



**80<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING  
& CONTRACTOR OF THE  
YEAR AWARDS CEREMONY**

# ILLINOIS ROAD & TRANSPORTATION BUILDERS ASSOCIATION

## ***Core Purpose:***

To advance and promote the transportation design and construction industry in Illinois.

## ***Core Values:***

- Honesty
- Ethical Behavior
- Respect
- Continuous Improvement
- Integrity
- Professionalism

## ***Big Audacious Goal:***

IRTBA will be the most effective force for the transportation design and construction industry.

## ***Goals:***

IRTBA will be the successful leader and advocate for stimulating increased funding at all levels for the transportation design and construction industry in Illinois.

IRTBA will be its members' indispensable resource for networking, training, education, and business services.

IRTBA will be the recognized authoritative public voice and credible information source for the transportation design and construction industry in Illinois.

IRTBA will play an active role in addressing diversity within the industry.

IRTBA will be a leader in establishing and implementing sensible and innovative environmental practices.

# 80TH ANNUAL MEETING PROGRAM

December 7, 2017

Hyatt Regency O'Hare

Presentation of 2017 Contractor of the Year Awards

## **Illinois Department of Transportation**

*Randy Blankenhorn ~ Secretary of Transportation*

## **Illinois Tollway**

*Greg Bedalov ~ Executive Director*

## **City of Chicago Department of Transportation**

*Rebekah Scheinfeld ~ Commissioner*

## **Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways**

*John Yonan ~ Superintendent*

## **DuPage County Division of Transportation**

*Chris Snyder ~ County Engineer/Director of Transportation & Operations*

## **Lake County Division of Transportation**

*Shane Schneider ~ County Engineer/Director of Transportation*

## **Will County Division of Transportation**

*Jeff Ronaldson ~ County Engineer/Director of Transportation*

## **Kane County Division of Transportation**

*Carl Schoedel ~ County Engineer/Director of Transportation*

## **Metra**

*Bruce Marcheschi ~ Chief Engineering Officer*

## **Chicago Department of Aviation**

*Ginger S. Evans ~ Commissioner*

# ILLINOIS ROAD & TRANSPORTATION BUILDERS ASSOCIATION AWARDS

## ROAD BUILDER CHARITIES' CHAMPION AWARD

*Ozinga has long-championed a number of charitable causes. Ozinga reinforces their company's value of service by supporting a wide variety of non-profit organizations through in-kind and monetary donations. A significant percentage of the company's revenue is set aside annually to assist faith-based education, social services organizations, and other community-related organizations within its local communities. Most notably, Ozinga has offered its support to the Daystar School in the South Loop, Trinity Christian College in Palos Heights, Restoration Ministries in Harvey, Reclaim13 in Downers Grove, and Elim Christian Services in Palos Heights. The 90-year-old, fourth-generation, family-owned company believes in working together to build our families, our communities, and our country, and their generous charitable efforts offer a sincere way to partner with companies with similar interests to make the world a better place. Ozinga's commitment to bettering society through charitable giving has earned Ozinga the **Road Builder Charities' Champion Award**. Road Builder Charities provided a \$1,000 matching check to the charity of the winner's choice. Ozinga has requested that donation go to Reclaim 13, a not-for-profit that is dedicated to breaking the cycle of sexual exploitation. Accepting the Road Builder Charities' Champion Award is **Aaron Ozinga, President of Ozinga's Materials Division**. Aaron Ozinga is a member of the IRTBA Board of Directors as well as an active member of the Road Builders Charities Board of Directors.*

## GOLDEN HARD HAT FOR SAFETY AWARD

*This award recognizes the efforts of an individual or company that has fostered and encouraged worksite safety. This year's winner of the **Golden Hard Hat for Safety Award** is John Barkowski, of **F.H. Paschen**. The road building industry recently lost this champion for safety, John Barkowski, or "Johnny B" as he was known by his work family. Johnny B was the Vice President of Operation/General Superintendent for F.H. Paschen's Civil Division, and most people in the transportation industry will never know what Johnny B accomplished to further the safety culture in the Chicago road builder market. Back in 2004-2005 on the Dixie Highway/294 project, at the direction of Johnny B, one of the first dust collection systems was installed on an EZ drill. Air sampling was taken and it was proven to reduce the Silica exposure below the PEL. This data was shared with OSHA and through their enforcement, the rest of the industry started to equip EZ drills with dust collection systems. Johnny B did this long before OSHA adopted the new Silica standard. On a Skyway project, Johnny B was advised that using an ANSI Class 2 Vest would provide better visibility and protection for the employees. Although the vests cost almost twice as much as what was being used at that time, he made the decision to switch. From that day on, F.H. Paschen Civil employees were in Class 2 Vests, while the majority of the industry would not switch over for a few more years. From being out on a bridge demo all night long, to being in a tunnel under Wacker Drive, Johnny B led his safety program from the front. He empowered every employee from the first year laborer, to the most seasoned project manager, on how to integrate safety as part of the project. Under Johnny B's watch, there was never a pick, pour, or even a project where safety was comprised for the schedule or budget. Accepting the award for Johnny B is his brother, Mark Barkowski, also of F.H. Paschen.*

## RECRUITER OF THE YEAR AWARD

*The IRTBA Board of Directors recognizes that membership is the lifeblood of this Association. This award is given annually to an individual or individuals of a member firm in recognition of their efforts to recruit and retain members to the association. This year's winner has recruited new members and always goes above and beyond to help retain members. The **Recruiter of the Year Award** goes to **Mike Brangenberg of Illinois Construction & Environmental Consulting, Inc.** Mike has served on IRTBA's Membership Committee for two years and always volunteers his time to recruit new members. Mike is always willing to lend a helping hand with member retention, always doing his due-diligence to follow up to retain current members during dues renewal season and putting efforts toward getting previous members to return to the Association. IRTBA would like to thank him for his volunteerism and extending himself above and beyond to help the Association maintain and grow our membership.*

## GREEN INDUSTRY ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

*The IRTBA Green Council is awarding this year's Green Industry Award to **INTERRA, Inc.** for their commitment to sustainability and innovation through action, implementation through deeds, leadership by example, and internal practices that encourage sustainability and overall industry improvement. Accepting the award are **INTERRA's President Sanjeev Bandi and Principal Engineer Rao Doppalapudi.***

*INTERRA, Inc. has made sustainability one of its top priorities and continues to push those efforts from all levels. INTERRA began pushing sustainability initiatives in 2016 through research and discovery of environmentally-friendly ways of doing business. INTERRA's President Sanjeev Bandi devoted time to learning about solar energy and received hours of training and education on Solar Photovoltaics (PV) through the Illinois Solar Energy Association. He summoned support and mobilized the INTERRA staff with these ideas, which evolved into company policy.*

*Green initiatives began with small changes at INTERRA Headquarters in Bolingbrook, Illinois, by changing interior and exterior lighting in the shared office building to Light Emitting Diode (LED) bulbs. These small actions were soon followed by large strides with the implementation and innovation of several key measures: the addition of new rooftop solar panels, recycling, the conversion of company fleet to electric, community outreach, the development of an internal Green Committee, among many other actions.*

*Daily efforts are being carried out by staff, both internally and externally through their own Green Committee, a staff-led committee ardent to a more sustainable future. Recycling at INTERRA is another participatory achievement, with the recycling of plastic, concrete and asphalt samples, paper, electronics, and chemicals. INTERRA and their employees have elected to make a conscious decision to select green alternatives and work to extend the world's natural resources. The installation of a new rooftop 220-panel, 75.9 Kilowatt DC Solar Panel system in 2017 contributes to this cause – meeting 80 percent of the company's energy consumption needs – the equivalent of almost 2,400 trees being planted yearly, and the elimination of 150,000 pounds of carbon dioxide emissions.*

*INTERRA, a Green Council member since 2014, demonstrates in the field, and internally, a commitment to improving sustainability initiatives in the transportation industry. In 2017, INTERRA began an initiative to convert company fleet vehicles to electric, and presently has four electric vehicles and two Electric Vehicle chargers, accessible to clients and staff.*

*INTERRA's President Bandi has applied to become an ISEA Solar Ambassador because he is proactively engaged in the community by increasing awareness and support by using renewable energy technologies and resources. His community outreach and advocacy led to additional solar energy projects totaling 118 kW within the past year. As result of INTERRA's in-house projects and community outreach efforts, approximately 496,000 pounds of carbon dioxide, a greenhouse gas, will not be emitted into the environment annually. While INTERRA works to support the construction industry, they have a proven daily record of leadership, innovation, implementation, internal company practices, industry involvement, and a systematic business model in supporting the environment. INTERRA's vision and execution of their forward-thinking sustainability goals resulted in two fellow IRTBA member firms, as well as the Mayor of Bolingbrook, to nominate them for the Green Industry Award. INTERRA, Inc. has taken a direct road to conserving and becoming more environmentally-friendly. The efforts put forth by INTERRA demonstrate their leadership, influence, and resourcefulness in preserving the natural world. INTERRA's eco-friendly model and business practices make them an exemplary green leaders for other companies to follow suit.*

# CONTRACTOR OF THE YEAR AWARDS

## ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION RANDY BLANKENHORN ~ SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION

### NEW BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

#### Lorig Construction Company

<i>Matt Custardo</i>	~	<i>Project Manager</i>
<i>Neal Howell</i>	~	<i>Project Superintendent</i>
<i>Christopher Haydel</i>	~	<i>IDOT Resident</i>

*In recognition of the construction of the flyover bridge carrying east bound I-290 to east bound IL 390 located in Itasca.*

### DBE CONTRACTOR AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

#### Natural Creations Landscaping, Inc.

<i>Eric Garcia</i>	~	<i>Office Administrator</i>
<i>Mitch Holmer</i>	~	<i>Chief Estimator</i>
<i>Ignacio Hernandez</i>	~	<i>Field Supervisor</i>
<i>Abraham Padilla</i>	~	<i>Field Supervisor</i>
<i>Jeffrey Washington</i>	~	<i>IDOT Resident</i>

*In recognition of work performed for the roadway reconstruction, of IL 59 from New York Street to North Aurora Road in Naperville and Aurora.*

### HOT MIX ASPHALT AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

#### K-Five Construction Corporation

<i>Bill Jennings</i>	~	<i>Project Manager</i>
<i>Chuck Dallman</i>	~	<i>Superintendent</i>
<i>Dave Schmoe</i>	~	<i>Estimator</i>
<i>Mark Lindbloom</i>	~	<i>Operations</i>
<i>Kat Au</i>	~	<i>Area Mix Supervisor</i>
<i>Jeffrey Washington</i>	~	<i>IDOT Resident</i>

*In recognition of resurfacing of I-55 from Weber Road to Willow Springs Road in Will, DuPage and Cook Counties.*

### OUTSTANDING SUBCONTRACTOR AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

#### Meade Electric Company

<i>Brian Pierson</i>	~	<i>Superintendent</i>
<i>Jeffrey Washington</i>	~	<i>IDOT Resident</i>

*In recognition of fiber optic installation and electrical work for the resurfacing of I-55 from Weber Road to Willow Springs Road in Will, DuPage and Cook Counties.*

## PORTLAND CEMENT CONCRETE PAVEMENT AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

### M.Q. Sewer & Water Contractors, Inc. d/b/a M.Q. Construction Company

<i>Mike Quaranta</i>	~	<i>Vice President</i>
<i>Vito Quaranta</i>	~	<i>President</i>
<i>Brent Taylor</i>	~	<i>Superintendent</i>
<i>Joe Porretta</i>	~	<i>Project Manager</i>
<i>Kat Au</i>	~	<i>Area Mix Supervisor</i>
<i>Lukasz Brozek</i>	~	<i>IDOT Resident</i>

*In recognition of pavement widening and reconstruction of McDermott Drive from Taft Avenue to Wolf Road in the Village of Berkeley.*

## SMALL CONSTRUCTION PROJECT AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

### Areatha Construction Company, Inc.

<i>Sam Batey</i>	~	<i>President</i>
<i>Duaine Batey</i>	~	<i>Foreman</i>
<i>Darrell Batey</i>	~	<i>Foreman</i>
<i>Alfredo LeChuga</i>	~	<i>Foreman</i>
<i>Eric Ray</i>	~	<i>IDOT Resident</i>

*In recognition of repairing drainage scuppers and downspouts at various locations in the City of Chicago.*

## SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

### John Burns Construction Company

<i>Brandon Darger</i>	~	<i>Project Manager</i>
<i>Matt Teschke</i>	~	<i>Senior Estimator</i>
<i>John Feldbaumer</i>	~	<i>Foreman</i>
<i>Orrin James</i>	~	<i>IDOT Resident</i>

*In recognition of the installation of LED dynamic messages signs and additional CCTV cameras located along FAI 90/94 in Chicago.*

## URBAN IMPROVEMENT AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

### IHC Construction Company, LLC

<i>Brian Rausch</i>	~	<i>Project Manager</i>
<i>Chris D'Amico</i>	~	<i>Project Manager</i>
<i>Adam Row</i>	~	<i>Project Superintendent</i>
<i>Cheryl Woodlock</i>	~	<i>Project Engineer</i>
<i>Eric Ray</i>	~	<i>IDOT Resident</i>

*In recognition of reconstruction of the outbound I-55/US41 interchange located in Chicago.*

## WORK ZONE TRAFFIC CONTROL AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

### Trafic Services, Inc. (Sub-Contractor)

<i>Alex Traficanti</i>	~	<i>Operations Manager</i>
<i>Jim Senerchia</i>	~	<i>Superintendent</i>
<i>Jeffrey Washington</i>	~	<i>IDOT Resident</i>

*In recognition of work zone traffic control for the resurfacing of I-55 from Weber Road to Willow Springs Road in Will, DuPage and Cook Counties.*

**ILLINOIS TOLLWAY**  
**GREG BEDALOV ~ EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**GENERAL CONTRACTOR OF THE YEAR**

**Plote Construction Inc./Dunnet Bay Construction Company  
Joint Venture**

<i>Mark Bare</i>	~	<i>Senior Project Manager, Plote</i>
<i>Ben Steele</i>	~	<i>Project Manager, Plote</i>
<i>Nick Porter</i>	~	<i>Project Manager, Plote</i>
<i>Ryan Carey</i>	~	<i>Project Manager, Plote</i>
<i>Mike Paine</i>	~	<i>Vice President, Dunnet Bay</i>
<i>John Hartmann</i>	~	<i>Senior Estimator, Dunnet Bay</i>
<i>Dan Faerber</i>	~	<i>Superintendent, Dunnet Bay</i>
<i>Katina Kaftantzis</i>	~	<i>Executive Assistant, Dunnet Bay</i>
<i>V3 Companies of IL</i>	~	<i>Corridor Construction Management</i>
<i>Manar Nashif</i>	~	<i>Tollway Deputy Project Manager</i>

*This award is presented to the firm that exemplifies professionalism and performs the highest quality work while adhering to Illinois Tollway policies and procedures and delivering projects on time and within budget. The general contractor of the year award is presented to Plote/Dunnet Bay Joint Venture for being the largest contributor to the Illinois Route 390 Tollway Project. This joint venture, in coordination with nearly 110 subcontractors, successfully completed 18 lane miles of roadway, 8 bridges and placed over 1 million cubic yards of embankment. This team successfully took advantage of the Earned Credit Program on their bids and supported more than 40 DBE and veteran-owned firms across multiple contracts. Collectively, the Plote/Dunnet Bay Joint Venture proactively addressed challenges and coordinated work with major utilities, adjacent municipalities, offices and retail – a tremendous effort.*

**SPECIAL RECOGNITION PROJECT OF THE YEAR**

**Lorig Construction Company**

<i>Matt Custardo</i>	~	<i>Senior Project Manager</i>
<i>Neal Howell</i>	~	<i>Project Superintendent</i>
<i>Harry O. Hefter Associates</i>	~	<i>Construction Management</i>
<i>Carlos Tibbs</i>	~	<i>Tollway Construction Manager</i>

*This award is presented to Lorig Construction Company for successful delivery of the \$19 million Farnsworth Avenue Interchange Project in Aurora. The Lorig team successfully reconstructed the bridge carrying Farnsworth Avenue over the Reagan Memorial Tollway (I-88) and reconfigured the interchange ramps on time and within budget. They also performed extensive community outreach during the two-year project, as this interchange is located near a large retail facility.*

**WORK ZONE TRAFFIC CONTROL CONTRACTOR OF THE YEAR**

**Highway Safety Corporation**

<i>Dan Melesio</i>	~	<i>President</i>
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*This award is presented to Highway Safety Corp. for its outstanding work in coordinating and cooperating with adjacent contracts to establish a safe work zone. The contractor performed an exemplary job to provide a safe work zone for both workers and motorists on various sections of the Illinois Route 390 Tollway. Highway Safety Corp. was specifically selected by members of the Tollway Engineering Department's Maintenance and Traffic Division.*

## DBE SUBCONTRACTOR OF THE YEAR

### Areatha Construction Company, Inc.

<i>Sam Batey</i>	~	<i>President</i>
<i>Darrell Batey</i>	~	<i>Foreman</i>
<i>Duaine Batey</i>	~	<i>Foreman</i>
<i>Alfredo Lechuga</i>	~	<i>Foreman</i>
<i>R.W. Dunteman Company</i>	~	<i>Prime Contractor</i>
<i>Michael Baker International</i>	~	<i>Construction Manager</i>
<i>John Stevens</i>	~	<i>Tollway PMO Project Manager</i>

*This award is presented to Areatha Construction Co., Inc., a certified D/MBE, for its quality work as a bridge subcontractor on the western segment of the Illinois Route 390 Tollway Project from Lake Street to Meacham/Medinah Road. This firm's responsiveness, preparedness and problem-solving attitude was superb. In addition to its work as a subcontractor to R.W. Dunteman, this firm managed a small set of its own suppliers and subcontractors, supporting its overall growth as a company.*

## VETERAN SUBCONTRACTOR OF THE YEAR

### DND Electric, Inc.

<i>David DeLeon</i>	~	<i>President</i>
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*This award is presented to veteran-owned, MBE firm DND Electric for successful work as a subcontractor performing electrical work on numerous Illinois Tollway projects. This firm played an integral role on the success of the Illinois Route 390 Tollway, among several other projects. Overall, DND is a valuable, high-performing electrical subcontractor delivering quality work for the Tollway.*

## SMALL BUSINESS AWARD OF THE YEAR

### Fox Excavating, Inc.

<i>Gary Martin</i>	~	<i>President</i>
<i>Michael Schuckert</i>	~	<i>Senior Project Manager</i>
<i>Michael Baker International</i>	~	<i>Construction Management</i>
<i>Terra Engineering</i>	~	<i>Construction Management</i>
<i>Ed Flores &amp; Laura Thompson</i>	~	<i>Tollway Project Managers</i>

*This award is presented to Fox Excavating Inc. for working collaboratively and proactively to identify and resolve issues on various small business set-aside projects. This firm performed drainage improvements on the south Tri-State Tollway (I-294) near Midlothian and building demolition in advance of the I-490/I-294 interchange. The firm's cooperative nature and coordination with the Tollway and its subcontractors was paramount to its success.*

**CITY OF CHICAGO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**  
**REBEKAH SCHEINFELD ~ COMMISSIONER**

**OUTSTANDING BRIDGE CONTRACTOR OF THE YEAR**

**Areatha Construction**

<i>Sam Batey</i>	~	<i>President</i>
<i>Duaine Batey</i>	~	<i>Foreman</i>
<i>Darrell Batey</i>	~	<i>Foreman</i>
<i>Alfredo LeChuga</i>	~	<i>Foreman</i>
<i>Vasile Jurca</i>	~	<i>CDOT Project Manager</i>
<i>Omar Alsharbini</i>	~	<i>Resident Engineer, Singh &amp; Associates, Inc.</i>
<i>Boris Safris</i>	~	<i>Resident Engineer, Spaan Tech Inc.</i>

**Lake Shore Drive over Lawrence and Wilson Bridge Rehabilitation**

The Chicago Department of Transportation has selected Areatha Construction as the Outstanding Bridge Contractor of the Year for their work on the Lake Shore Drive over Lawrence and Wilson Bridge Rehabilitation projects.

This project included structural repairs of the existing Lake Shore Drive bridge piers, abutments and wingwalls over Lawrence and Wilson Avenues. The existing condition of the bridges previously required CDOT in-house forces to mobilize and provide temporary patching on the underside of the decks and steel beams and shoring towers to support the concrete beams with open joints. This project addressed additional serious concrete deterioration on the bridges and included the removal of the failing pilasters and structural repairs to the crumbling concrete T-beams. New reinforced curb, ornamental fence and separated bicycle and pedestrian lanes on the sidewalk beneath the bridges will provide convenient and safe access to the Lakefront Trail east of Lake Shore Drive.

Weather-sensitive activities such as structural concrete, shotcrete and fiber wrap installation restricted the allowable timeframe for bridge repairs and new parapet wall installation. Despite a design revision to the parapet walls, Areatha Construction worked to ensure that all of the necessary material was on-site and provided enough manpower to complete the work before winter's arrival.

Thanks to the efforts of Areatha Construction, the Lake Shore Drive over Lawrence and Wilson Bridge Rehabilitation projects were successfully completed on schedule.

## OUTSTANDING ROADWAY CONTRACTOR OF THE YEAR

### Capitol Cement Company, Inc.

<i>Mike B. Farshchi</i>	~	<i>President</i>
<i>Dan Melnyk, P.E.</i>	~	<i>Executive Vice President</i>
<i>Carlos Morelos</i>	~	<i>Estimator</i>
<i>Kevin Gustafson</i>	~	<i>Project Manager</i>
<i>Sean Guzik</i>	~	<i>CDOT Construction Manager</i>
<i>Bridget Stalla</i>	~	<i>CDOT Project Manager</i>
<i>David Eberhart</i>	~	<i>Resident Engineer, AECOM</i>

#### GRAND AVENUE IMPROVEMENT SECTION V – PULASKI ROAD TO CHICAGO AVENUE

*The Chicago Department of Transportation has selected Capitol Cement Company, Inc. as the Outstanding Roadway Contractor of the Year for their work on the Grand Avenue Improvement Section V – Pulaski Road to Chicago Avenue project.*

*The project consisted of widening, partial reconstruction and resurfacing of the 1.6 miles of Grand Avenue from Pulaski Road to Chicago Avenue. Grand Avenue is a major collector street with average daily traffic of 20,000 vehicles. This section of Grand Avenue includes commercial, residential and industrial areas, creating a diverse variety of commercial and passenger vehicles, using the street to access side streets and driveways, and major street intersections. The roadway under the railroad viaduct at Homan Avenue was reconstructed and lowered to provide a minimum clearance of 14'-6", while continuing to maintain pedestrian access and improving ADA compliance. The project objectives were to widen the roadway to accommodate all vehicle types, improve the roadway foundation by removing buried railroad/streetcar tracks, and improve sewer drainage. New pavement, new sidewalks, curb and gutter, and storm sewer laterals were installed, along with upgraded traffic signals and street lights and landscaping.*

*Construction started in January 2017 and completed in mid-November. Coordination with adjacent construction projects, utility conflicts, neighborhood special events, along with property owners and Aldermanic offices were efficiently accomplished by both the contractor and resident engineer.*

*CDOT would like to thank Capitol Cement for their professional and efficient approach to successfully completing this project given the aggressive schedule and extensive project limits.*

## OUTSTANDING TRANSIT CONTRACTOR OF THE YEAR

### F.H. Paschen

<i>Josh Curran</i>	~	<i>Senior Project Manager</i>
<i>Jeremy Seyller</i>	~	<i>Senior Project Manager</i>
<i>Tiffany Lomax</i>	~	<i>Project Manager</i>
<i>Robert Boss</i>	~	<i>Assistant Project Manager</i>
<i>Julian Silva</i>	~	<i>CDOT Project Director</i>
<i>Rajiv Pinto</i>	~	<i>CDOT Project Manager</i>
<i>Chuck Shum</i>	~	<i>CDOT Resident Engineer</i>
<i>Tom McCay</i>	~	<i>Resident Engineer, Burns &amp; McDonnell</i>

#### Washington Wabash Loop Elevated Station

*The Chicago Department of Transportation has selected F.H. Paschen, as the Outstanding Transit Contractor of the Year for their work on the new Washington Wabash Loop Elevated station project.*

*The Washington/Wabash Loop elevated station opened August 31, 2017 and is the newest CTA rail station in Chicago and is served by the Brown, Green, Orange, Pink and Purple Express lines.*

*This extraordinary rail station, which features a sleek, modern design and a signature platform canopy that is uniquely beautiful – serves as a gateway to the historic Jeweler's Row and Chicago's magnificent Millennium Park – the most visited site in the Midwest.*

*Washington/Wabash replaces the two adjacent, century-old stations on Wabash at Randolph and Madison (demolished in 2015), to better meet the needs of today's transit riders by providing state-of-the-art amenities, including new elevators, a street to mezzanine escalator, wider platforms, real-time train tracker displays, 100% LED lighting, security cameras, as well as new, one-of-a-kind artwork. The brand new Washington/Wabash station has three levels - street, mezzanine and platform – and was constructed to enhance passenger convenience, improve train speeds, decrease operating costs and provide ADA accessibility so that all riders can easily use the station and is the first station on the East leg of the loop to be fully ADA Compliant. All materials used were chosen to allow visibility, reinforce the feeling of openness and to allow a visual connection to the historic corridor.*

*By utilizing state-of-the art engineering and construction techniques, materials and equipment, F.H. Paschen built a quality product, while remaining on schedule and on budget, without affecting CTA bus service with minimal disruption to traffic throughout the duration of the project. The construction of the new Washington Wabash Station was successfully completed in close cooperation with City agencies, CTA, the Alderman's Office, local businesses and property owners.*

## OUTSTANDING STREETSCAPE CONTRACTOR OF THE YEAR

### Acura Inc.

<i>Nico DiGioia</i>	~	<i>President</i>
<i>Aziz Mirza</i>	~	<i>Project Manager</i>
<i>Carlos Lopez</i>	~	<i>Estimator/Project Manager</i>
<i>Eric Anderson</i>	~	<i>CDOT Construction Manager</i>
<i>Alisa Tilson</i>	~	<i>CDOT Project Manager (Morgan St.)</i>
<i>Roberto Rodriguez</i>	~	<i>CDOT Project Manager (Broadway)</i>
<i>John Lukas</i>	~	<i>Resident Engineer, AECOM</i>

#### **Morgan Street Streetscape – 31<sup>st</sup> Street to 35<sup>th</sup> Street** **Broadway Streetscape Section 1 – Leland Ave. to Gunnison St.**

*The Chicago Department of Transportation has selected Acura Inc. as the Outstanding Streetscape Contractor of the Year for their work on both the Morgan Street Streetscape project and the Broadway Streetscape Section 1 project.*

*Both of these projects were completed well ahead of schedule. The Morgan Streetscape project was scheduled to be completed in late November, but Acura was able to finish all non-seasonal landscaping work by mid-August. The Broadway Streetscape project has a scheduled completion date in June 2018, but all hardscape and underground work was completed this construction season. By completing projects well ahead of schedule, Acura was able to deliver these projects to the public much sooner than anticipated and reduced the duration of inconveniences caused by construction activities.*

*The Morgan Streetscape project included several curb bump outs at intersections to improve the walkability of the corridor. All crosswalk ramps were upgraded to be ADA-compliant. All sidewalks were replaced, brick pavers were installed, and trees were planted in the parkways. New decorative light poles with LED fixtures were installed. Several existing vaulted sidewalks were abandoned and benches and bike racks were installed throughout the project.*

*The Broadway Streetscape project in the Uptown neighborhood's entertainment district included all new sidewalks along with brick pavers in the parkway. Crosswalk ramps were upgraded to be ADA-compliant. A pedestrian refugee island was built and new decorative light poles with LED fixtures were installed. Racine Street was converted to a one way street and its intersection with Broadway was reconfigured to allow for the construction of a plaza. The plaza includes a stage and community identifier to host music and other performances. Additionally, trees, planters, benches, and bike racks were installed throughout the project and the street was resurfaced.*

## OUTSTANDING MINORITY CONTRACTOR OF THE YEAR

### PanAmerican Construction, Inc.

<i>Todd Cecchi</i>	<i>~</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>
<i>Sean Guzik</i>	<i>~</i>	<i>CDOT Construction Manager</i>
<i>Anthony Rainey</i>	<i>~</i>	<i>CDOT Project Manager</i>
<i>Joseph Wilhelmsen</i>	<i>~</i>	<i>Resident Engineer, Baxter &amp; Woodman Consulting Engineers</i>

#### **Root Street Relocation – Emerald Avenue to Halsted Street**

*The Chicago Department of Transportation has selected PanAmerican Construction, Inc. as the Outstanding Minority Contractor of the Year for their work on the Root Street Relocation project from Emerald Avenue to Halsted Street.*

*The project consisted of the reconstruction and relocation of Root Street from Emerald Avenue to Halsted Street. The previously existing offset intersection at Root Street and Halsted Street created a difficult turning radius for trucks entering and exiting the east entrance to the Stockyards Industrial Park. The project objectives were to re-route the offset intersection to the south in order to re-align Root Street/Exchange Avenue across the Halsted Street intersection. New pavement, new sidewalks, curb and gutter, and main line sewer were installed, along with upgraded traffic signals and street lights. An enlarged, landscaped area was installed north of the relocated roadway, including recycled granite pavers, gravel walkways surrounded by native plantings, a section of restored streetcar tracks, and a decorative wall memorial dedicated to the workers of the Union Stockyards.*

*This project was let as a Small Business Initiative, restricting bidding to small, local business enterprises. PanAmerican Construction performed in the capacity of general contractor for the first time on a CDOT project. CDOT would like to congratulate PanAmerican for the successful completion of the project, which improves both the function and the aesthetics of the area.*

# COOK COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION & HIGHWAYS

**JOHN YONAN ~ SUPERINTENDENT**

## CONTRACTOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

### Dunnet Bay Construction

<i>Dan Tschiniak</i>	~	<i>Estimator</i>
<i>Michael Grady</i>	~	<i>Project Manager</i>
<i>Ryan Lannon</i>	~	<i>Superintendent</i>
<i>Tiffany Woods</i>	~	<i>Project Accountant</i>
<i>Holly A. Cichy, P.E.</i>	~	<i>Chief Engineer</i>
<i>Aaron Lebowitz, P.E.</i>	~	<i>Supervisor Engineer</i>
<i>Ignacio Zamarripa</i>	~	<i>Resident Engineer</i>

#### Happ Road Bridge over Skokie River

*Dunnet Bay Construction, of Glendale Heights, is presented the Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways' Contractor of the Year Award, in recognition of their work on the Happ Road Bridge over the Skokie River project.*

*Located at the Wilmette Northfield border, the newly completed Happ Road Bridge over Skokie River accommodates motorists, pedestrians, and bicyclists with a two-lane, two-way roadway and a 10-foot-wide, multi-use path, providing improved access to the nearby high schools, local shopping, and forest preserve trails.*

*The old bridge was built in 1924, had outlived its useful life, and needed removal and replacement. This project provided the complete removal of the existing bridge structure and construction of a new three-span reinforced concrete slab bridge including retaining walls, sidewalks, landscaping, tree planting and new signage.*

*Work began in June and was progressing well, until extremely wet weather hit northeast Cook County. Unusually heavy rainfalls caused the river to rise to record levels and remain very high, despite the relief provided by Chicago Botanic Garden capturing and holding flood waters upstream of the project. Subsequent release of the flood waters into the Skokie River, prolonged the elevated river levels and set construction operations back by several weeks. Later in the project, buried flagstone foundations were discovered to be in conflict with the proposed abutments. This necessitated Dunnet Bay to carefully coordinate the removal in order to construct the abutments, while maintaining equipment access to the piers, all in very close proximity. Throughout the project, communication between Dunnet Bay, Cook County and stakeholders – Villages of Northfield and Wilmette, New Trier and Loyola Academy high schools, and others - along with weekly progress meetings were crucial in keeping all informed, proactively dealing with issues as they arose, and promptly resolving any problems. Through partnership, unwavering optimism and exemplary execution of the work, Dunnet Bay successfully completed and opened the Happ Road Bridge over Skokie River prior to the Thanksgiving holiday. The Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways congratulates and thanks Dunnet Bay Construction for a job well done.*

**DUPAGE COUNTY DIVISION OF TRANSPORTATION**  
**CHRIS SNYDER ~ COUNTY ENGINEER / DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION & OPERATIONS**

**CONTRACTOR OF THE YEAR AWARD**

**Arrow Road Construction**

<i>Terry Pyne</i>	~	<i>Project Superintendent</i>
<i>Jon Geier</i>	~	<i>Project Estimator</i>
<i>Nick Eichenold</i>	~	<i>Chief Estimator</i>
<i>Dave Tworek</i>	~	<i>Project Engineer, DuPage County DOT</i>
<i>Dirk Ternberg</i>	~	<i>Resident Engineer, Omega</i>

**County Farm Road (Lake Street to Schick Road)**

*County Farm Road is a major north-south route through central DuPage County. At the north end of the project there is an "S" curve. The main focus of the project was to address safety concerns through this "S" curve. This was accomplished by using a more skid resistant HMA surface mix along with adding a 4' rumble strip flush median. Additional scope of the project included milling and resurfacing from Schick Road to Lake Street and repairs to the bridge over the West Branch DuPage River. Arrow Road Construction was able to complete the work within schedule and under budget and with minimal disruption to traffic. It is for these reasons that the DuPage County Division of Transportation is proud to award our Contractor of the Year Award to Arrow Road Construction.*

**LAKE COUNTY DIVISION OF TRANSPORTATION**  
**SHANE SCHNEIDER ~ COUNTY ENGINEER / DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION**

**CONTRACTOR OF THE YEAR AWARD**

**Berger Excavating Contractors, Inc. & Lorig Construction Company Joint Venture**

Justin Clark	~	Civil Foreman, Berger
Chris Asporen	~	Sr. Project Manager, Berger
Matt Maline	~	Project Manager, Lorig
Nick Villarreal	~	Project Superintendent, Lorig
Matt Emde	~	Project Manager, LCDOT
Scott Aho	~	Consultant Project Manager, LCDOT
Matthew Powers	~	Underpass Resident Engineer, V3 Companies
Darren Franzen	~	Resident Engineer, Bollinger Lach & Associates

**Washington Street Underpass & Washington St Widening/Reconstruction (W. of Hainesville Road to Haryan Drive)**

The Washington St Thoroughfare Project, located within the Villages of Grayslake, Hainesville and Round Lake Park in central Lake County, consisted of two construction contracts. The first was the Washington Street Underpass, a \$24 million Federal Aid contract built by the joint venture of Berger Excavating, managing partner, and Lorig Construction. While the limits ran only from Haryan Way to east of Lake Street for a total of 0.38 miles, the impact of this improvement was massive. Motorists and emergency responders in the area would no longer sit in traffic waiting for nearly 60 trains per day that previously interrupted the traffic flow with an at-grade crossing of the CN & Metra railroads. Now drivers would be able to travel under the new single-track railroad bridge, with wide abutments set up for future expansion to double track. Two lanes of concrete pavement were built in each direction with non-motorized features such as an off-road bikepath on the south side and sidewalk on the north side to make a connection to the nearby Metra station. To complete the work while keeping vehicles and trains moving, the contractor built a temporary shoo-fly railroad track, a temporary station platform for Metra and a temporary roadway before constructing the new structure. A stormwater lift station was also built to de-water the underpass as it was too low to drain by gravity. Another challenge was relocating CLCJAWA's 20" transmission watermain, which could only be shut down for one day to perform the tie-ins. Other features included stained, decorative retaining walls, black ornamental safety fence, and an elaborate landscaping restoration plan of trees with native-seeded areas, including an onsite detention pond. Just west of the underpass, was the nearly \$14 million reconstruction and widening of Washington Street, from west of Hainesville Road to Haryan Way. The roadway was widened to five lanes by complete reconstruction using 1.03 miles of concrete pavement. Although this locally-let project had Berger Excavating as the general contractor, there were many different subcontractors between the projects. Coordination was essential to make the transition feel to the public like it was one job. Work zone speed limits were consistent through both projects and many staging moves were created to allow one project to advance while the other was still being worked. Features include a replacement traffic signal at the widened Hainesville Road intersection, off-road bikepath on the south side, and sidewalk on the north side. Along the way, Berger & Lorig were attentive to the concerns of nearby homeowners, villages, and both railroads. The contractors attended weekly progress meetings to keep the County and IDOT informed of their upcoming schedule so that information could be shared on the website to alert stakeholders of upcoming construction activities. Many project issues were resolved in a timely manner, not the least of which were utility conflicts and relocation delays in the early stages. The impacts to nearby backyard areas during retaining wall and bridge abutment construction were handled professionally to address residential concerns. Widespread and historic flooding hit Lake County in July 2017 and the contractors did everything they could to assist the village and the residents. On the west project, the contractor pumped to keep the pavement free of standing water due to overwhelmed downstream capacity. They also cooperated with the village to allow de-watering of upstream detention ponds that were exceeding capacity through the construction zone to prevent potential residential damage. In the end, public feedback has been overwhelmingly positive about the project, and the 16,000 daily drivers are now enjoying the traffic flow improvement that these contractors successfully provided.

**WILL COUNTY DIVISION OF TRANSPORTATION**  
**JEFF RONALDSON ~ DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION/COUNTY ENGINEER**

**CONTRACTOR OF THE YEAR AWARD**

**P.T. Ferro Construction, Inc.**

<i>Joe Cucio</i>	<i>~</i>	<i>Project Manager</i>
<i>David Berkley</i>	<i>~</i>	<i>Secretary/Estimator</i>
<i>Al Roerig</i>	<i>~</i>	<i>QC Manager</i>
<i>Christopher B. Burke</i>	<i>~</i>	<i>Preliminary Study &amp; Final Design</i>
<i>Omega &amp; Assoc.</i>	<i>~</i>	<i>Construction Oversight</i>

**135<sup>th</sup> Street from New Avenue to East of Smith Road**

*In 2009 the Will County Board passed a \$100 Million highway improvement program named “Build Will”, and with it, identified sixty projects throughout Will County that were targeted for improvements for safety and capacity. The entire 135<sup>th</sup> Street corridor that is under County jurisdiction was listed on this Build Will program and therefore slated for a needed improvement. The existing two-lane facility lacked storage for turning movements, was subject to flooding, and lacked adequate sight distance for motorists through the rolling terrain in the area.*

*The County’s design consultant, Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd., (CBBEL) was tasked with studying the corridor and creating a set of plans for this highway improvement. The results of the CBBEL studies indicated the need for two through lanes in each direction, a full median lane, dedicated turning lanes at the major intersections, and replacement and upgrades to the enclosed drainage system, including new concrete culvert crossings, and underground in-line storm water detention. Also, grading was to be done to improve the profile of the highway and improve sight distances throughout.*

*The corridor was divided into three construction segments with this contract completing the second segment. This 6,700-foot segment featured a 64-foot wide, full-depth, hot-mix asphalt mainline pavement with widened and improved approaches for the north and south legs of the Smith Road intersection. A 175-foot-long concrete retaining wall of 2 to 14 foot height was built at the west end of the project. Combination concrete curb and gutter was installed throughout the project. Traffic signals were modernized at the New Avenue intersection. All commercial and private entrances were graded and resurfaced from the new pavement edge to the right-of-way.*

*The project was awarded to P.T. Ferro Construction in December 2015 for \$8.7 Million. Due to utility relocation delays, the project start was set back by one full year. P.T. Ferro was able to optimize time utilization, coordinate work efforts with the utilities, and complete a majority of the project during the 2017 calendar year. The completion of this segment and then the last segment to complete the corridor will be a significant asset in meeting the transportation needs of Will County and southern Cook County residents.*

**KANE COUNTY DIVISION OF TRANSPORTATION**  
**CARL SCHOEDEL ~ COUNTY ENGINEER / DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION**

**CONTRACTOR OF THE YEAR AWARD**

**Plote Construction, Inc.**

<i>Chuck Hoffman</i>	~	<i>General Superintendent</i>
<i>Kieth Kazmier</i>	~	<i>Project Manager</i>

**Longmeadow Parkway Section A-1 - Huntley/Boyer Road to Randall Road**

*The Kane County Division of Transportation is pleased to recognize Plote Construction, Inc. for their exceptional work on the Longmeadow Parkway Section A-1 – Huntley/Boyer Road to Randall Road. The new 1.21-mile improvement also included a new pedestrian multi use path for the residents living in the adjacent subdivisions.*

*The contractor was challenged by many time consuming field issues, from managing existing active farm drain tiles, to dealing with very diverse soils requiring varying degrees of stabilization. By partnering with the County, the Construction Engineering Consultant, Bollinger, Lach and Associates and Materials Quality Assurance Consultant, Rubino Engineering Inc., Plote was able to effectively implement the methods that were required to manage the daunting site conditions and thus keep the project on track.*

*Staff at Plote focused on finding solutions and made an extra effort to accommodate local agency concerns and issues that commonly plague projects of this scope and magnitude. Plote staff took ownership and were willing to put in long hours while constructing this high profile project. Crew members were vigilant and mindful of keeping the site clean and safe for the motoring public. With the inclement weather creating an additional barrier to the earthwork on the project, the contractor managed to overcome many obstacles and deliver the Section A-1 portion one month ahead of schedule and within acceptable budget limits. The Section A-1 project was the first portion of the Longmeadow Parkway Bridge Corridor improvement which will ultimately connect Huntley/Boyer Road to IL 31, IL 25 and IL 62 via 5.6 miles of new roadway and a new bridge over the Fox River.*

*Kane County congratulates Plote on their diligence and hard work and presents this award for a job well done.*

# METRA

**BRUCE MARCHESCHI ~ CHIEF ENGINEERING OFFICER**

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE FIRM OF THE YEAR

### AECOM Technical Services

<i>Joe Ivanyo</i>	~	<i>Program Manager, Metra PTC</i>
<i>Angela Brazzale</i>	~	<i>Deputy Program Manager, Metra PTC</i>
<i>Michael Appelbaum</i>	~	<i>Program Controls Manager, Metra PTC</i>
<i>Dan Manojlovski</i>	~	<i>Midwest Region Business Unit Leader</i>

#### PTC Program Management

*Positive Train Control, otherwise known as PTC, is a federally mandated computerized system that will prevent certain types of train-to-train collisions, help avoid derailments and other accidents caused by excessive speed and increase safety for workers. The system integrates GPS, communications units, and the railroad's centralized dispatching system. Together, these components track trains, convey operating instructions and monitor the crew's compliance. PTC will automatically stop a train if the system detects that a violation is about to occur. Freight and passenger railroads across the U.S. are currently working to implement PTC systems on their rail lines by the federal deadline of 2020. PTC is expected to cost Metra more than \$350 million to implement. In order to manage this massive time sensitive mandate, AECOM Technical Services has been instrumental in supplementing Metra's in-house PTC management team. AECOM's responsibilities include providing program management and technical support services to facilitate the effective and timely implementation of the Project. Specifically, these services include: interfacing with other agencies; developing and implementing an FTA required Project Management Plan; tracking and managing the Project schedule; tracking the PTC budget versus actuals; and providing and maintaining a web-based document control system that follows Metra's Quality Management Plan (QMP).*

## CONSTRUCTION FIRM OF THE YEAR

### James McHugh Construction Company

<i>Carlos del Val Cura</i>	~	<i>Vice President</i>
<i>Nick Kowalczyk</i>	~	<i>Project Manager</i>
<i>Larry Staal</i>	~	<i>Superintendent</i>

#### Metra Rock Island West Embankment, Phase 2

*The Metra Rock Island West Embankment Phase II Project includes construction at four bridge sites over various streets in Chicago. McHugh Construction's work includes: raising two existing steel bridges and constructing new concrete back walls, major steel repairs to multiple 100 year old bridges, and installation of two new precast concrete deck beam for roadway access bridges. The project nears completion on schedule and has overcome many obstacles. The Contractor has had to deal with variation in steel dimensions from plans and exposed unforeseen deterioration in existing steel connections. McHugh has completed the planned work with limited roadway closures and limited disruptions to Metra's operation.*

## VENDOR OF THE YEAR

### HNTB Corporation

<i>Tim Faerber</i>	~	<i>Senior Vice President</i>
<i>David Crosson</i>	~	<i>Illinois Practice Leader</i>
<i>James Szczupaj</i>	~	<i>Senior Project Manager</i>
<i>Matthew Miller</i>	~	<i>Project Civil Engineer</i>

#### **Rock Island 47<sup>th</sup> Street Training Facility**

*HNTB produced preliminary and final design documents for improvements to the 47th Street yard to double the in-house coach car rehab program. Designed improvements include a new training facility, capital storage improvements, new building envelope to rehabilitate Metra's severely rusted "tin barn", upgrades to the diesel shop, new coach truck rebuild shop, and expanded parking. The major project was designed in approximately 40 weeks and will be bid and constructed starting in 2018. HNTB was exceptionally supported by the DBE firm of Muller & Muller, who provided architectural services on the project.*

## CHICAGO DEPARTMENT OF AVIATION

**GINGER EVANS ~ COMMISSIONER**

## CONTRACTOR OF THE YEAR

### Plote Construction Inc./K-Five Construction Corporation Joint Venture

<i>Rocco Danna</i>	~	<i>Project Manager, K-Five Construction</i>
<i>Sergio Barboza</i>	~	<i>Operations, K-Five Construction</i>
<i>Joe Weishaar</i>	~	<i>Senior Project Manager, Plote Construction</i>

#### **Runway 10L-28R Rehabilitation at O'Hare International Airport**

*This project consisted of a 3" mill and overlay on the runway and shoulder pavements that have a bituminous surface. The profile at the intersection of Runway 14R-32L was raised over 15" in order to improve drainage. All runway lighting, including Runway Status Lights, was adjusted and new LED fixtures were installed. Scope also included: demolition of a portion of Taxiway F, reopening of Taxiway N3, and associated taxiway paving/reconstruction.*