



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO  
**REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL**

DATE ISSUED: October 25, 2006 REPORT NO: 06-159  
ATTENTION: Council President and City Council  
SUBJECT: City Projects honored by the American Society of Public Works (APWA)

THIS IS AN INFORMATION ITEM ONLY. NO ACTION IS REQUIRED ON THE PART OF THE COUNCIL.

This year the City of San Diego received 22 awards for various projects from The American Public Works Association (APWA), an international educational and professional association of public agencies, private sector companies and individuals dedicated to providing high quality public works goods and services.

Originally chartered in 1937, APWA is the largest and oldest organization of its kind in the world, with 67 chapters throughout North America. The local chapter of APWA (San Diego and Imperial Counties Chapter) has a tradition of recognizing outstanding public works projects through its annual awards program.

Local APWA Chapter awards are divided into categories that include Transportation, Environmental, Structure, Utilities, Historic, Innovative Technology and Emergencies. This year's winners, announced on September 14, 2006, are:

Earl Thomas Reservoir Replacement  
Water Department  
*Project of the Year – Utilities (over \$8 million)*

The Earl Thomas Reservoir located at the Alvarado Water Treatment Plant next to Lake Murray holds 35 million gallons of drinking water and helps to meet the



demand of more than 600,000 city residents served by this facility. It is a 38 foot deep by 406 foot diameter circular reservoir with 241 columns supporting the roof. The \$32



million project started in November 2002 and involved the demolition and excavation of a 50-year old reinforced-concrete reservoir, which had become seismically unstable and required replacement. Construction for this new storage tank was completed in November 2004 and is the largest, pre-stressed concrete drinking water reservoir in the world.

Sewer Pump Station 19 Replacement  
Engineering and Capital Projects  
*Project of the Year – Utilities (\$2 - \$8 million)*

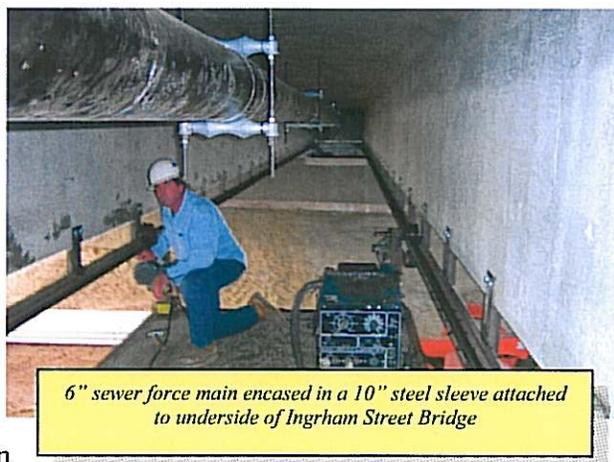
Sewer Pump Station 19, located in the Bird Rock Community of La Jolla, was originally built around 1950. Sewer Pump Station 19 was a high priority for replacement due to a number of deficiencies that impacted the station's operation and reliability. Many new safety features were incorporated into the new pump station to protect from sewage overflows and



provide reliable service to the public. The new pump station is equipped with new pumps, dual force mains, SCADA system, natural gas emergency generator, ventilation system, soundproof materials and acoustic louvers on the walls, and an odor control system. The exterior and surrounding area of the pump station also received architectural treatments improving its appearance and blending with the natural coastal environment. The deteriorated stairway leading down to the beach was replaced, and the viewing deck was also expanded to create a larger observation deck.

Sewer Pump Station 50 Improvements  
Engineering and Capital Projects  
*Project of the Year – Utilities (under \$2 million)*

Sewer Pump Station 50, in Mission Bay Park, was built in 1961 to serve the Ski Beach recreational area on the east of the island and San Diego Paradise Point Resort on the west side of the island. This project replaced the pumps and motors as well as the valves, pipes and fittings which were fatigued and heavily corroded. In addition, the existing force main was replaced and a dual force main installed. The second force main was attached to the underside of the Ingraham Street Bridge over Fisherman's Channel. This was accomplished by a unique cart and rail system which eliminated the need to utilize a barge in the channel which would have restricted the usage of the channel during construction.



Sewer Group 744 Design-Build  
Engineering and Capital Projects  
*Honor Award – Utilities (\$2 - \$8 million)*

The Sewer Group 744 project replaced approximately 2.6 miles of deteriorating and substandard sewer pipelines in the Barrio Logan neighborhood via the “Design-Build” project delivery method which separates this project from other pipeline projects typically delivered via the method of Design-Bid-Build. The project and its unique delivery method proved to be a success in meeting all of its objectives. This project was also selected and presented at the Design/Build Institute of America national conference in Florida in 2005, providing valuable information to other agencies and entities throughout the country. This project was also recognized by the American Society of Civil Engineering (ASCE) for its innovative delivery method.



Rancho Bernardo Community Park-Dog off Leash Area  
Park and Recreation Department  
*Project of the Year – Environment (under \$2 million)*

This project developed a 2.7 acre off leash dog area for the community of Rancho Bernardo adjacent to the Rancho Bernardo Community Park. The site was a disturbed area of non-native plants, an old dirt road and old irrigation pipes, but offered beautiful views of the area and plenty of room for dog off leash activities. The designer for the project created a circular design with three dog pens radiating out from a central plaza at the top of the site with a large Tipuana tree in the center for shade. Each new pen is roughly an acre of land surrounded by a 4’ high fence. Turf and new shade trees are found in each pen along with benches and drinking fountains for the dogs. The perimeter of the site was designed with native plants to act as a buffer to the adjacent native vegetation.



El Cuervo Norte Wetland Mitigation Project  
Engineering and Capital Projects  
*Honor Award – Environment (\$2 - \$8 million)*

The State Route 56 project’s El Cuervo Norte Wetland Mitigation project located within the Los Penasquitos Canyon Preserve provided for 26.6 acres of mitigation that reestablished Penasquitos Creek's historic flow and wetlands within the canyon preserve by



providing approximately 23.3 acres of wetland creation and enhancement, 2 acres of upland buffer and 1.3 acres of park access road. Approximately 5,000 native plants were salvaged and replanted as part of the project in addition to 30,000 new container plants.

Vista Grande Elementary School-Joint Use Improvements

Park and Recreation Department  
*Honor Award – Environment (under \$2 million)*

Through a cooperative Joint Use Agreement, the Park and Recreation Department and the San Diego Unified School District worked together to



create a 3 acre grassy playfield for the school children to use during the school days. This area will also be used as a community playing field in the evenings, weekends and non-school periods. To date, these two agencies have partnered on more than 100 joint-use agreements, which provide enhanced recreational opportunities for students and the community.

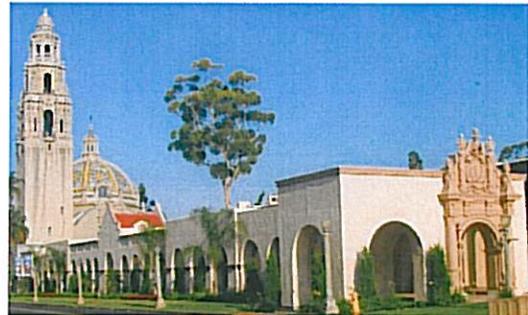


Balboa Park West Arcade Reconstruction

Park and Recreation Department  
*Project of the Year – Historic (\$2 - \$8 million)*



Located in the heart of Balboa Park, the West Arcade Reconstruction Project provided reconstruction of the arcades



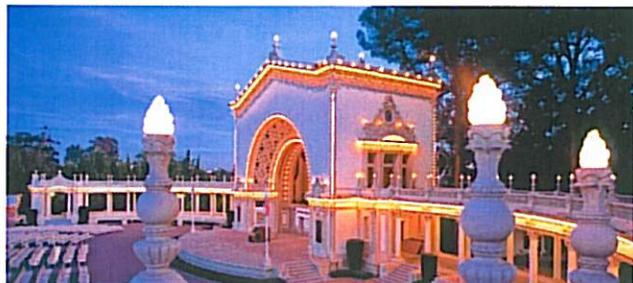
for the Science and Education Building, first built for the 1915 Panama – California Exposition. The Arcade is approximately 350 feet long, and covers approximately 6,000 square feet. Reconstruction was based on the original plans, and included replication of the ornamentation framing the eastern entrance at the Plaza de Panama. The project was a successful partnership between the Park and Recreation Department and the Committee of One Hundred, an organization committed to the

preservation of Spanish Colonial architecture in Balboa Park.

Balboa Park Organ Pavilion Electrical

Park and Recreation Department  
*Project of the Year – Historic (under \$2 million)*

The Spreckels Organ Pavilion was constructed for the 1915 Panama-California



Exposition and it was intended to be one of the few permanent structures. Decorative lighting was a very important aspect of the Panama-California Exposition and the Organ Pavilion was the only building to incorporate lighting directly into the ornamentation. The scope of the lighting restoration project was to repair the exterior decorative lighting, upgrade the electrical system to make the lighting fully functional, and to comply with current electrical codes wherever possible, while meticulously preserving and replacing the unique rosette fixtures.

Balboa Park Aerospace Museum Roof Rehabilitation  
Park and Recreation Department  
*Honor Award – Historic (under \$2 million)*

The San Diego Aerospace Museum, which was constructed in preparation of the 1935 California Pacific International Exposition, is located in the southwest portion of Balboa Park. The existing roof was renovated in 1978 because of damage done by a fire earlier that year. The roof, after 28 years of use, began to show signs of severe deterioration and was in need of re-construction. The Aerospace Museum is a massive historic structure with two levels of roof and a deck. It houses vintage planes and murals that are irreplaceable. During prior rain events, the structure was leaking excessively causing concern. The rehabilitation project included removal of the large and obsolete solar panels and replacement of all the disintegrated drains and down spouts that were previously routed inside the stucco walls of the building.



Camino Del Sur Bridge over Lusardi Creek  
Engineering and Capital Projects  
*Project of the Year – Transportation (\$2 - \$8 million)*

The Camino Del Sur Bridge over Lusardi Creek utilizes parallel, pre-stressed concrete structures to carry a new four-lane roadway over Lusardi Creek Canyon and the San Diego Aqueduct. The main span of 316 feet is the longest of its type ever constructed in San Diego County. The three span configuration combined with the haunched superstructure gives the bridge a graceful appearance with clean flowing lines. Environmental enhancements included placing bat houses on the faces of the piers to provide a habitat for the native bat species of this riparian environment.



La Jolla Village Drive Widening  
Engineering and Capital Projects  
*Honor Award – Transportation (over \$8 million)*



The La Jolla Village Dr. Widening project improved approximately 4,200 linear feet of La Jolla Village Drive from Expedition Way to Interstate 5. La Jolla Village Drive was widened to six lanes including space for bike lanes from Expedition Way to Gilman Drive and to eight lanes, two of which are auxiliary lanes, from Gilman Drive to Villa La Jolla Drive with the La Jolla Village Drive Bridge over Gilman Drive widened to six lanes. This project also included a free right turn lane to Torrey Pines Road, new curbs, sidewalks, curb ramps, drainage and barrier systems, retaining walls, pavement resurfacing, concrete median barriers, erosion control, landscaping and irrigation, metal beam guard rail, and approximately 30 street lights.



Lisbon Street Roadway and Utility Improvements  
Engineering and Capital Projects  
*Honor Award – Transportation (\$2 - \$8 million)*

The Lisbon Street Roadway and Utility Improvements Project is located within the Jamacha Community of the Skyline-Paradise Hills Planning Area. The project improved Lisbon Street to accommodate a center-turn lane and left turn pockets, as well as two thru lanes, thereby alleviating the congestion previously caused by drivers making left turns into driveways and side streets. This project was able to be coordinated with anticipated dry utility undergrounding and these projects were consolidated to one making it the first project where engineering staff partnered with the local utility companies (SDG&E, AT&T, and Cox Communications) to design and construct a joint roadway and utility improvement project, administered under one contract. This included installation of private utility services which saved money and time, as well as reduced the amount of time the residents were inconvenienced during construction. The project features included concrete sidewalks, curb and gutter, cross gutters, retaining walls, residential driveway transitions, curb ramps, concrete bus pads, audible pedestrian call button upgrades, pavement resurfacing, slurry seal, signing, striping, dry utility mainline conduits, dry utility services conduits, panel boxes, transformers, pedestals, handholes, vaults, and street lights.



Via De La Valle Bikeway  
Engineering and Capital Projects  
*Honor Award – Transportation (under \$2 million)*

This project involved the installation of a continuous Class II bike lane along both the North and South side of Via De La Valle approximately a mile long, between San Andreas Drive and El Camino Real. The project consisted of widening the existing road, construction of sidewalks, curb ramps, storm drain inlets, decorative gravity walls, traffic signal modification, and striping to accommodate the new bike lanes.



Fashion Valley Emergency Replacement  
Engineering and Capital Projects  
*Honor Award – Emergency (under \$2 million)*

During the heavy rains of the winter of 2004-05, the Fashion Valley Road over the San Diego River failed due to the deterioration of six 60-inch corrugated metal pipes located underneath the roadway. These pipes were in excess of 35 years old and lay under a major access corridor to residential



Damaged corrugated metal pipes



New reinforced concrete pipe installed

and commercial entities in the Fashion and Mission Valley area. The restoration of the road was critical to access for pedestrians, the transit station, and area businesses/visitors. The City obtained all required permits prior to construction and replaced the metal corrugated pipes with more durable reinforced concrete pipe. The project was completed and operational in late October 2005, before the holiday season and its associated shopping season.

College/Rolando Branch Library  
Engineering and Capital Projects  
*Project of the Year – Structures (over \$8 million)*

The new 15,000 Square Foot branch library serves the community of College Heights and Rolando and functions as a community clearinghouse and resource center to promote education and cultural events. It is structured around a central spine, clad in stone that references the colors and textures of the mesa that



supports open reading areas bounded by a serpentine sea-blue glass block wall on the west, and softly curved stucco walls on the east. The terrazzo floor has materials from the community cast into it. Large, north-facing windows allow significant natural light into the main reading areas while framing high views of the grove. The library includes a large community meeting room, multi-media, children's reading, young adult as well as adult lounge seating and informal reading nooks. The design concept emerged from the recognition that these communities are central to the City of San Diego, expressing the ocean influences from the west, the mesa and rolling hills of College and Rolando, and the foothills and mountains of the neighboring communities to the east.

Otay Mesa/Nestor Branch Library  
Engineering and Capital Projects  
*Project of the Year – Structures (\$2 - \$8 million)*

The community surrounding the Otay Mesa/Nestor Branch Library was in real need of a gathering forum. The existing library had exceeded its capacity for books and the decision was made to expand the facility from 10,000 to 15,000 square feet. The space allowed additional room for books and other materials, larger meeting and conference rooms, and a computer lab. The \$4.9 million project also included repairs and improvements to the original building. The facility features a tranquil, outdoor courtyard which serves as the central heart that serves as a link between the traditional library functions of the existing building and the new community rooms. From the courtyard vistas extend south and on clear days the peaks of the Coronado Islands can be seen and the view affords the visitor a birds-eye view of the community for which it serves.



Rancho Penasquitos Skate Park  
Park and Recreation Department  
*Project of the Year – Structures (under \$2 million)*

The Rancho Penasquitos Skate Park is located between Carmel Mountain Road and Highway 56 (Ted Williams Parkway) east of the CalTrans Park and Ride facility. The improvements included a 20,000 square foot skate park with wood and concrete structures, enhanced concrete paving, site grading, site utilities, security lighting, a check-in/storage building with two uni-sex restrooms, drop off area, security fence, landscaped buffer zone around the entire perimeter, irrigation system, drinking fountain, picnic table, and parking area.



Fire Station 31  
 Engineering and Capital Projects  
 Honor Award – Structures (\$2 - \$8 million)



The new two story steel-framed structure is approximately 8,800 square feet and is situated on approximately one half acre of land. The engine bays were expanded from two to three with bigger doors and additional storage to accommodate the expanding equipment requirements. Amenities include a workout room, a gear room for dressing with a separate area for dirty uniform containment and a washer and dryer, private instead of common restrooms and a watch room with upgraded wiring to accommodate the Fire Department’s Emergency Alert system which allows communication via phone, internet and satellite. One of the unique aspects of this project was situating the 8,800 square foot facility on the 22,000 square foot site. This was accomplished by the construction of a 430 foot long masonry retaining wall that surrounds the property. The retaining wall allowed for doubling the size of the facility and increasing the off street parking from five to twelve spaces.

Kellogg Park South Comfort Station  
 Park and Recreation Department  
 Honor Award – Structures (under \$8 million)



This facility was constructed to serve 2-3 million people each year and provides maximum function in minimum space along with ease of maintenance. Features of this facility include, individual unisex toilet rooms, wheelchair



accessible family toilet rooms, diaper changing stations, drinking fountains, electric hand dryers, standard and foot shower heads , a disabled accessible shower with a shower seat, and a utility/storage room. Architectural elements include a combination clay tile and wood trellis roof, Lithocrete walkways and landscaping consisting of Pygmy Date Palm, Bird of Paradise, Purple Fountain Grass, Hebe, Kangaroo Paw, Star Jasmine and Firefly plants. This project was designed by a local architect at no cost.

Signalized Accessible Pedestrian Crossing B St and Harbor Dr

Engineering and Capital Projects  
 Project of the Year – Innovative Technology (under \$2 million)



The City of San Diego and Port District staff engaged in a partnership to provide accessible pedestrian access across Harbor Drive to the embarcadero shoreline promenade, linking City maintained streets with Port District

Tidelands. The City and Port entered into an agreement whereby the District funded the improvements, and City staff designed and managed construction work through closeout. Unique features of this project included a state of the art pedestrian signal, raised pedestrian crossing safety islands, high visibility safety railing with cane detectors, truncated domes at ramps and crosswalk terminating points, raised speed control bumps, enhanced walk botts' dots for cane detectors, removable posts for pedestrian safety and high visibility striping, marking and signing.

Archiving Records-Alvarado Water Treatment Plant

Water Department

*Honor Award – Innovative Technology (under \$2 million)*

In 2004 the San Diego Water Department and the San Diego Public Library entered into an agreement to preserve, inventory, and catalog a collection of documents and artifacts stored at the Alvarado Water Treatment Plant. The archive, which represent nearly 100 years of San Diego water history, includes vintage photographs and negatives, log books, person journals, a director's appointment calendar, correspondence, blueprints, technical reports, clippings from newspapers and magazines, and artifacts from the era of dam building in San Diego. This collaboration has resulted in the cataloging and preservation of more than 90,000 items so far and has



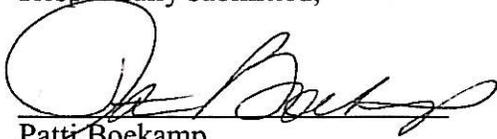
*Hydraulic Engineer and members of city council tour Lower Otay Dam construction site, 1918*



*San Vicente Dam soon after completion, 1950*

resulted in an exhibit of some of the archival material titled "The Quest for Water: a History of Dam Building in San Diego" which is on display at the Central Library through October.

Respectfully submitted,



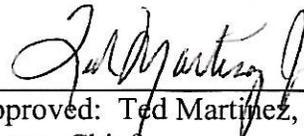
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