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Sacramento Area Engineering Firms, Projects Honored with ACEC California 2019 Engineering Excellence Awards

Today the American Council of Engineering Companies of California (ACEC California) announced the 2019 recipients of its annual Engineering Excellence Awards. Projects were recognized for demonstrating an exceptional degree of innovation, complexity, achievement and value. In the Sacramento area, two firms were recognized with the prestigious Honor Award distinction for projects in Woodland, and three Sacramento firms were recognized with Merit Awards for projects in Tracy, Folsom and the Central Valley.

“Engineering and land surveying provide the innovative backbone of many critical infrastructure projects in California,” said Brad Diede, Executive Director of ACEC California. “This year’s recipients represent outstanding achievement in seismic safety projects, sustainable transportation projects and water programs, among many others. Our engineering and land surveying firms and their local agency and private sector partners continue to harness cutting-edge technologies so that projects are more sustainable and more effective at serving the people of California.”

The winner of the Golden State Award, an honor bestowed on the best overall project, will be announced at the Engineering Excellence Awards dinner February 7, 2019. The awards dinner is also a fundraiser for the ACEC California Scholarship Foundation 501(c)3, which provides scholarship awards to graduate and undergraduate students that are recognized for their notable and outstanding academic achievements. Honor Award winners also are eligible to enter the national level Engineering Excellence Awards competition and will have photographic panels on display at the Capitol, outside of the Governor’s office, in early 2019.

About ACEC California’s Engineering Excellence Awards:
ACEC California’s annual Engineering Excellence Awards competition recognizes outstanding achievements in engineering and land surveying projects completed by California firms. Entries are accepted into one of 12 project categories: studies, research and consulting engineering services; building/technology systems; structural systems; surveying and mapping technology; environmental; waste and storm water; water resources; transportation; special projects; small projects; energy; and industrial and manufacturing processes and facilities.

Photographs of award-winning projects can be found here.

Honor Awards recipients in the Sacramento area include:

Carollo Engineers, Inc. in Sacramento, CA, for its work on the City of Woodland Aquifer Storage and Recovery Wells #29 and #30 in Woodland, CA. The City of Woodland has historically supplied potable water to its residents from groundwater wells. Recently, the city’s water supply has been challenged with regulatory changes to water quality requirements and drought conditions impacting aquifer levels. A regional project was begun to switch to the Sacramento River as a new surface water source. In the transition from groundwater to a higher quality treated surface water supply, the City implemented an Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) program to reduce required peak treatment plant capacity, create significant potable water storage, and provide supply resiliency during potential surface water curtailment periods.
**Kjeldsen, Sinnock & Neudeck, Inc.** in West Sacramento, CA, for its work on the Wallace Weir Fish Rescue Facility in Woodland, CA. The $16 million project consists of constructing a permanent weir structure with a fish barrier and a fish collection facility to capture upriver migrating salmon which have been attracted into the Yolo Bypass by flows from the Colusa Basin Drain. The 4,000 cfs structure includes a positive fish barrier, and an inflatable dam which will be used to better control water releases and fish attraction flows through the weir while blocking fish passage. A fish rescue facility was incorporated into the weir so fish arriving at the Wallace Weir via the Yolo Bypass can be safely and effectively rescued and returned to the Sacramento River to resume their migration to upriver spawning grounds.

**Merit Award recipients in the Sacramento area include:**

**AECOM Technical Services, Inc.** in Sacramento, CA, for its work on the Critical Levee Repair Sites Rehabilitation Effort in California’s Central Valley. Thirty levee segments totaling over 15,000 linear feet were critically damaged and at risk of complete breaching failure if not remediated prior to the 2018 flood season. Geotechnical repairs to these critical levee sites were urgently needed within a very short emergency response timeframe to protect surrounding populations, public facilities and infrastructure. A total of 30 complete site plans, specifications and estimate packages were prepared and bidding/procurement completed in 60 days, with subsequent construction completed in 60 days.

**Drake Haglan & Associates, Inc.** in Rancho Cordova, CA, for its work on the 11th Street East Tracy Overhead Bridge Replacement in Tracy, CA. The 11th Street Bridge is a major thoroughfare in the City of Tracy. The original 11th Street East Tracy Overhead Bridge provided vehicular access over the Union Pacific Railroad tracks, but was too narrow to provide safe access for pedestrians and bicyclists. The recently completed 11th Street Bridge designed by Drake Haglan & Associates, Inc. includes a new replacement structure over three active Union Pacific Railroad tracks, as well as wider traffic lanes, 8-foot shoulders which also serve as Class II bicycle lanes, and barrier-separated mixed-use paths that promote the safe use across the UPRR tracks by pedestrians and bicyclists.

**Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc.** in Sacramento, CA, for its work on the Johnny Cash Trail Phase 2 in Folsom, CA. This 1.25-mile trail is a key link in providing cyclists, runners, and pedestrians a route from Folsom’s historic district to the Sacramento region’s popular American Parkway Trail, as well as part of a lasting celebration of Johnny Cash alongside the prison he helped make famous. Kimley-Horn’s work on the project included an undercrossing beneath the prison access road, a multi-use trail designed to blend into the natural topography of the area, and a 152-foot wooden arched bridge spanning Robber’s Ravine. The new bridge provides previously unseen views of the American River, Folsom Prison, and the woodland ravine below the bridge.

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**ACEC California is a statewide association representing over 1,000 private consulting engineering and land surveying firms that average 20 employees each. ACEC California is dedicated to enhancing the consulting engineering and land surveying professions, protecting the general public and promoting the use of the private sector in the growth and development of our state. Our members provide services for all phases of planning, designing and constructing projects. For more information, visit www.acec-ca.org.**