

# ENHANCING SKILLS... ... EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES



Institute of  
Public Works  
Engineering  
Australia  
(NSW Division)

IPWEA NSW ANNUAL CONFERENCE

## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

# AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE

16th May to 19th May 2010  
Novotel Hotel Wollongong

ROADS CONGRESS  
ROAD SAFETY FORUM  
IPWEA NSW CONFERENCE  
STREET OPENING CONFERENCE

Submissions  
Close  
7 JANUARY  
2010



## Call for Nominations

### IPWEA Excellence Awards 2010

The IPWEA (NSW Division) presents the Excellence Awards each year to encourage excellence in innovation, development, completion and management of Local government and public works projects. Nominations are judged on their merits and are not constrained by project size or council/ organisation size.

IPWEA NSW members from Councils and organisations are invited to nominate projects in the categories listed.

#### Why should you enter?

There are many benefits to submitting a nomination for the IPWEA Excellence Awards; we recommend you consider nominating your projects in 2010. Whilst you may feel that many of the projects you undertake during the year are “just routine and a normal part of being an engineer, Works Officer, or Road Safety Officer”, they may, nevertheless, be an example of industry best practice and their recognition through the Awards may assist a fellow engineer/Works Officer /RSO in undertaking projects that may otherwise not happen.

The benefits of entry include:

- Category Award winners will be considered for the National Public Works Medal presented at the 2011 National Conference in Canberra
- Prestige and recognition for your organisation and the projects in which you are involved
- Inclusion in the IPWEA Excellence Awards book, which is published for the Awards presentation and Showcase Journal
- Media coverage of the event and assistance with press releases for winning nominations
- The receipt of an Award trophy that can be displayed at your organisation and to visitors
- The recognition of your value to your organisation in being part of an Excellence Awards event
- The opportunity to present a paper on your project at the NSW Conference.

#### Eligibility

The project manager/coordinator/RSO must be a member of the IPWEA (NSW Division), and the nominations must be endorsed by the Senior Divisional Manager/Department Head. The subject matter of nominations may include planning, design, project management, process development, and research, development of techniques or related innovations or achievements. A nomination may relate to a single engineering project or be part of a larger project or coordinated projects.

## Important Dates

Nominations forms due – Thursday, 7th January 2010  
(See details on back of Nomination Form)

Project Submissions due – Monday 1st February 2010  
(See details on back of Nomination form)

Projects Nominated – must have been completed between February 2008 and February 2010  
Awards Presentation – 17th May 2010

A project manager may nominate the completion date as the date on which his brief was completed or the date on which the whole project was completed. These dates must be clearly defined and stated on the Nomination Form as they are most important in determining whether or not a nomination will be presented to the judging panel. If the IPWEA is of the opinion that the dates do not comply, the entrant will be advised at that stage so that unnecessary work on the preparation of the submission may be avoided.

No project is too large or too small, with consideration being given to the size and resources of the council/organisation and its staff. Councils/organisations may submit any number of nominations in any or all categories.

## Award Categories

Nominations will be judged in the following categories:

**New Category** Public Works Leader of the Year

**Category 1** Design and/or Construction of a Local Government/Public Works Project

**Category 2** New or Improved Techniques including: Innovation and/or Introduction of Techniques or Outstanding Management Initiatives Outstanding Achievement in Asset Management

**Category 3** Innovation in Water Supply and Wastewater (An initiative of and sponsored by the Water Directorate)  
***Nominees for this category must be a financial member Council of the Water Directorate***

**Category 4** Occupational Health and Safety

**Category 5** the Three R's: Recovering, Recycling and Reusing Award

**Category 6** Excellence in Road Safety Engineering

**Category 7** Environmental Enhancement Project or Initiative

**Category 8** Local Government Excellence in Road Safety Awards

**Category 9** Streets Opening Conference Engineering Heritage Award  
***Nominees for this category must be a member of SOC***

**Category 10** Innovation in Utility Services Engineering Award  
***Nominees for this category must be a member of SOC***

The judges have final discretion regarding the category in which an entry will be judged but to assist the judges all entrants are requested to specify the preferred category for their entry.

## **Judging – Public Works Leader of the Year**

### **Selection Criteria**

The key issues that the selection panel will be looking for:

- Leadership
  - Commitment
  - Developing relationships
  - Team dynamics
- Skill and Professionalism
  - Management of time, budgets, people and resources
  - Articulation of ideas
  - Character, behaviour and image
- Body of Knowledge
  - Knowledge transfer
  - Advancing the cause of the public works profession
  - Use of sound engineering practices and principles
- Cooperation with Others
  - Within the profession
  - Other professions
  - Working within a team environment
- Interpreting the Community Needs
  - Quality of life benefits
  - Enhanced amenity
  - Environmental sustainability and conservation
- Excellence in Public Works
  - Innovation and originality
  - Ingenuity
  - Commitment to professional organisation

## **Judging – Category 1- 7**

Geoff Fowler (Director of Fowler Engineering Consultancy) and David Abbott (Principal, DVA Consulting) have again been appointed as judges for 2010.

They will be visiting nominees in February/April 2010 for the purpose of judging nominated projects. Following the closing date for submissions, Monday 1<sup>st</sup> of February 2010, the IPWEA Office will be in contact with all nominees to arrange an itinerary.

## **Judging – Category 8**

Members of the IPWEA Road Safety Panel and the sponsor organisation will review nominated projects in February/March 2010. Following the closing date for submissions, Monday 1<sup>st</sup> of February 2010, the IPWEA Office will be in contact with all nominees to discuss specific aspects of the projects. Because of the differences in achieving outcomes in road safety projects in city and regional areas, 2 awards may be given provided there is sufficient opportunity to recognise these differences.

## **Judging – Category 9 & 10**

Members of the NSW Streets Opening Conference Committee and the sponsor organisation will review nominated projects in February/March 2010. Following the closing date for submissions, Monday 1<sup>st</sup> of February 2010, the IPWEA Office will be in contact with all nominees to discuss specific aspects of the projects.

Please note that:

- The judges reserve the right to transfer an entry to another Award category

## Issues Considered in Judging

- Submissions should be concise and professional; however, judging will be on the merit of a project and not only that of the submission.
- Submissions should be in sufficient detail to allow judges to fully comprehend the project prior to visiting the site or reviewing it as a Panel.
- The project should demonstrate the skills and professionalism inherent in local government and public works' activities and clearly identify the extent of involvement in the project by the IPWEA member.
- It should add to the body of knowledge in either local government or public works activities.
- It may be a new idea or technique or it may be the further development of an established methodology.
- Where it is applicable, the project should demonstrate cooperation with others in the organisation and, therefore, be a total Council/organisation project.
- It should demonstrate cooperation and engagement with the community and an interpretation of community needs and aspirations as well as identifying the extent of community benefit e.g. local only, regional, or potential wider community benefit and whether it is likely to be for the short, medium or long term.
- An organisation's capacity to tackle a project will be taken into account when comparing projects as will the extent of involvement of the initiating organisation in carrying out the project. With an area such as road safety, a project should be able to indicate how council took ownership of the project.
- How the project improves the amenity of the area such as new or improved public facilities, visual improvement to the built environment and the like.
- How and to what extent the project enhances the image of Public Works Professionals in the community.

## Awards Presentation

The winning projects will be announced at the IPWEA (NSW Division) Excellence Award dinner to be held on Monday the 17<sup>th</sup> May 2010 at the NSW State Conference Awards Dinner, Novotel Hotel, Wollongong. The project manager/coordinator/RSO or nominee will receive the award on the night.

## Streets Opening Conference

### Category 9 & 10

IPWEA (NSW) is pleased to continue their relationship with the NSW Streets Opening Conference as a partner in the 2010 Engineering Excellence Awards. SOC will be holding a one-day congress in conjunction with the IPWEA (NSW) State Conference. The SOC will celebrate the achievements in Public Works and Utilities engineering, but will look to a future which embraces new technologies and increased cooperation between road owners and utilities. These two SOC awards reflect these ideals:

### 1. SOC Engineering Heritage Award.

- Project or activity which involves the sensitive preservation or restoration of public infrastructure or utility service. The project should have relevance to the activities and mission of the Streets Opening Conference. Refer to the SOC web site
- Open to road owners and utility providers alike

## 2. Innovation in Utility Services Engineering

- Awarded to a project where either new technology or innovative approaches have been taken to solve a “streets opening” problem.
- This definition is fairly broad and could apply to construction and delivery or new paradigms in cooperation between authorities.
- Accordingly applications for this award could come from an individual organisation or a joint application.

### New Category

#### Public Works Leader of the Year

This Award has been created to recognise the performance of an individual IPWEA (NSW) member for leadership in the delivery of public works excellence in one or more of the following areas:

- The administration and management of a significant infrastructure project or service that has had a major positive impact on a local government and/or extended community.
- The administration and management of a program of works or services that collectively that have had a major positive impact on a local government and/or extended community.
- Service in an appointed (non-elected) position on a board and or commission charged with the oversight of policy development and/or review of public works or infrastructure issues

### Supporting Information

A nomination shall be supported by a detailed description of the achievements in public works leadership that are considered worthy of this award (2,000 words maximum).

### Additional Criteria for Awards in Categories 3-7

The criteria and parameters for categories 3-7 are set out below. All other categories have no additional criteria, so please follow the information in the call for nominations brochure.

### Category 3

#### Innovation in Water Supply and Wastewater

The Innovation in Water Supply and Wastewater Award seeks to recognise innovations in water supply and wastewater, following the criteria set by the Water Directorate. **Please note, only Water Directorate member Councils can apply for this award.**

Nominations may be made for any of the following types of projects involving water and/or wastewater:

- Operations
- Maintenance
- Capital works
- Management
- Design and/or construction

Nominations must reflect an efficiency and demonstrate a cost saving.

## Category 4

### Occupational Health and Safety

The Occupational Health and Safety Award seeks to recognise outstanding achievement in the approach adopted during the project in any of the following areas:

- The basis of any OH&S Management Plan developed for this project
- During the project were there:
  - any serious accidents?
  - lost work time?
- Were these accidents or lost time measured as part of the project performance?
- Are there any OH&S practices that evolved from this project that can be introduced:
  - in future projects?
  - into any initiatives by WorkCover?

It also seeks to recognise new or improved Occupational Health and Safety initiatives, policies or procedures which can demonstrate significant reductions in lost time through injury and which can be beneficially replicated in other organisations.

## Category 5

### The Three R's: Recovering, Recycling and Reusing Award

The Three R's: Recovering, Recycling and Reusing Award seeks to recognise outstanding achievement in waste avoidance and resource recovery in the following types of projects:

- Introduction of new, or improvements to existing, recycling schemes
- Recycling and reuse of old buildings for new purposes (adaptive reuse)
- New or Improved materials recovery projects or processes

Projects should display achievements in one (or more) of the following areas:

- Prevention/Avoidance of waste:
  - Innovative systems, design and processes employed to prevent/avoid waste and increase use of recovered materials.
  - Utilisation of existing buildings, facilities, infrastructure etc (adaptive reuse).
  - Innovative design to maximise the use of in-situ resources.
- Materials Selection, with an emphasis on:
  - Choice of materials: salvaged, recycled content, durable, reusable and/or recyclable materials.
  - Purchasing systems and practices to increase use of renewable and/or recycled content materials and components.
- Recovery of resources:
  - Innovative procedures employed to recover resources to high end uses.
  - Strategies/facilities in place to recycle ongoing waste generated by occupiers (paper, glass, recyclables, organic).
- Litter control and reduction.
- Education/Training programs for project managers, supervisors, contractors and subcontractors.
- Waste planning; either as part of an Environmental Management System or a Waste Management Plan.

## Category 5 (continued)

### Information that needs to be included:

- Anticipated and actual amounts of waste (tonnes) which are avoided, reduced, reused or recycled.
- Actual amounts of salvaged, recycled and/or recycled content materials purchased/used (tonnes).
- Any estimated cost savings.
- Identification of any barriers that were overcome in completing this project.
- Practices that have evolved from this project that will be carried over to future projects.
- Reasons for undertaking a project of this type.

## Category 6

### Excellence in Road Safety Engineering

The following criteria should be followed:

#### Objectives:

- Raise the profile of road safety management among engineers in local government/public works.
- Continue recognition of engineering contributions to road safety achievements.
- Encourage implementation of road safety engineering programs.
- Encourage adoption of road safety audit process (especially the focus on design audits).
- Reward innovation in engineering treatments that have road safety benefits.
- Encourage evaluation/assessment to demonstrate road safety benefits.

#### Notes:

The judges will be cognisant of:

- Good applications of road safety engineering principles.
- The establishment of sound policies, practices and procedures.
- A high-level commitment/funding of road safety engineering approach, including links to council strategic plans.
- Examples of demonstrable road safety benefits.
- Examples of innovation in analysis, design, implementation leading to road safety benefits.
- Modifications and/or improvements to practices and procedures (e.g. in design or traffic management) arising from road safety examination and/or investigation and/or evaluation (e.g. what has been learnt from results of road safety audit programs).
- Examples of technology transfer of good road safety engineering practice, including promotion and training.
- Recognition of needs of all road users (i.e. including elderly, pedestrians, cyclists).

#### Nominated projects should not be:

- Examples of standard treatments such as roundabouts, speed humps, guard rails.
- Traffic management initiatives without demonstrable road safety benefits.
- Straight forward conduct of road safety audits on existing roads.

## Category 7

### Environmental Enhancement Project or Initiative

This category seeks to recognise projects or initiatives that: - create or will lead to significant improvements to the natural environment; reverse or regenerate a degraded or degrading natural environment (land air or water); utilise waste or stormwater harvesting for beneficial reuse including drought proofing; utilise or encourage strong community involvement in environmental projects.

## Call for Nominations

### Step 1. Nomination Entry – due by Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> January 2010

Nomination entries must be **emailed** to [michelle@ipwea.org.au](mailto:michelle@ipwea.org.au).

All nomination entries must contain the following:

- Full Contact Details
- Membership Number (**Please note: if you are entering category three - Innovation in Water Supply and Wastewater, no membership number is required just the Council Name. Only Councils who are members of the Water Directorate may enter this category.**)
- Project name
- Award Category
- Project Synopsis (max 150 words)
- Completion Date of Project (between February 2008 and February 2010) (in MS Word Format)

### Step 2. Final Project Submission – due by Monday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2010

The submission must contain the following components and then burnt onto **one CD in MS Word format:**

- Media release of 150 words minimum
- Four colour photo's of project in jpeg format at 300dpi
- Project Submission:
  - Title page stating the:
    - Title of nomination
    - Full name of Council/organisation
    - Address, telephone, facsimile and email
    - Category of nomination
    - Name and position of person making the nomination (**i.e. IPWEA member**)
    - Names and bio's of participants responsible for project
    - Endorsement by the Senior Divisional Manager/Department Head
  - Concept and objectives of the project;
  - Description of the project planning and development including the extent of involvement by IPWE Member/s;
  - Description of how the project achieved its objective(s)(maximum 100 words);
  - Listing of external related organisations involved, including community organisations, and a brief description of their involvement/ contribution to the project.

The CD must be mailed to Michelle Burgess, Event and Membership Coordinator by

**Monday 1st February 2010**

Please mail to IPWEA NSW Division, Level 12 447 Kent St, Sydney NSW 2000.

**Contact:** Michelle Burgess, Event and Membership Coordinator

T: 02 8267 3013

E: [michelle@ipwea.org.au](mailto:michelle@ipwea.org.au)