



CITY OF KIRKLAND
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MEMORANDUM

To: Dave Ramsay, City Manager
From: Daryl Grigsby, Public Works Director
Date: September 18, 2009
Subject: American Public Works Association Top Ten Award

The American Public Works Association (APWA) is an international educational and professional organization dedicated to providing high quality public works services. It was chartered in 1937, and currently consists of 64 chapters and 29,000 members primarily in North America. The Association confers professional certificates, provides training, testifies on federal and state issues, promotes professional and technical development, and offers several other services.

This past spring I was awarded the APWA Top Ten Public Works Official of the Year for 2009. The other nine awardees were public works directors, city engineers, executive directors and senior consulting managers for organizations across the United States and Canada. Golden Colorado, Oakland California, Branson Missouri, the Springfield Water and Sewer Commission, and other organizations were among those with representatives in the Top Ten.

Each year since 1949 the Association has recognized ten individuals for their technical, professional and management contributions to the public works field. Nominations are accepted from across the nation, and the President of the Association appoints a screening committee to select the final ten award recipients.

The Top Ten award recipients are announced by the national APWA in April. On March 19, the Washington Chapter held a brief award ceremony for me during their Public Works Week Luncheon. In addition, all ten award recipients were recognized in September during the 2009 APWA International Public Works Congress and Exposition in Columbus, Ohio. There were several other awards given during the Congress, including project awards for the I-35 Bridge repair in Minnesota, King County's LEED certified transfer station in Shoreline, a water reclamation plant in Peoria, Arizona, and several others.

Traditionally the Washington Chapter of APWA seeks to recognize any state Top Ten recipient at their respective Council or Board meeting. Consequently, they have requested time for a brief presentation at the October 6, 2009 Council meeting. Chapter leadership will attend and make brief comments.