



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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West Coast Contractors (WCC) was recently awarded the Project of the Year award for Transportation projects under \$5 million at the 2014 American Public Works Association International Public Works Congress & Exposition in Toronto, Ontario. WCC received the award, along with the Lane County Public Works Department and OBEC Consulting Engineers of Eugene, OR, for their work on the Sweet Creek Road project in Lane County, Oregon. The project re-opened a heavily traveled transportation link between State Highway 126 and 30,000 acres of National Forest Land¹. The road is also a vital route to timber resources that provide 5 million board feet of timber annually.

The Project of the Year Award recognizes managers, consultants and contractors for their excellence in management and administration of public works projects. The contractor, Lane County and OBEC previously won the 2013 Project of the Year award from the Oregon Chapter of the APWA. WCC will add this award to their already impressive list of honors, which includes the "Protect the Northwest" award from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). These awards demonstrate WCC's genuine devotion to their clients and the projects they work on.

The APWA is a non-profit organization representing nearly 30,000 public works professionals. The Oregon Chapter of APWA alone consists of over 800 engineers, technicians, contractors, and consultants who come together to exchange ideas, facilitate education in the industry, and build a network of public works professionals.

In the past seven years, West Coast Contractors (www.westcoastcontractors.com) of Coos Bay, OR has worked with the Lane County Public Works Department on three major public improvement projects. Construction Services Manager for Lane County, David Brown, comments, "WCC, along with their entire team of subcontractors and suppliers, are to be commended for delivering an outstanding project to the citizens of Lane County."

The construction area lies within a few feet of a bend in the Siuslaw River that had faced major weather damage and deterioration due to recent flooding. A quarter-mile length of Sweet Creek Road had one of the lanes slip into the river, which had severely limited traffic flow to residents, Forest Service, and lumber companies which rely on its connection to nearby Highway 126.

The initial replacement project planned for the installation of two tieback retaining walls that were to be connected with a 243 foot long concrete bridge. However, over the course of the project this design transformed into one with a bridge that has the current length of 1,130 feet after it was determined that the rock base under the work area was not as stable as originally thought.

¹ <http://eugenedailynews.com/2012/11/29/sweet-creek-road-under-maintenance/>



WCC, OBEC and Lane County came to the decision that due to the highly differing site conditions, it would be impractical to continue with the original construction design. As a result, and to avoid any further issues with tieback wall design, the final plan connects the two bridge sections into a single 15 span bridge with two lanes. To account for the major changes in the project's design, WCC worked closely with Lane County to negotiate contract cost with less than a 5.5% increase of the original bid

The Lane County Public Works Department couldn't be happier with the results of the project. David Brown goes on to say that, "[Lane] County looks forward to working again with WCC in the future... I highly recommend WCC for any public works project they feel they are qualified to perform."

About West Coast Contractors

Founded in 1962, WCC is a general contractor that specializes in heavy construction projects including bridges, harbors, marine facilities, and governmental work. WCC is renowned for construction jobs that are able to withstand severe weather conditions, and is a leader in developing environmentally sound procedures for sensitive locations. Clients include the U.S. Corps of Engineers, United States Coast Guard, states of Oregon and California, Chevron, NOAA, Roseburg Forest Products, and the Ports of Morrow, Newport, and Coos Bay. For more information visit www.westcoastcontractors.com or contact Ron Kutch at rkutch@westcoastcontractors.com or via phone at 541.267.7689.