the organization by serving as your President this year. I am grateful for the path that the Chapter board has started us on through their efforts in developing the Chapter’s new Strategic Plan. A special thank you to James Phelps for leading us through this daunting task this past year. The Association continues to evolve to better serve the needs of its membership. We have many volunteer opportunities available – without having to serve on an official committee. We’re always welcoming new participants!

I have been impressed with the strides National APWA has made working to involve more operations and maintenance employees, developing more opportunities for those front-line workers to become better educated and well-trained. National APWA has established the Council of Chapters’ Operations & Maintenance Engagement Focus Group to look at better engaging this segment of public works professionals. I was very proud to represent Colorado at a recent PWX session in Seattle where other Chapters were astounded by the plethora of initiatives we’ve already implemented for maintenance and operations folks. I look forward to the new opportunities that will be available.

All of our efforts will put us in a good position to welcome the nation by hopefully hosting APWA PWX in the near future. I have always thought of myself as the newbie and sat in awe of the more experienced public works professionals around me. But now I am celebrating my 20th anniversary as a proud APWA member. I never envisioned such a long journey with the organization. A guiding passion keeps us coming back year after year.

Who knows what the future holds for me after this coming year, but I am confident my public works family will help me choose the right path when I reach the upcoming fork in the road. Right now, in the dawning of the third decade of this century - I am excited and honored to serve as this year’s President of the Colorado Chapter of the American Public Works Association.

I look forward to seeing you all around the state at our various events this year. If you have ideas for change or concerns on the direction of the Association, I hope you will feel comfortable to call on me to be the representative of your voice as we progress forward. The Association exists to support YOU!

Renée Railsback, CDOT/Colorado LTAP
The American Public Works Association Colorado Chapter Awards Program was established in 1985 to recognize outstanding programs, projects, and individuals representing the best in the public works profession.

The awards program and luncheon became part of the Colorado Annual Chapter Conference in 2014. This year the luncheon was held on Tuesday, October 29th at the Arvada Center.

The awards committee was made up of APWA members, Lesley Thomas, James Phelps and Renée Railsback who had the tough task of selecting the awarded projects this year. Nominations were submitted and judged using established criteria:

- **Innovation:** Has the individual, program, or 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? Were the desired results achieved and were they consistent?
- **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?

The Chapter awards ceremony was organized by the awards luncheon committee Dave Skuodas, John Burke and Laura Kroeger. A video played during lunch allowing the Chapter to honor committee members, national awards, recipients of certifications, accreditations and scholarships as well as our many sponsors and vendors. The ceremony focused on the award recipients and the sixth graduating class of the Rocky Mountain Public Works Institute.

The awards luncheon and ceremony was attended by almost 400 people who came to celebrate these outstanding programs, projects and individuals. The Colorado Chapter would like to thank all the communities who submitted nominations and the outstanding public works professionals who work tirelessly to plan, build, maintain, and improve our communities.

Chapter President James Phelps receives a certificate and pin for his service to the Chapter from National APWA President-Elect Mary Joyce Ivers.

APWA Colorado Past Presidents

One of the highlights of the Awards Luncheon each year is that the Chapter invites all of the Past Presidents to attend. This year we had 10 in attendance:

- Ted Borstad (1992)
- Bryan Weimer (2005)
- Abel Moreno (2009)
- Keith Reester (2011)
- Dave Zelenok (2012)
- Pete Adler (2014)
- Michelle Stevens (2016)
- Greg Hall (2017)
- Lesley Thomas (2018)
Achieving an APWA national certification (or recertification) is no easy accomplishment, so we wish to honor individuals who accomplish this goal. The purpose of certification is to recognize the achievements of an individual in a particular profession. APWA currently offers Certification Programs for Certified Public Fleet Professional (CPFP), Certified Public Infrastructure Inspector (CPII), Certified Stormwater Manager (CSM), Certified Public Works Professional-Supervision (CPWP-S), and Certified Public Works Professional-Management (CPWP-M).

APWA Certifications

- Craig Schroder, CPII, City of Thornton
- Kevin Salmen, CPII, City of Thornton
- Tanna Boisvert, CSM, SWAP, LLC
- Juliana Archuleta, CSM, Adams County
- Kacey Grosskreuz, CPWP-S, Summit County
- Brian Knight, CPWP-S, Jefferson County
- Martin Schmidt, CPWP-S, Gunnison County
- Willliam Truesdale, CPWP-S, Jefferson County
- Molly Trujillo, CPWP-S, SEMSWA
- Barbara Cinkosky, CPWP-M, City of Westminster
- Jeremy Hanak, CPWP-M, City of Greenwood Village
- Scott Mattice, CPWP-M, Pitkin County
- Paul Smith II, CPWP-M, Town of Parker

APWA Lifetime Membership Recipients

APWA National awarded Life Membership in 2019 to Peter Carlson, Vince Casteel, James Foil, Greg Hall, Fred Koch, Mick Mercer, and Ken Nyhoff. Life Membership is awarded to members who have continuous membership for 30 years, continuous membership for 20 years and age 70 or continuous membership for 20 years, age 65, and fully retired from active service.

We congratulate Peter, Vince, James, Greg, Fred, Mick and Ken on this achievement! Your commitment to the public works profession is deeply appreciated by your peers and evidenced by this designation.

APWA Accreditation

The purpose of the APWA accreditation program is to provide a means of formally verifying and recognizing public works agencies for compliance with the recommended practices set forth in the Public Works Management Practices Manual. It is a voluntary, self-motivated approach to objectively evaluate, verify and recognize compliance with the recommended management practices.

There are a total of 143 accredited agencies in the United States and Canada. In Colorado there are 9 agencies that have received accreditation; City of Greeley, City of Golden, City of Aurora, Town of Castle Rock, City of Cherry Hills Village, City of Arvada, City of Centennial, Arapahoe County and City of Lafayette.

Special Thanks to the Colorado Public Works Journal

APWA Colorado Chapter would like to thank the Colorado Public Works Journal for their support of the APWA Colorado Awards Program. Their publication of each year’s winners allows the Chapter to recognize the extraordinary nominations. The Chapter wishes to thank CPWJ for their work with the Chapter throughout the year!
2019 APWA Colorado Awards

Projects & Programs

Administration
Large Community: City & County of Denver
  Certified Fleet Management Operation

Disaster or Emergency Construction
Large Community: Colorado Water Conservation Board
  Colorado Emergency Watershed Protection Program
Medium Community: Boulder County
  Wagonwheel Gap Road Reconstruction and Fourmile Canyon Creek Restoration Project

Environment
Large Community: City of Colorado Springs
  Sand Creek Channel Restoration and Fat Bikes
Medium Community: City of Brighton
  Erger’s Pond Augmentation Station
Small Community: City of Fort Lupton
  Fort Lupton Terminal Reservoir Dam

Operations / Maintenance
Large Community: Arapahoe County
  Using the Jaws of Life for Routine Maintenance
Small Community: City of Cherry Hills Village
  2018 Capital Improvement Chip Seal Project

Parks and Trails
Large Community: City & County of Denver
  21st and Broadway
Small Community: City of Aspen
  Hallam Street and Castle Creek Bridge Improvements

Public Outreach
Large Community: Arapahoe County
  Arapahoe County Play Date
Small Community: City of Sheridan
  Driving Change, Sheridan Bond Program

Structures
Large Community: City of Arvada
  Whisper Creek Police Station
Medium Community: City of Northglenn
  Northglenn Justice Center
Small Community: City of Cherry Hills Village
  City of Cherry Hills Village City Hall Construction

Sustainability
Large Community: SEMSWA
  Rebalancing Piney Creek: Aggressive Stream Reclamation
Medium Community: City of Loveland
  Transit System Improvements

Transportation
Large Community: City & County of Denver
  Brighton Boulevard Redevelopment
Medium Community: City of Loveland
  Wilson Avenue Flood Mitigation Project
Small Community: City of Golden
  North Washington Complete Streets
2019 APWA Colorado Awards

Outstanding Public Works Employee

Small Community
Pamela Broyles
City of Cherry Hills Village

Professional Manager of the Year

Large Community
Beth Zollo
City & County of Denver

Large Community
Emily Gloeckner
City & County of Denver

Large Community
Chuck Haskins
Arapahoe County

Small Community
Lee Partch
Gunnison County

Transportation

Large Community
Emily Gloeckner
City & County of Denver

Fleet Maintenance

Large Community
Lee Partch
Gunnison County

Young Leader

Large Community
Amy Foreman
City & County of Denver
The South Platte River Run Park gave new life to a once forgotten stretch of river, combining recreation, habitat, and economic development with effective flood control measures. The project obtained first-of-its-kind approval to build within a Congressionally Authorized Flood Control Project and was designed to withstand a 100-year flood. Innovative high-performance river waves allow surfing in low flow conditions, in Colorado, drawing hundreds of users to the area on any given weekend.
The William E. Korbitz Award is awarded annually to the individual who displays the character, integrity and leadership of Mr. Korbitz, the first President of the Colorado Chapter of APWA. The first award was given in 1995. The following evaluation criterion is used for evaluating the recipient.

- General Accomplishments during his/her career
- Leadership characteristics that have positively impacted their agency, department, staff and community
- Contributions to the APWA Colorado Chapter
- Other contributions to the American Public Works Association
- Community involvement that has impacted and influenced the community
- Additional involvement and contributions not stated previously

Sean McCormick formed McCormick Compliance Consulting in March of 2017 after retiring from Gunnison County Public Works Department. He currently provides consulting services to Gunnison County in the area of landfill compliance. Sean worked for Gunnison County for 24 years. He served as a District Foreman in the Public Works Department for 20 years. His job responsibilities included scheduling and performing road maintenance projects and services throughout his district as well as regulatory oversight at the Gunnison County Landfill.

Prior to working for Gunnison County, Sean worked for 15 years in the logging industry in the Rocky Mountain region. He formed Intermountain Logging Company and contracted to mills in Montrose, Saguache and Olathe. Before moving to Colorado in 1977, Sean was a merchant marine on the Great Lakes working on iron ore freighters shipping ore, coal and wheat from the upper Great Lakes to ports on the lower Great Lakes. An interesting fact is that on November 10, 1975 the ore freighter he was working on had sailed across Lake Superior 8 hours ahead of the SS Edmund Fitzgerald that tragically sank on the east end of Lake Superior in a November gale. That event was memorialized in a song by Gordon Lightfoot “The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald”.

Sean was elected to the West Slope Executive Committee in December 2005. He has served as Treasurer of the West Slope branch for the past 10 years. Sean is proud of the work that the West Slope Branch Board has accomplished with a number of programs including college scholarships, an internship program and the Program for Professional Development.

Sean is married to his wife Diane of 37 years. They have two children, both grown and living in the Denver area. They enjoy some of their time in retirement visiting their three grandchildren as well as spending time traveling. Other hobbies include golf, hiking and camping.

Congratulations Sean!
2019 Public Works Institute

The Rocky Mountain Public Works Institute is proud to graduate the sixth class. PWI 6 was made up of 22 outstanding individuals, representing 5 Western Slope and 13 Front Range Public Works agencies. The Mile High Flood District graciously hosted the five, 2-day sessions. Thank you to the MHFD staff!

To date we have had 153 graduates of the Rocky Mountain PWI, we have a strong group of volunteers in the steering committee (Laura Kroeger, Dan Hartman, Renée Railsback, Keith Reester and Bryan Weimer) as well as a wonderful group of instructors. We had a combination again this year of professional speakers as well as our own public works professionals leading class discussions. Thank you to Renée Railsback, Dan Hartman, Larry Schneider, Laura Kroeger, Dave Skuodas, Bryan Weimer, Keith Reester, RA Plummer, Sheera Poleman, Steve Glammeyer, Jim Katzer, and Rebecca Doane for sharing their experience and commitment to elevating public works.

PWI focuses on teaching eleven core competencies desired by public works agencies as well as provide an opportunity to build a personal network to assist public works professionals on a trajectory of growth and success. The 2019 PWI Class was an outstanding class. The class actively participated in the core competencies taught within the PWI curriculum.

• Supervisory techniques and skills
• Basic management skills
• Communication skills
• Leadership skills
• Community service/customer orientation skills
• Legal understanding
• Fundamentals of government
• Finance
• Resource management skills
• Public works operations
• Creating the future

PWI 6 held true the vision and mission of PWI. We enjoyed hearing updates and supporting each other throughout the year. It was a pleasure to see the growth in individuals. Congratulations to Rocky Mountain PWI Class 6!

Caleb Barron, City of Arvada
Stephanie Crabtree, City of Golden
Kelly Crum, City & County of Denver
Rick Dennett, Town of Parker
Nate Gackstetter, Town of Vail
Ryan Germeroth, Town of Castle Rock
Chris Groth, City of Englewood
Ray Hill, City of Lakewood
Drew Isaacson, Town of Avon
Matt Knight, City of Lafayette
Rene Lopez, City of Boulder
Lindsay Merz, City of Boulder
Shane Nolton, City of Greenwood Village
Kristine Obendorf, Boulder County
Austin Payne, Town of Castle Rock
Erich Purcell, Larimer County
Carolyn Roan, City of Littleton
Jimmy Romero, Lake County
Josh Springer, Mesa County
Tyrel Stultz, Chaffee County
Tim Weaver, City of Littleton
Justin Williams, City of Greenwood Village

When was the last time you got to play Legos® at work?!

Vision Statement
Have public works leaders at all levels of the organization who motivate and create a positive work environment, which enables the agencies to fully serve the community.

Mission Statement
To elevate public works professionalism by providing a regional low-cost education program to develop and strengthen supervisory, management and leadership skills, through interactive classes taught by experienced public works officials.

If you are interested in learning more about the PWI program please visit http://colorado.apwa.net/. Registration for the 2021 session will open in April.
SPRING STREET CONFERENCE
April 15-17, 2020
Clarion Inn
755 Horizon Dr ◊ Grand Junction, CO ◊ (970) 243-6790

State Championship Backhoe Competition
1st & 2nd Place Winners Sponsored to Compete at National APWA PWX

ATTENDEES $105 before April 6th
The West Slope branch of Colorado APWA and the Colorado Association for Roadway Maintenance (CARMA) present the 33rd Annual Spring Street Conference. Always an educational and enjoyable event - so plan to join us! Early registration is $105 before April 6th. Registration is $130 after that date. Cancellations must be received by April 10th for a refund. Please register online where you can pay by Check or Credit Card.

EXHIBITORS $300 before April 6th
3 Great Ways to Participate:
2. Sponsor the State Championship Backhoe Competition - Your company's name/logo will be promoted and prominently displayed. Ask how you can help sponsor this exciting event!
3. Sponsor a Hole at the Golf Tournament - You could sponsor a Hole or prizes for Longest Drive, Closest to Pin, or Longest Putt for $150 each. Prize donations are also accepted (golf balls, tees, putters, etc.)

AGENDA TOPICS  KEY NOTE: Colorado’s premier Ventriloquist Wayne Francis & Wingnut
- Finding and Dealing with the Unexpected: Wildlife, Biohazards and Corpses
- Load Rating and Evaluation of Culverts and Buried Bridges
- Business Trinity: Accountability, Responsibility and Authority
- Field Rattlesnake Awareness, Safety and First Aid
- Gravel Road Maintenance Panel
- After Winter Recovery
- Hands on with Social Media
- Pavement Preservation
- Disaster Recovery Debris Management
- Road Repair Long Term ~ and MORE!

STATE BACKHOE COMPETITION FREE OUTDOOR EQUIPMENT DEMO
- $25 extra - 1st & 2nd Place Winners Sponsored to National APWA PWX

Tuesday, April 14th  GOLF TOURNAMENT
Tiara Rado Golf Course
2057 South Broadway ◊ Grand Junction, CO $75 per person includes cart

Register at http://Colorado.APWA.net
Hello from the West Slope Branch of the Colorado Chapter of APWA. The West Slope Branch of the Colorado Chapter was formed in 1983 to allow members on the west side of the Continental Divide to address issues that are unique to their municipalities, counties, and organizations. The West Slope Branch enjoys tremendous branch membership coupled with an active leadership group. The branch has focused on increasing diversity in both the general membership group as well as the leadership team, and everyone is encouraged to engage and participate as much as they can. West Slope Branch membership is currently at 158 members, who represent 52 different organizations. Please encourage your friends and coworkers to join this incredible organization!

My hope is that everyone has had a wonderful holiday season and a happy new year. I don’t know about you, but it seems almost unbelievable to me that it is 2020! Well, here we are. The state of Colorado has been blessed with a benevolent early snow season, and given the persistent drought and the ever present wildfire danger, we will gladly accept any snow that may come. Here’s hoping that we get even more snowfall throughout the rest of the winter.

I would like to highlight all of the reasons that we and our colleagues are members of the APWA. The comradery and friendships are wonderful, however the real benefits are the breadth and depth of the resources that APWA provides to its members. Participation gives members the opportunity to network and share expertise, enhance their own expertise, promote professional excellence, and to be the voice of Public Works. There are also numerous E-Learning and Certification programs that can assist members in their quest for improvement. In addition to these benefits, there are credentialing opportunities, governmental affairs assistance, and numerous group and committee involvements that are available.

Mentorship is a hallmark of the APWA organization, and we should all continue our efforts in this important endeavor. The benefits associated with mentoring include infusing our industry with new talent and providing for succession planning. One exciting new program that is available for our front line employees is the new Associate of Applied Science Degree in Highway Maintenance Management, offered by the Front Range Community College. This AA Degree can be completed online and it is possible to get credit for industry experience, skills, training, and certifications. These opportunities make it possible to acquire a degree in a relatively short amount of time! Please see and share this link with your front line employees: https://www.frontrange.edu/programs-and-courses/a-z-program-list/highway-maintenance-management

The West Slope Branch continues to develop our Young Professional Program (YP), and anyone interested in assisting in this development should contact myself or anyone on the West Slope Board. The West Slope Branch continues to be active and generous with our scholarship opportunities. The Branch financially supports attendees to the Public Works Institute (PWI) program, provides scholarships for education in a Public Works related field, provides funding for Professional Development for current Public Works employees, and financially supports a Public Works Internship program. In the current financial climate this level of organizational scholarship activity is unusual, but year after year, the West Slope Branch provides funding for these important programs. Please encourage your coworkers and colleagues to apply for these financial assistance programs.

The West Slope Branch is attempting to re-invigorate the annual meeting and return to the well-attended meetings of the past. The hope is to have the annual meeting be a more family friendly, casual social event, that would attract more participants than what we are currently seeing. There recently were several Branch Bylaw changes that were approved, including the change in the date of the annual meeting to a date outside of the previous November/December requirement. This will allow us to host the annual meeting during the beautiful Colorado summer/fall time period. Stay tuned as we will announce upcoming meetings and events soon.

The West Slope Branch is always looking for new ideas and additional organizational energy, and anyone interested in increasing their involvement, share ideas, or just talk about Public Works can contact myself or any West Slope Branch Board Member. I know that everyone involved with Public Works is taking care of their community – I would encourage you to continue in those efforts and to double your commitment to your families and your constituents. Take care and happy new year!
CALL FOR CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

The Colorado Chapter of the American Public Works Association (APWA) is requesting abstracts for presentation at the 7th Annual Chapter Conference to be held October 26 & 27, 2020. We are looking to change the format and session lengths and are interested in creative and innovative presentations. You are invited to speak and share your public works experiences.

The theme for the 2020 Conference is **EXPANDING THE POSSIBILITIES**

How can you expect to expand your possibilities if you always stick to the same routine or shy away from getting involved in a role or project that’s not familiar? For this year’s conference we are seeking presentations that deal with the obscure or less familiar side of Public Works. Can you show others how you have ventured into something new by exploring an area or discipline that took you out of your comfort zone?

Whether you are a consultant or employed in a public agency we want to hear about things that you do that are less well known or not always recognized as public works projects or responsibilities. The opportunities are endless, every organization is structured differently and encompass many different disciplines. Maybe you have projects such as facilities, fleet, sanitary sewer, parks and recreation - who knows what projects you may manage?! Or maybe you have a project that was a complete failure. Don’t be afraid to share it, we can all learn from others’ mistakes and try and avoid these pitfalls in the future.

We want you to share your creative mindset with others, offering all your ideas, no matter how small they may seem; your idea nugget may spark a new possibility for someone else. The more knowledge you get before attempting something new, the more confidence you’ll have in your ability to handle it. Besides, think of the opportunities that trying something new exposes you to. You’ll never know until you try! **Expanding the Possibilities** is about realizing the tipping point where enough ideas come together, and the possible combination of these ideas creates an explosion of innovation. These ideas are the building blocks for what we do in Public Works. With enough differently stacked blocks anything is possible; it allows for almost limitless growth and potential.

We are always in search of new and innovative ideas for the conference presentations. All ideas are encouraged!

This conference gives you an opportunity to network with public works professionals, and share new ideas, innovative project approaches, or lessons learned with your peers.

No matter your role in public works, there is something for everyone at the Colorado Chapter’s 7th Annual Conference. Public works professionals from both the public and private sectors attend to stay up-to-date on emerging trends, and innovative practices and strategies. Speakers at the Conference are people like you who have met the challenge of managing public works projects and organizations. They view speaking at this Conference as a chance to advance their careers and to invest in the future of the public works profession by sharing what they know. Presentations are a way to instruct your fellow engineers, scientists, and community leaders on new techniques and interesting project lessons unique to the industry.

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

*The conference will be held in the Arvada Center for the Arts and Humanities, 6901 Wadsworth Boulevard, Arvada, Colorado.*

*For budgetary planning, we anticipate early conference registration to be $275. Conference registration will begin in July.*

*Speakers will receive conference registration for the day of their presentation. If you wish to attend the other day of the conference, the fee is $150.*

ABSTRACT SUBMITTAL FORM - New this year!

*Submittals will only be accepted using the submittal form available on the Colorado Chapter website! Please complete the submittal form and return electronically via email by April 15, 2020. We anticipate notifying speakers of their selection by May 1, 2020. Current information on the conference will be posted on the conference page at http://colorado.apwa.net/ as it becomes available.*
2020 Calendar of Events

February 6 & 7  Construction Inspection Conference
CU Denver South, 10035 S. Peoria Street, Parker, Colorado 80134

April 14  Spring Street Conference Golf Tournament
Tiara Rado Golf Course, 2057 S. Broadway, Grand Junction, Colorado 81507

April 15-17  Spring Street Conference
Clarion Inn, 755 Horizon Drive, Grand Junction, Colorado 81506

April 17  State Backhoe Competition
Clarion Inn, 755 Horizon Drive, Grand Junction, Colorado 81506

May 17-23  Public Works Week

June 24  Chapter Golf Tournament
Red Hawk Ridge Golf Course, 2156 Red Hawk Ridge Dr., Castle Rock, Colorado 80109

August 30-September 2  APWA PWX, New Orleans

September 1  Region IX/Chapter Dinner, New Orleans (Location TBD)

September 23-25  Western Snow & Ice Conference & National Snow Roadeo
Embassy Suites, 4705 Clydesdale Parkway, Loveland, Colorado 80538

October 26 & 27  APWA Colorado Annual Chapter Conference
Arvada Center, 6901 Wadsworth Boulevard, Arvada, Colorado 80003

October 27  APWA Colorado Annual Awards Luncheon
Arvada Center, 6901 Wadsworth Boulevard, Arvada, Colorado 80003

November 19  CARMA Winter Workshop
City & County of Broomfield, 144th Avenue Service Center, Broomfield, Colorado

2020 APWA Colorado Chapter Board

Elections for the Colorado Chapter Board and West Slope Branch were held in November 2019. The Chapter would like to introduce you to this year’s Board and welcome our new officers and directors.

Officers
President: Renée Railsback, CDOT/Colorado LTAP
President Elect: Michael Martin, Merrick & Company
Secretary: Jay Goldie, City of Cherry Hills Village
Treasurer: Kimberly Dall, City & County of Broomfield
Past President: James Phelps, Town of Breckenridge
Chapter Delegate: Pete Adler, Adler Consulting LLC
Alternate Chapter Delegate: Laura Kroeger, MHFD

Chapter Directors
Scott Brink, Ulteig Engineers, Inc.
John Burke, City of Westminster
Steve Glammeyer, City of Fort Morgan
Mark Jackson, City of Loveland
Justin Schmitz, City of Lone Tree
Chuck Weiss, E-470 Public Highway Authority
Ellen Hilbig, City of Longmont, Emerging Professional Director

West Slope Branch
Chair: Paul Ruud, Town of Telluride
Vice-Chair: Scott Mattice, Pitkin County
Secretary: Jim Hatheway
Treasurer: Mark Johnston, Town of Breckenridge
At-Large Director: Susie Hervert, Town of Vail

West Slope Branch Directors
Kirsten Armbruster, City of Grand Junction
Susie Hervert, Town of Vail
Joe Lucero, Gunnison County
Travis Mooney, SEH, Inc.
Chris Spears, City of Grand Junction
The Colorado Association for Roadway MAintenance (CARMA) is a sub-committee of APWA that continues its tradition of delivering great opportunities for training and networking with their annual Winter Workshop. The Winter Workshop is designed to offer topics to help local agencies prepare for winter and keep staff on the cutting edge of methods, materials, and operations. The 2019 Winter Workshop flourished on a beautiful day in November in Parker, Colorado.

Douglas County hosted the event at their new Public Works Operations Parker facility. This complex includes the following facilities: Crew Building with Truck Storage; Equipment/Sweeper Storage building; Fleet Shop; Vehicle Wash Facility; Shared Fuel Island; previous Maintenance Shop; and also, a joint use material yard shared with the Town of Parker.

The Operations Center (crew building) houses a total of 32 employees for District’s 1 and 4. These two Districts cover the North and East portions of the County. One amazing portion of this facility was the lodging accommodations. Douglas County plow crews work in rotations of 12-plus hours or shifts. If a winter storm is bad enough, plow drivers may not go home for three to four days at a time. In order to help mitigate driver fatigue, they installed six bunk rooms with two bunks each in this Operations Center.

Their routine Maintenance Services include: snow and ice removal, pothole and asphalt patching, crack sealing, heaved concrete, sidewalk, curb and gutter repair, street sweeping, road washouts, erosion control, ditch maintenance, blading gravel roads, culvert installation, cleanout, and repair, chase drain installation, ice mitigation plans, shoulder drop offs, debris in the roadway, sink holes, emergency traffic closures, and other emergency repairs as needed.

The large truck bay – which can store up to 30 plow trucks! – had plenty of space to welcome our 110 participants. Educational sessions addressed several engaging winter related topics. Ethan Greene, Director of the Colorado Avalanche Information Center and Bill Langren, Douglas County District 1 Supervisor, opened the program with Avalanches & Bomb Cyclones; addressing the toll and recovery from the March 2019 Avalanche cycle. There had been ~1,000 avalanches reported to the Avalanche Information Center in a 2-week period. Colorado experienced 87 of those with a magnitude > D4; with at least three D5 avalanches. We had only experienced 24 of that size range in the previous 8 years!

One of Summit County’s most successful events is the SNOWPLOW JAMBOREE. This event emphasizes the importance of – “If you want to educate the parents, educate the kids first.” Kids paint a plow blade, decorate hard hats, climb inside snowplows and graders while the adults meet with the snow removal crews, ask questions, and get winter tips. One thing everyone looks forward to is the event’s raffle grand prize; a ride to school in a giant plow truck! Other Summit County outreach activities include an annual education event/Citizen Academy; Snow Removal Brochure; local television programming; and enhanced social media presence. One unique suggestion they provided was to post YouTube videos from the view of a plow operator’s experience so the traveling public can better understand what they are dealing with during a storm. Join Kacey behind the plow in this YouTube Video available online: Top 7 Snow Removal Tips from Summit County.

Both PIOs emphasized that the keys to success are good coordination between the Road and Bridge department and Communications; advanced planning before an event; and give operators control. Some of Broomfield’s best practices included the ABCs - Anticipate questions; Be helpful, useful, relevant; Characterize subject matter; and Storytelling. They have had success with positive, proactive promotions with a multi-platform approach on six social media sites. One impressive initiative to gain stakeholder buy-in included their SNOWFIGHTERS COMMUNITY SURVEY. The agency made some improvements to their winter operations program after reviewing the responses; and they have developed key messaging created for before, during and after an event. Check out their YouTube Video: Broomfield Snow Response.

Other session topics included a student’s perspective of the new Associates Degree in Highway Maintenance Management; Concrete Mix Design Standards that Help with Deicers; and Using GIS to Manage Snow Removal. Douglas County staff completed the program by taking the group on a tour of their extensive operations and material storage facilities.

CARMA would like to formally thank the following agencies for allowing their volunteers to participate and provide insightful presentations: Colorado Avalanche Information Center; Douglas County; Colorado LTAP; ACPA; Cartegraph; Summit County; City & County of Broomfield; Town of Castle Rock; and Town of Parker.

MOST OF ALL – we are thankful for the kind hospitality and help with the meeting accommodations of our hosts at Douglas County. Let us know if YOU would like to host this event in the future.

Renée Railsback, Colorado LTAP, APWA Colorado Chapter President
The Colorado Chapter held a community service project in conjunction with the 2019 Annual Chapter Conference. We were pleased to offer conference attendees an opportunity to give back to the community that hosted us. We held a food drive benefitting the Arvada Community Food Bank. The Chapter collected several boxes of food as well as monetary contributions that were donated to the organization.

The Chapter would like to thank everyone who contributed and helped to make this project such a success!

Annual Chapter Conference Chair Chuck Weiss drops off the donations at the Arvada Community Food Bank.

SAVE THE DATE!

APWA Colorado Golf Tournament

Wednesday, June 24, 2020

Red Hawk Ridge Golf Course

Information and Registration available this spring

Sponsorship Opportunities Available

For more information contact
Allen Peterson
apeterson@arapahoegov.com

Expanding the Possibilities

October 26 & 27, 2020

APWA Colorado Annual Chapter Conference
Each year the Colorado Chapter Board offers the awarded agencies and individuals the opportunity to have their award presented to them by a Board member at a city/town council, county commissioner or board meeting.

Chapter Delegate Pete Adler and Emerging Professional Director Ellen Hilbig presented awards to the City of Loveland Wilson Avenue Flood Mitigation Project and Transit System Improvements.

Adler also presented the City of Northglenn with the award for the Northglenn Justice Center (above) and the City of Golden for the North Washington Complete Streets (below).

Board Director Steve Glammeyer presented Roy Vestal and Mayor Zo Stieber with The City of Fort Lupton’s award for the Terminal Reservoir Dam.

Photos courtesy of the City of Golden, City of Fort Lupton, City of Northglenn and the City of Loveland.
YP Update

Excitement for the YP 2020 Year!

After enjoying the Holiday Season, the Colorado Chapter Young Professionals (YP) Group is hard at work making 2020 an exciting year! Planning is underway for Speed Networking and our annual Rockies Night Out and dates should be finalized soon. These are great opportunities to get involved and to meet new colleagues in the profession. There are still some opportunities to get involved with the YP Committee and contribute to your local chapter.

Tentative 2020 events include:
• Speed Networking Event
• Annual Rockies Game
• Miscellaneous Networking Event (Brewery or Trivia Night)
• Annual APWA Conference Speaker Introductions

Contact Jess Hastings at jhastings@benesch.com if you have any questions or would like to get involved. Please share with others in your office that may be interested in becoming part of this professional organization. Public Works is best shared with others, so come be a part of the group!

Follow us on Facebook to stay current with event details!

CAPA-APWA NCAT Training Scholarships

The Colorado Asphalt Pavement Association (CAPA) created a partnership with the APWA Colorado Chapter to establish a scholarship in 2001 to afford people the opportunity to attend the National Center for Asphalt Technology (NCAT) Asphalt Technology training course at Auburn University. Since the inception of this partnership, 133 people have been awarded scholarships and attended the course. In 2020, five have been selected to be attendees at the NCAT Technology Course in February 2020. The persons traveling to Auburn, Alabama, February 24-28, 2020 are George Schenfeld, Commerce City; Jeremy Clayton, Cherry Hills Village; Richard Nickson, City of Thornton; Jeff Hill, Federal Heights; and Andrea Holtorf, Brannan Sand and Gravel. Congratulations!

Not only does our partnership with the Colorado Chapter of the APWA work to send people to the technology course, but we partner in other educational opportunities. CAPA and the Rocky Mountain Asphalt Education Center (RMAEC) hold webinars many times each year and each of those is open to ALL APWA members at no cost simply by registering and logging into the scheduled sessions. Many of the sessions have been recorded and are available on the CAPA website for on demand playback. In 2020 we have 14 webinars scheduled and will add more as needed.

The Colorado Chapter and the RMAEC partner during the APWA Inspector Conference to offer Inspector Certification for chapter members at a reduced rate. This session is typically held one day before the APWA Construction Inspection Conference.

CAPA typically holds one or more technology forums each year highlighting one of the most talked about asphalt related subjects affecting agencies and industry. These are either in the spring or fall as the construction season is beginning or ending. CAPA also typically presents at the APWA-CARMA Spring Street Conference in Grand Junction presenting on one of the current issues with road maintenance. We partner with APWA members on open houses and product showcases.

To raise funds, CAPA holds a golf tournament each year. In 2020 the tournament will be on Friday, September 18 at Fox Hollow Golf Course in Lakewood.

If you are interested in being considered for the 2021 trip to Auburn, look for the announcement in the CAPA Newsletter “In Front of the Paver” and on the CAPA website early summer.

Tom Clayton, CAPA, Director of Training & Member Services

JESS HASTINGS, YP CHAIR
ALFRED BENESCH AND COMPANY
Have you ever wondered what designers and builders really think about their clients, or why it matters?

Public works agencies use the private industry year in and year out to accomplish our missions, with access to a limited pool of designers and builders who are capable, available, and interested in working on our projects. With public works agencies being such consistent sources of work for the construction community, designers and builders inevitably figure out which amongst us are fair to work with and which are not, both on an individual basis and on a community basis. With the growing scarcity of labor in the construction industry, it’s becoming more and more important for public works agencies to be viewed as desirable customers by the construction community. Put simply, designers and builders don’t have to bid on our projects.

I’ve spent half of my 20 year career as a design consultant, and the other half as an owner on civil construction projects, giving me insights into both sides of the client/vendor relationship. For the past few years I’ve been asking vendors in the construction industry “Why does it matter to be a good client?”

I interviewed dozens of consultants, contractors, and client project managers, and I asked them what differentiates a good client from a bad client, and how does the client affect the cost, schedule, or quality of a project? I asked vendors what conditions allow them to do their best work, and on the flip side, what might owners do that makes it difficult for vendors to do their jobs?

This research culminated in my newly released book: The Effective Client: Why Being a Good Client is Smart Business in the Architecture, Engineering, and Construction Industries. This book allows you to peek behind the curtain and find out how designers and builders really differentiate between good and bad clients.

For instance, every consultant and contractor I spoke with said that their pricing can go up by 10, 20, or even 30 percent or more, for similar scopes of work, based solely on the client they’re dealing with. The issue of cost escalation based on the client is visualized here:

You can probably guess what the P.I.T.A acronym stands for.

One contractor described his approach to project pricing this way. He puts together all of his labor costs, equipment costs, material costs, and his subcontractors’ costs, and then he applies his overhead and profit. This results in the lowest possible price he would charge for the project. Then he has an additional cost based on a sliding scale. The sliding scale goes anywhere from 0 percent to 20 percent that’s based solely on how risky he feels the client is to work with.

Here’s the kicker: He said the extra 20 percent charge may not be warranted for a given client by the time a project is completed, but that client will be charged the extra anyway, from the start, if the client was tough to deal with previously. In other words, the extra cost is built into all of the unit prices from the start, and it doesn’t ever get deducted if the project goes better than planned. The contractor assumes it will go poorly since that’s the track record. The key word here is “assumes.”

It’s all about a vendor’s perception of cost-risk in working with us. The vendor risks losing money on the project, typically because the owner is overly averse to change orders. If we are risk averse to change orders, the vendor will price our projects higher from the start. For those of us who work for public agencies that do work year in and year out, vendors will figure out how to work for us profitably, both on a community basis and on an individual basis. A vendor can be burned by a client exactly one time before he adjusts his pricing to account for the risk in working with a certain client or inspector.

In addition to talking about the hidden taxes paid by ineffective clients, my new book will show you the ingredients that go into building professional trust, and how trust between individuals and organizations can improve project quality, speed up schedules, and reduce costs. You’ll learn about the value of being seen as a customer who pays fairly and punctually.

Make no mistake: Owners are in competition with each other for a very limited pool of capable designers and builders. Having the vendor community view you as a desirable customer is simply smart business. Effective clients attract more talented project teams, get more for their money, and build better projects – my book will show you how.
Snow & Ice National Roadeo Winners Recognized Here and at Home!

Winners of the National Snow Roadeo held in Loveland in September are recognized at the awards luncheon on Friday of the conference. Once they get home, their agencies are also proud to recognize them for their extraordinary skills!

Jon Keimig and Eric Goode placed second in the Single Axle Plow event at the 2019 Snow Roadeo. Jon Keimig was recognized at the City of West Des Moines, Iowa City Council meeting on Monday, December 16, 2019. (Eric Goode was unable to attend)

The Colorado Chapter is proud to host this great event each year. Mark your calendars now to join us for the 2020 APWA Western Snow & Ice Conference and National Snow Roadeo!

City of West Des Moines Public Services Director Bret Hodne and Mayor Steve Gaer recognize Jon Keimig.

APWA Western Snow & Ice Conference & National Snow Roadeo

Winter Warriors: The Key to Our Success

September 23-25, 2020

Embassy Suites, Loveland

Save the Date!

https://www.westernsnowandice.com/

REGISTER BY FEB. 21, 2020 TO SAVE UP TO $80
APWA is proud to announce “The Rhythm of Public Works” as the theme for the 2020 National Public Works Week, May 17-23. This year’s exciting poster challenges our 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.

Idea and Resources

APWA encourages public works agencies and professionals to take the opportunity to make their stories known in their communities during National Public Works Week. There is a How-To Guide and Downloadables available to agencies to assist in the development and implementation of their own individual celebrations on the website at https://npww.apwa.net. The occasion is marked each year with scores of resolutions and proclamations from mayors and governors, as well.
News & Announcements

APWA National News

MyAPWA
Have you checked out all you can do on MyAPWA? 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. Check it out!

2020 APWA National Awards Program
Nominations are being accepted for the 2020 National Awards Program. There are several categories including Top 10 Public Works Leaders, Public Works Project of the Year, Small Cities/Rural Communities Project of the Year and many other categories. For more information, criteria and how to submit, please go to http://www.apwa.net/awards.

APWA National Awards deadline is Monday, March 2, 2020.

A Helpful Hints and Tips for Award Nominations has been created and posted on National’s website for your assistance with frequently asked questions received in the past. Should you have any questions please contact Rhonda Wilhite at rwilhite@apwa.net.

Membership

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

Vince Auriemma, FHWA
Richard Bednar, City & County of Broomfield
Bennett Bradt, Town of Firestone
Gary Campbell, Jefferson County
Hector Chavez, City & County of Broomfield
Karla Davis, City of Centennial
Matthew Deaver, City & County of Broomfield
Daniel Feller, Olsson
Laddie Fromelius, Storm Trap
Rob Harries, Goff Engineering
Steve Jackson, City of Black Hawk
Melissa Jucha, FHWA
Todd Juergens, Larimer County
Joseph Leon, City of Brighton
Steve Martinez, City of Black Hawk
Kevin Mastin, El Paso County
Ricky Pickard, City of Evans
Josh Roseberry, Town of Kersey
Chuck Schmidt, Trimble
Gerry Vernon, Town of Winter Park
Brandon Wallace, Montrose County

Announcements

APWA Colorado Chapter Committees
Would you like to be more involved with APWA and the Colorado Chapter? Please let us know if you are interested in serving on a committee, volunteering or if you have an idea for an event. Contact Pamela Weimer, Chapter Administrator at bdweimer@msn.com.

The Practitioner
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 submissions deadline for the next newsletter is April 10, 2020.

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/ For more information, contact Pamela Weimer, Chapter Administrator at bdweimer@msn.com.
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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WEST SLOPE BRANCH

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