

# Texas APWA Reporter

NEWSLETTER

The Magazine of the Texas  
Public Works Professional

MAY 2026

ROOTED IN  
*Service*  
POWERED BY  
*Community*

NATIONAL PUBLIC  
WORKS WEEK  
MAY 17-23, 2026



NATIONAL PUBLIC WORKS WEEK  
MAY 17-23, 2026

2025-2026

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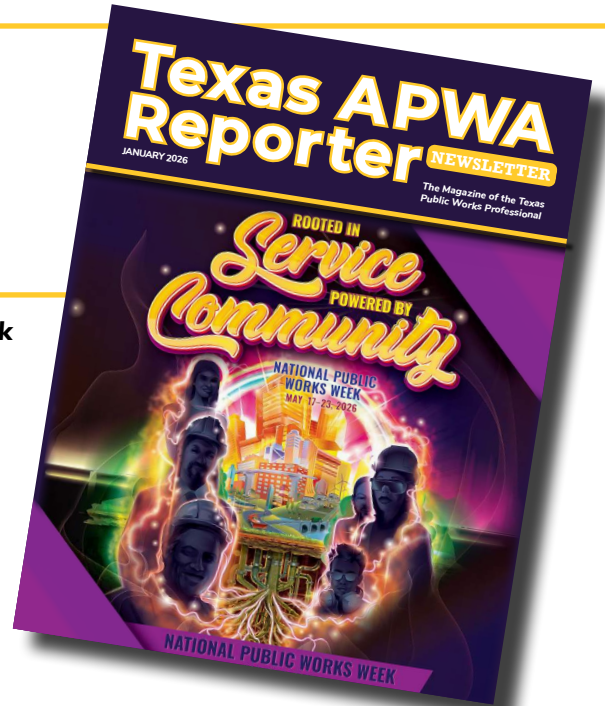
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# Texas APWA Reporter NEWSLETTER

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2026 National Public Works Week

May 17-23, 2026



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# CHAPTER PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

President Richard Mendoza

**Message from the President:** Hello APWA Texas Chapter. It's my favorite time of the year, National Public Works Week (May 17-23) is upon us! Does your organization have a plan to celebrate it?

It's crucial that you do. Our work depends on public support. We need to remind the people we serve – not just on that week, but year-round – of the great work and indispensable infrastructure we provide.

This year's theme, "Rooted in Service, Powered by Community," acknowledges that the roots of service run deep in public works. It's what has propelled public works innovations that have helped our communities evolve into places where people can lead lives of purpose and possibility.

Some work – like building roads and bridges – is highly visible, while other public works contributions – like maintaining water and sewer systems – are sometimes hidden from view. Together, these efforts form the foundation of thriving communities, reminding us that every project, seen or unseen, powers the connection between service and the people it supports.

The residents you serve need to know things like:

- Where drinking water comes from
- What happens when you call 311
- How potholes get fixed
- Why storm drains matter
- How you drive a snowplow/sweeper

This helps them understand that government isn't something separate from their daily lives. What we do has real, tangible effects on their quality of life, personal safety, and sense of community.

It's also important to observe this week internally. Your employees need to feel seen and appreciated. They need to have a sense that they aren't simply clocking in and out of a job – reinforce to them that they are making a difference and are essential to the proper functioning of the city or county they serve. You may already have a publicity campaign planned. If you don't – or if you want to make yours even better – head over to the national APWA website at [www.apwa.org/events/national-public-works-week-npww/](http://www.apwa.org/events/national-public-works-week-npww/). There, you'll find a wealth of resources that can be quickly mobilized for a campaign: sample events and activities; social media posts; ideas for videos; and proclamations that can be delivered by your mayor, governor, or other officials.

This is our moment to shine. Let the world know how essential public works is to their lives.



# TML CORNER: *Interim Work Picks Up: Ballot Language, Grants, and Water Resilience*

By Jonathan Wheat, P.E., Director of Engineering, City of Carrollton

JONATHAN WHEAT, TML REPRESENTATIVE



Welcome back to the TML Corner. Recent activity at both the federal and state levels continue to influence how cities plan, deliver, and manage public works programs. Funding requirements, water supply discussions, and housing policy considerations all affect the decisions you make every day.

## Federal Guidance and Funding Resources

Federal agencies continue to refine guidance tied to major infrastructure programs. The League reports ongoing work to track federal actions connected to the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. The League and the National League of Cities plan to share resources that help cities understand access to funding for transportation, water, broadband, and resilience projects. This information prepares your teams for upcoming opportunities and ensures that project planning aligns with federal expectations.

The U.S. Treasury is offering webinars to help cities prepare accurate reports for the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds. The reporting deadline for these funds is April 30, and these training sessions give your staff practical instructions for completing required submissions.



[Jonathan Wheat, PE](#)



[jonathan.wheat@cityofcarrollton.com](mailto:jonathan.wheat@cityofcarrollton.com)

## Housing Policy and Local Infrastructure Planning

Congress passed legislation addressing housing affordability. Housing policy shapes local infrastructure needs because new development creates additional demand on streets, drainage systems, water supply, and wastewater capacity. Cities that anticipate this impact are better positioned to plan for capital improvements that keep pace with growth.

## FEMA BRIC Program

The FEMA Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities program opened its new application period on March 25. Cities have 120 days to submit applications, and the deadline is July 23. FEMA made one billion dollars available for hazard mitigation projects that reduce long term risks to life and property. This funding supports projects that improve resilience for facilities, flood control systems, and community lifelines. Public works teams can use this program to advance projects that address known hazards and support long term service reliability.

If you are interested in learning more about the program, visit <https://grants.gov/search-results-detail/361620>.

## Water Supply and Demand Pressures

State leaders continue to focus on water supply and demand. The Texas House Committee on Natural Resources reviewed groundwater conditions, aquifer sustainability, and the increasing demand from data centers. These issues

influence long term planning for water supply and system capacity. Cities that rely on groundwater will want to watch these discussions closely because they may guide future policy decisions.

The Senate Committee on Water, Agriculture, and Rural Affairs will study interim charges related to resource management. Cities benefit from early awareness of committee work because findings often shape future legislation that affects water planning and infrastructure investment.



## What This Means for Your Work

Your teams face continuous pressure to deliver reliable infrastructure while meeting changing expectations from federal and state agencies. Reviewing federal guidance supports strong grant preparation. Tracking groundwater and housing policy discussions helps your staff plan for growth and resource constraints. Staying informed through TML communication allows your city to prepare for new requirements before they affect operations.

# COUNCIL OF CHAPTERS

JOHN WARNEMENT

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS, CITY OF WEBSTER



As I write this article for this issue the Region VII Director, delegates and other chapter and national leadership are preparing to gather in Tulsa, Oklahoma for our annual “winter” meeting. Region VII is comprised of Texas, Arizona, New Mexico and Oklahoma. Our agenda covers topics from roles and responsibilities and action plans to new initiatives, technical committees, membership engagement, YPs, PWX and ways we can support our Region VII partners. These meetings, along with quarterly virtual meetings, give us the opportunity to provide feedback and guide APWA discussion, as we seek to better serve all members. Your input is necessary to help guide us through our conversations. Please know that you may reach out to me ([jwarnement@webstertx.gov](mailto:jwarnement@webstertx.gov)) or other chapter leadership

with concerns or recommendations at any time as we continue our work. I look forward to reporting more from the winter meeting in a future magazine.



In the meantime, while many of you have shifted focus to plans for PWX in Houston, APWA continues to develop new programs to enhance your experience. This month, I highlight Public Works Radio, as it dives into a wide range of topics designed to educate and inspire, making public works more visible to everyone—from the public and elected officials to industry peers and media. Through a podcast format, industry professionals share in-depth, compelling stories in a way that fits seamlessly into your everyday life—whether you’re on a morning jog, commuting to work, or shopping for groceries.

With two new episodes each month, Public Works Radio can be heard wherever you listen to your favorite podcasts. Latest episodes include:

- Leading in Public Works Means Showing Up Every Day
- Understanding the Safety Risks of Lithium-Ion Batteries
- Accreditation in Public Works: Much More than Meets the Eye
- The Movement to Recognize Public Works Professionals as First Responders
- Creative Ideas to Celebrate National Public Works Week with Your Community
- Sustainability, Resilience, and Preparedness in Public Works for a Safer Tomorrow
- The Emerging Leaders Academy: Celebrating 20 Years of Life-Changing Experiences

If you'd like to request a topic or offer to come on as a guest, email [podcast@apwa.org](mailto:podcast@apwa.org).

Additionally, I am pleased to share upcoming summer education programs, featuring engaging sessions on relevant topics for public works professionals at all levels.

- **June 3:** APWA Partner Showcase: Learn More with Buildwitt
- **June 9:** Engineering Workforce Consortium Webinar: Aligning Engineering and Public Works
- **June 11:** Building Resilient Communities: How Mutual Aid Supports Emergency Operations
- **June 16-18:** Winter Maintenance Supervisor Certificate

Finally, make sure that you check out the pre- and post-conference programs at PWX. As our chapter hosts in Houston, the logistics of attending, or sending staff to attend, are more easily accomplished. For full-conference

attendees, consider extending your trip by an extra day. If you do not plan to attend the full conference, registration is available for those who would just like to attend one of these programs. I promise it is worth the effort to attend while in-person programs are available close by.

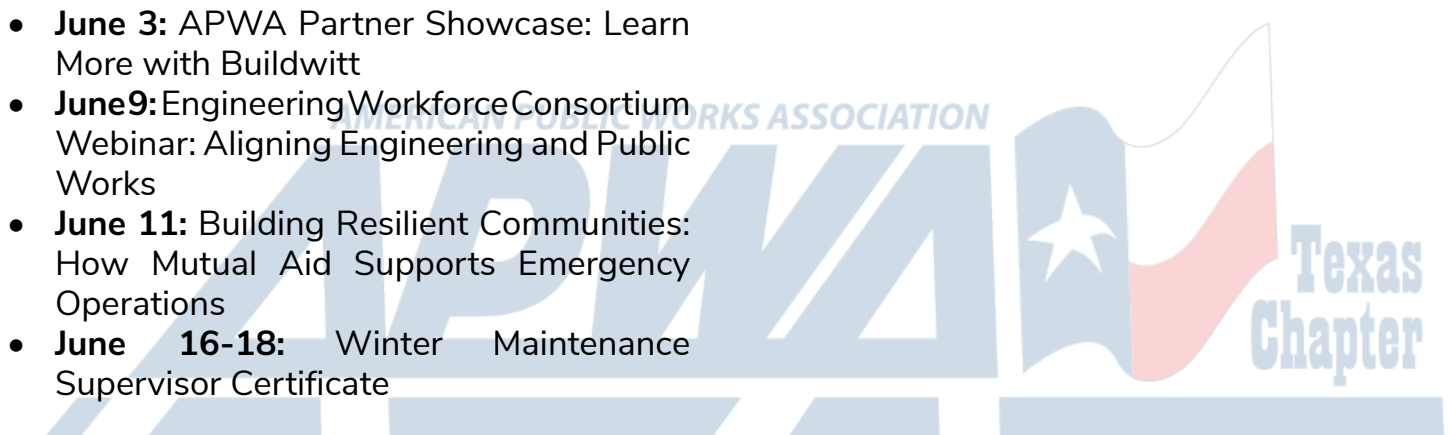
On Saturday, August 29, pre-conference programs include:

- Young Professionals Summit
- Self-Assessment and Accreditation Workshop

On Wednesday, September 2, post-conference programs include:

- Facilities and Grounds Management Certificate
- Public Fleet Management Certificate

More information regarding all of these programs, and more, can be found at [www.apwa.org](http://www.apwa.org).



# NATIONAL PUBLIC WORKS WEEK 2026

**Rooted in Service, Powered by Community**

Each May, communities across North America pause to recognize the professionals who keep daily life moving during National Public Works Week (NPWW). Sponsored by the American Public Works Association since 1960, NPWW highlights the essential services that often go unnoticed—but are relied upon every single day. From streets and drainage to water systems, traffic operations, fleet maintenance, engineering, parks, sanitation, and emergency response support, public works is at the center of community quality of life.

**National Public Works Week 2026 will be observed May 17–23, 2026, with this year’s theme:**

**Rooted in Service, Powered by Community**

This theme recognizes the deep commitment public works professionals bring to their work and the lasting impact they have on the places they serve. Some public works efforts are highly visible—roads, bridges, sidewalks, parks, and public facilities. Others happen behind the scenes—water distribution, wastewater systems, storm drainage, traffic signals, and emergency repairs. Whether seen or unseen, these services form the foundation of safe, functional, and thriving communities.

Public works professionals are often among the first to respond when challenges arise.

Severe weather, flooding, infrastructure failures, debris removal, utility restoration, and community recovery all depend on dedicated teams ready to serve at a moment’s notice. NPWW is an opportunity to recognize that commitment and educate the public on the broad scope of services public works provides.

## Ways Texas Agencies Can Celebrate

National Public Works Week can be observed in many ways, large or small. APWA encourages agencies and chapters to tailor activities to fit their community. Popular ideas include:

- Employee appreciation breakfasts or lunches
- Public Works Week proclamations from mayors, county judges, or governors
- Open houses or facility tours



- “Touch-a-Truck” events for families and schools
- Social media spotlights of employees and departments
- Community clean-up or beautification projects
- Safety demonstrations
- Equipment rodeos or skills competitions
- Volunteer service projects or food drives
- Recognition of retirees and milestone employees

### Join the Conversation

APWA also promotes a social media Spirit Week, encouraging agencies, chapters, and individuals to share photos, stories, and appreciation throughout the week using the hashtag #NPWW. It is a simple but effective way to highlight the people behind the work and connect with the communities they serve.

Visit the NPWW Social Media Page for tools and resources.



## A Message to Texas Public Works Professionals

Across Texas, public works teams keep our cities, counties, districts, and campuses operating in every season and circumstance. They solve problems before many residents even know they exist. National Public Works Week is a time to celebrate those efforts, thank the professionals who make them possible, and remind our communities that strong infrastructure begins with dedicated people.

As we celebrate NPWW 2026, let us proudly recognize those who are truly **Rooted in Service, Powered by Community**.

### Future NPWW Dates

May 16-22, 2027

May 21-27, 2028

May 20-26, 2029

May 19-25, 2030

# Taste Houston: A Food Scene Worth Exploring



## Xochi Restaurant

PW'X 2026 will bring public works professionals from across the country to downtown Houston, but the conference is only part of the experience. Just outside the doors of the George R. Brown Convention Center sits one of the most exciting food cities in America.

Houston's dining scene is not defined by a single cuisine. It is defined by variety. The city is a true mishmash of cultures and traditions that come together in ways that make every meal an adventure. Within a few blocks of the convention center you can find Texas barbecue, Oaxacan moles, Vietnamese pho, Gulf seafood, street tacos, sushi counters, and Italian kitchens that rival those found in much older cities.

For anyone who loves food, Houston is a playground.

## Xochi: Downtown's Culinary Showcase

Located inside the Marriott Marquis next to the convention center, Xochi is one of Houston's most celebrated restaurants. Chef Hugo Ortega's menu focuses on the flavors of Oaxaca, featuring complex moles, handmade tortillas, and beautifully prepared seafood and meats. If you want a restaurant that captures Houston's creative culinary spirit, this is it.

## Zydeco Louisiana Diner

If you are looking for something casual, flavorful, and unmistakably Gulf Coast, Zydeco Louisiana Diner is a downtown favorite that delivers big Louisiana flavor just a short walk from the convention center. This small, counter service spot specializes in classic Cajun and Creole comfort food like crawfish étouffée, shrimp po'boys, gumbo, and red beans and rice. The portions are generous, the atmosphere is relaxed, and the flavors are exactly what you would expect from a kitchen inspired by the culinary traditions of Louisiana. For conference attendees who want a quick lunch that still feels authentically regional, Zydeco is one of those places locals quietly recommend.

## Space City Birria

If you are in the mood for something bold and unmistakably Houston, Space City Birria is a must try. This small downtown spot has built a loyal following around one thing done exceptionally well: birria. Slow braised beef is tucked into crispy tacos, served with rich consommé for dipping, and packed with deep, savory flavor. The result is messy in the best possible way and incredibly satisfying. It is exactly the kind of place that reflects Houston's food culture. Simple food, big flavor, and a line of locals who know they have found something good.

## Kokoro

For those craving Japanese comfort food, Kokoro is a downtown gem known for its satisfying rice bowls and deeply flavorful ramen. The menu centers on Japanese donburi, where tender meats, vegetables, and savory sauces are served over perfectly steamed rice. Popular choices include crispy chicken katsu bowls and rich pork ramen that deliver warmth and depth of flavor in every bite. It is a relaxed spot that has become a favorite for downtown workers and visitors looking for a quick meal that still feels thoughtfully prepared.

## Drunken Pho

Houston's Vietnamese food scene is legendary, and Drunken Pho brings that tradition right into the heart of downtown. Known for its deeply aromatic broths and fresh ingredients, the restaurant serves classic Vietnamese dishes like pho, bánh mì sandwiches, and vermicelli bowls that balance bright herbs with rich, savory flavors. The pho arrives steaming hot, layered with tender meats and fragrant broth that has clearly been simmering for hours. It is a perfect reminder that some of Houston's most beloved food traditions come from the city's vibrant Vietnamese community.

Houston's reputation as a food city has grown rapidly in recent years, and it is not difficult to see why. The city's kitchens are fueled by generations of immigrants and chefs who brought their culinary traditions with them, creating a dining scene that is constantly evolving. That diversity means visitors can experience flavors from around the world without ever leaving the downtown area.

Houston's food scene even caught the attention of visiting athletes during the 2026 World Baseball Classic. When the Italian national team played games in Houston, they gathered at Tavola, a local Italian restaurant that quickly became their home base while they were in town. When professional players from Italy say the Italian food in your city is impressive, that tells you something about the depth of the dining scene.

While you are in town for PWX 2026, take some time to explore it.

Step outside the convention center. Walk a few



blocks. Ask a local where they like to eat. Whether it is a bowl of pho, a plate of tacos, a steaming bowl of gumbo, or a carefully crafted mole, you will quickly discover why Houston has become one of America's great food cities.

For the latest updates, announcements, and insider tips about PWX 2026 in Houston, be sure to follow the Texas Chapter APWA on social media as we count down to the conference.

And while you are out exploring the city, you may notice something painted high above Interstate 45 that simply reads "Be Someone." The phrase has become an unofficial motto for Houston.

**Consider it an invitation.**

**Be someone who tries something new.**

**Be someone who discovers a favorite restaurant.**

**Be someone who experiences why Houston's food scene is worth exploring.**





# PWX PUBLIC WORKS EXPO 2026 HOUSTON

AUGUST 30 - SEPTEMBER 2, 2026

## 5K FUN RUN

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1  
6:30 A.M.

**\$60/PERSON**

Register by July 10 to receive a T-Shirt and Medal  
Register Online [Click Here]  
Or Scan QR Code Below



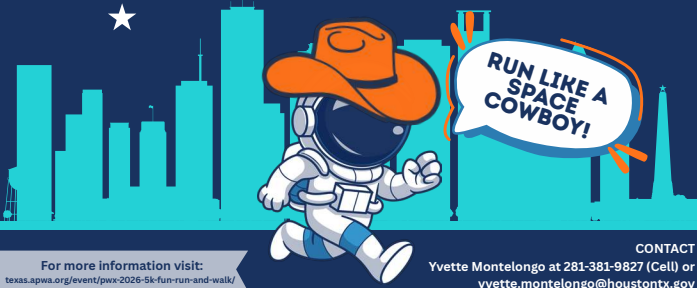
### RACE START LOCATION:

Allen's Landing Park (1005 Commerce St., Houston, TX 77002)

Run along Buffalo Bayou, a 53-mile, 18,000-year-old slow-moving waterway and the historic birthplace of Houston!

### PACKET PICKUP:

Monday, August 31 [1 - 3 PM] At George R. Brown Convention Center - Volunteer Room (Room 340B)  
& Tuesday, September 1 [6 - 6:30 AM] At Race Start Location



CONTACT

For more information visit:  
[texas.apwa.org/event/pwx-2026-5k-fun-run-and-walk/](https://texas.apwa.org/event/pwx-2026-5k-fun-run-and-walk/)

Yvette Montelongo at 281-381-9827 (Cell) or  
[yvette.montelongo@houston.tx.gov](mailto:yvette.montelongo@houston.tx.gov)

## PWX 2026 NATIONAL

# BBQ Showdown

Saturday, August 29, 2026

GRB Convention Center - 1001 Avenida De Las Americas

**COST**  
\$500 Registration Fee

**DEADLINE**  
June 30, 2026

Move-in: Friday, August 28, 12:00pm

Materials: Bring all supplies including tents, chairs, extension cords, coolers, pans, foil, pits, meat and seasoning.

Register now:  
<https://pwx2026bbqshowdown.rsvpify.com>



TEXAS CHAPTER HOST COMMITTEE PRESENTS

# INAUGURAL SILENT AUCTION

Benefiting local non-profit charitable organizations:

### Rebuilding Together Houston

Restoring safe and healthy homes for low-income seniors, veterans, and families

### Houston Food Bank

Distributing millions of nutritious meals annually to families across southeast Texas



## CALL FOR DONATIONS

We are looking for a variety of items such as:

- Vacation/Hotel Resorts
- Experiences
- Sports Memorabilia
- Spa
- Dog and/or cat items
- Beverage/Entertainment
- Outdoors (camping, fishing, hunting, etc.)
- Pool/Beach
- State and/or City themed
- Jewelry
- Art/Pottery/Decor

Silent Auction will be open  
Sunday, Aug. 30 - Tuesday, Sept. 1



Scan the QR code for more details about the event

If interested in providing a donation, contact  
Bricelda Patino at [bricelda@accuratemeter.com](mailto:bricelda@accuratemeter.com)

Donations to be collected no later than Aug. 14, 2026



SATURDAY  
AUG. 29, 2026

START:  
5:00PM

TICKETS:  
\$100

- Includes beer tastings at 3 breweries, food, and transportation
- Only 100 spots available, so sign up early!
- Breweries: Frost Town, New Magnolia, Gristworkz
- Sponsorships available

Register now: <https://pwx2026brewerytour.rsvpify.com>





# GOLF TOURNAMENT

**AUGUST 29, 2026**  
Memorial Park Golf Course  
1001 East Memorial Loop Drive  
Houston, TX 77007

### Schedule

7:00 A.M. Registration & Breakfast  
8:30 A.M. Shotgun Start  
1:30 P.M. Lunch & Awards

### Format & Prizes

4-Person Scramble  
Closest to the Pin, Longest Drive

## SPONSORSHIPS

#### TENT SPONSOR | \$500 - Limited to 5 Sponsors

No Golfers – Company/Firm may set up tent/table on Tee Box

#### BREAKFAST SPONSOR | \$800 - Limited to 2 Sponsors

No Golfers – Company/Firm logo on signage during the event.

#### LUNCH SPONSOR | \$1000 - Limited to 2 Sponsors

No Golfers – Company/Firm logo on signage during the event.

#### TEAM SPONSOR | \$600

Includes 4 golfers, Green/Cart Fee, Range Balls, Breakfast, Lunch and Awards.

#### BEVERAGE SPONSOR | \$500 - Limited to 4 Sponsors

No Golfers – Company/Firm logo on signage during the event.

#### HOLE SPONSOR | \$300 - Limited to 18 Sponsors

No Golfers – Company/Firm logo at flagstick on the green.

#### INDIVIDUAL GOLFER | \$150

Includes – Green/Cart Fee, Range Balls, Breakfast, Lunch and Awards.

For more information, contact Leland Miller at [lrmliller@gptx.org](mailto:lrmliller@gptx.org)  
[Register Online \(Click Here\)](#)

# PWX 2026 JERSEY PRE-SALE



Pre-sale ends  
July 31, 2026

Pick up at the  
Texas Chapter  
Hospitality Space

\$50



# FUTURES PROGRAM



**INTERESTED?**

*fill out the form!*

A one-day program for *College Students* looking to develop their career in public works!

**Breakfast, Lunch & Parking Included!**

**Networking Opportunities, and...**

-  Professional Headshot
-  Resume Reviews
-  Panel Discussions
-  Chat with APWA Leaders
-  Giveaways

# SAVE the date!

SUNDAY Aug 30, 2026

# PWITX: Class 6, Session 3

## Over and Out!



View of the Waller Creek Tunnel Inlet control center

Three down & one to go for graduation. This session took place in Austin in the Austin Permitting and Development Center, a short walking distance from the hotel.

This event started with a tour of the Waller Creek Tunnel Inlet Facility on Tuesday, the day before the classes started. John Beachy, the Division Manager and his team, were great hosts and provided a comprehensive showcase of the stormwater operation as well as the adjacent park amenities. Collectively, this complex significantly reduces the flooding risk downtown and also provides community events at the amphitheater as well as a beautiful park structure. This is a shining example of collaboration between two departments and a civic association.

The 15 classes conducted over three days were presented by 13 different instructors. There were many engaging discussions between the

students and presenters. Of course, these session can't be just all work/training and no fun...so the PWITX Alumni Affairs team arranged an alumni event Thursday evening for the past graduates as well as the current students. Despite a rainy evening, there was a good talkative crowd, plenty of laughing, and way too much food available.

Class Six will graduate in October in San Antonio. They will have received 90+ instructional hours



Good turnout for the social—fun time and great networking!

and toured a variety of facilities and infrastructure at the four locations over the two year period.

The PWITX Vision is: **To be the professional education and networking program of choice for Texas public works leaders through a spirit of active engagement and performance excellence.** Come join us!

For those interested in participating or asking questions about the program, you can visit the website at <https://Texas.apwa.org/pwtx/> or contact Ines Roach, Program Administrator, at [Publicworksinstitute\\_tx@outlook.com](mailto:Publicworksinstitute_tx@outlook.com)



Kristina Ramirez, Harker Heights & Region 7 Rep, APWA exchanging ideas with students during two classes



Jeremy Staritt, ACD Frisco, talking about solid waste operations



One of the tables of students, committee and alumni



Richard Mendoza, Dir Transportation and Public Works, Austin and Texas Chapter President, APWA.



Park features and habitat around Waller Creek



Pond area adjacent to the Waller Creek Tunnel inlet. Considerable debris gathers in this channel after storm events



Panel : Dan Kreuger, Jorge Morales, John German and Jim Gray sharing insights about sustainability



# APWA ACCREDITATION UPDATE

APWA Accreditation provides an opportunity for agencies to earn an accreditation after completion of an evaluation and review process. The evaluation and best practice review process serves to provide a means of formally verifying and recognizing public works agencies for compliance with the recommended practices set forth in the [Public Works Management Practices Manual](#).

It is a voluntary, self-motivated approach to objectively evaluate, verify, and recognize compliance with the recommended management practices.

## **Great Job!!!**

Our host of the 2026 PWX-Houston, TX Public Works Department has been Re-Accredited for the 4th time this past February.

## **Worth Mentioning**

In early March, the City of Webster, Texas, Public Works applied for accreditation, bringing the total of applicant organizations in Texas to 7.

Here are all the current applicant organizations:

- Dallas, TX Department of Public Works
- Denton, TX (10 Departments Total)
- DeSoto, TX Public Utilities Department
- Lancaster, TX Department of Public Works
- Pflugerville, TX Public Works Department
- Princeton, TX Public Works Department
- Webster, TX Public Works Department

## **Learn more**

If you are interested in hearing more about APWA Accreditation, below are some upcoming opportunities.

- There is the virtual self-assessment workshop on May 19, 2026, during NPWW. Those are \$99 for members and run for 3 hours, making it a great training option for agencies that have just started exploring the accreditation process or first-time accreditation managers: <https://www.apwa.org/event/apwa-virtual-self-assessment-workshop/>
- Or if you'd like an in-person self-assessment workshop, there will be one at this year's PWX in Houston! As well as accreditation open forum, learning sessions and there will be a booth you can stop by and ask any questions.
- Also, our Texas Chapter has an Accreditation Liaison, Dana Gatlin. She is available to ask any questions anytime about what Accreditation is, how to get started, what the process looks like, help with practice requirements, etc. You can reach her via email at [dgatlin@templetx.gov](mailto:dgatlin@templetx.gov) or phone 254-298-5677.

All opportunities are listed on our Texas APWA Chapter events calendar.

# APWA REPORTER SAFETY CORNER PRESENTS: SCHOOL BUS SAFETY

## *Protecting Our Children on the Road*

Every school day, millions of children ride a school bus to and from school. In countries like the United States, school buses are considered one of the safest forms of transportation for students. However, maintaining that safety requires teamwork between drivers, students, parents, schools, and other motorists.

In Texas, school bus passing laws are strictly enforced to protect students during their commute. According to the [Texas Department of Public Safety \(DPS\)](#), drivers must stop for a school bus whenever its alternating flashing red lights are active, or its stop arm is extended. In Texas, you must stop for a school bus with flashing red lights or an extended stop sign from either direction, unless the road is divided by a physical barrier (like a median).

Passing a stopped bus is illegal, with fines ranging from \$500 to \$1,250 for a first offense.



### Key Texas School Bus Passing Rules:

- **Stop in Both Directions:** On two-lane roads, or roads without a physical divider (including center turn lanes), vehicles in both directions must stop.
- **Divided Highway Exception:** You do not have to stop if you are on the opposite side of a road divided by a physical barrier or raised median.
- **When to Stop:** Stop when the red lights are flashing, the stop-arm is extended, or the bus is stopped to load/unload children.
- **When to Proceed:** Only pass when the red lights stop flashing, the stop-arm is retracted, and the bus is in motion.
- **Penalties:** First-time offenses can cost \$500–\$1,250. Subsequent offenses can lead to license suspension.

## SAFETY TIPS:

- Always maintain a safe distance of 10-20 feet from the bus.
- Be prepared to stop, as buses frequently stop.
- Many buses have cameras to catch violators, even if no police officer is present.

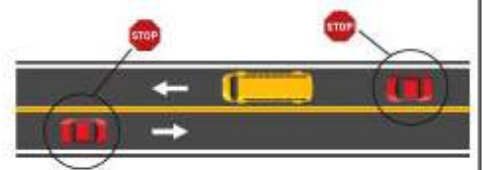


# Passing Rules

1

### Two-lane roadway:

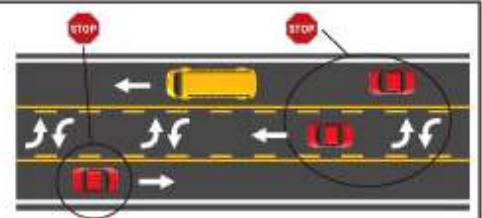
When school bus stops for passengers, all traffic from both directions must stop!



2

### Two-lane roadway with a center turning lane:

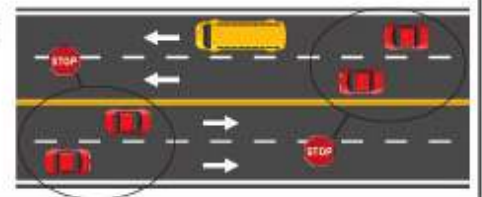
When school bus stops for passengers, all traffic from both directions must stop!



3

### Four-lane roadway without a median separation:

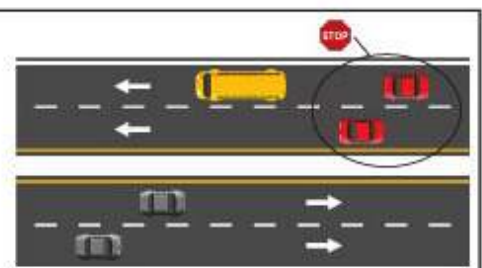
When school bus stops for passengers, all traffic from both directions must stop!



4

### Divided highway of four lanes or more with a median separation:

When school bus stops for passengers, only traffic following the bus must stop.



Submitted by Bill Huck, City of Austin Occupational Safety Manager



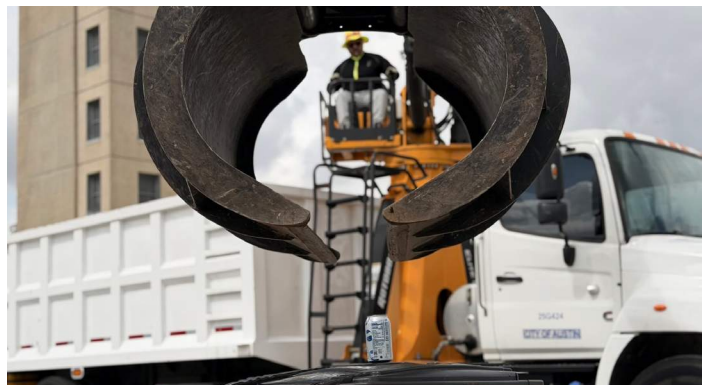
### Austin Resource Recovery Road-E-O April 2026

The Austin Resource Recovery Department held its Annual Equipment Roadeo on Saturday, April 11, 2026. The event gave employees a great opportunity to showcase their driving skills in a friendly competition, with bragging rights and a trip to the SWANA Texas State Roadeo on the line.

Participants competed in timed challenges using heavy equipment such as garbage collection trucks, tractor-trailers, and crane trucks. Tasks included navigating tight obstacle courses, maneuvering large machinery, and demonstrating precision skills like parallel parking.

In addition to the competition, the event featured great food and activities for kids and families, making it an enjoyable experience for everyone involved.

These operators will definitely see you at the next APWA Roadeo!



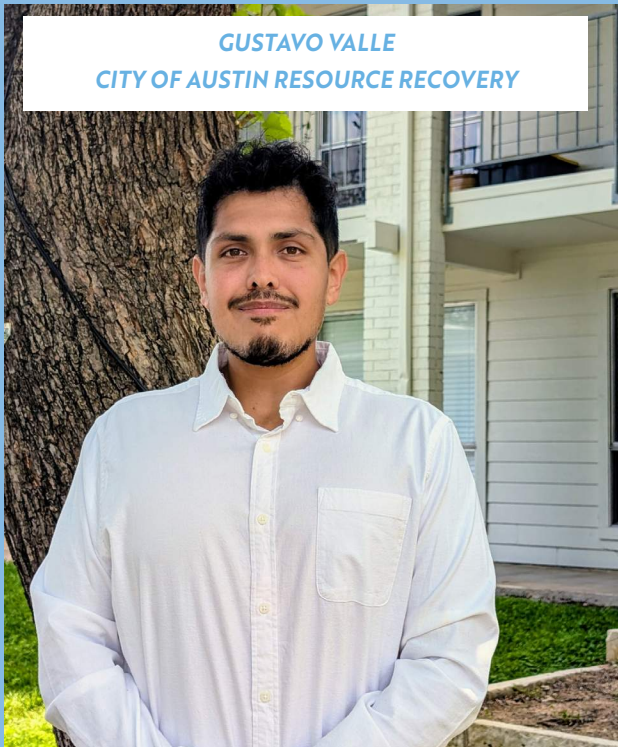
# CLASS OF 2032



Look Out APWA Rodeo – The Class of 2032 is already training  
Jason Frost, Education Chair – TPWA Central TX Board of Directors



# MY (ONGOING) JOURNEY INTO PUBLIC WORKS



**GUSTAVO VALLE**  
CITY OF AUSTIN RESOURCE RECOVERY

It's a sight to behold: the deceptively chaotic morning scramble at the service center as operators make their way towards their trucks to begin their shift. I admit I was overwhelmed at first, unsure if I could ever decipher all the work unfolding before my eyes. Most people know the end-result: an operator pulls up next to your home, empties your trash, recyclables, or compost into the back of the truck, and moves on to the next house. While I understood the purpose of the routine I was witnessing, I never would have imagined it to be so intricate and hectic. To be completely frank, if you had told me ten years ago that I would be working in the solid waste industry, I'd assume that you're probably speaking to the wrong person. Looking back on it now, it completely makes sense.

In the fall of 2019, I moved to Austin, Texas to serve with Americorps. For the next two years, my service project focused on affordable housing construction and home repairs. Actively contributing to the betterment of community gave me a deep sense of fulfillment and led me to consider a professional path

centered on helping people. Eventually I accepted a job in the private sector in the pursuit of higher pay and professional growth. The role taught me a great deal, but the work was not what I had hoped it would be. Instead, it reinforced something important: the work that motivated me most was work that directly benefited the community. I realized I missed service years. That realization ultimately steered me toward a career in the public sector.

After some time, I accepted the role as an assistant to the executive team of Austin Resource Recovery. I was thrilled with the prospect of working for the City of Austin, but I wondered how my position would allow me to meaningfully contribute to the community. Luckily, it did not take long to realize that Austin Resource Recovery operates with ambitious aspirations and commitments to public service. That is evident through its mission statement: "We provide essential services that protect people and our planet."

One might assume that the primary service Austin Resource Recovery provides is to keep our communities clean. And like I said before, a considerable amount of time, labor and resources go into effort. But on top of all that, the department educates the public about sustainability and encourages residents to move towards a zero-waste lifestyle. Ultimately, the real feat isn't accomplishing all this in a day, but consistently delivering on all these goals all year.

Over time I've come to understand the method and order behind the chaotic morning routine. My role permits me to make meaningful contributions towards our policies and procedures. The executive team continuously works to improve our services to the public, push towards our zero waste goals, and support our staff with development and operational efficiencies. It has been three years since I've started at Austin Resource Recovery and I'm proud of the work that we've done. Knowing that our ongoing efforts contribute to the betterment of our city is deeply rewarding. Because of this experience, I see myself building a career in the public works sector.



# SOUTHEAST BRANCH 4TH ANNUAL CLAY SHOOT

The Southeast Branch's 4th Annual Clay Shoot was held Friday, April 10th, at Westside Sporting Grounds in Katy, Texas. The event drew 27 teams and 108 shooters! Attendees were greeted with kolaches, donuts and coffee thanks to our Breakfast Sponsors, BGE and HR Green.

Fortunately, the rain that had been a concern held off until the afternoon, after the event was over. The field included shooters of all experience levels. Trophies, provided with the help of our Awards Sponsor, UES, were presented to the top 3 teams and top 3 shooters in several divisions: overall, female, and municipal. The winners were as follows:

**Team:** 1st – Kyle Dennis, Katie Heckt, Phil Nekoranec, Jay Sunderwala  
 2nd – Chad Savino, Andrew Latiolais, Cannon Neel, Drue McGinty  
 3rd – Elyse Melton, Stephen Kelly, Michael Medwedeff, Tyler Barrows

**Overall:** 1st – Katie Heckt, 2nd - Jarrett Rabroker, 3rd – Benton Schmaltz

**Female:** 1st – Marlene Hay, 2nd – Elyse Melton, 3rd – Harper Rabroker

**Municipal:** 1st – Justin Beckendorff, 2nd – Austin Dale, 3rd – Dan Hilderbrandt

The crowd enjoyed lunch from Firehouse Subs and a chance at door prizes thanks to our Door Prize Sponsor, Hazen.

A big thanks for all of our team sponsors including Platinum Sponsor Mickie Service Company; Gold Sponsors EHRA, Pumps of Houston, and Tetra Tech; and Silver Sponsors Accurate Meter and Supply, Core & Main, EJ, Ford Meter Box, Mustang CAT, Garver, IDS Engineering Group, LAN, Magna Flow, Ninyo & Moore, and WSB. Your support of this event helped raise over \$6,200 for the Southeast Branch's scholarship program!





## Quarterly Report: January - March 2026

### January 29, 2026 Lunch & Learn

The Rio Grande Valley (RGV) Branch hosted a Lunch & Learn at the City of Harlingen Public Works Facility with approximately 25 members in attendance. The meeting was sponsored by Kinloch Equipment who demonstrated their stormwater flush/vacuum trucks and best practices to address stormwater line maintenance and inspections. Thanks to Adam Gomez and Kinloch for sponsoring lunch and the informative session.

### February 19, 2026 Port of Brownsville Tour

The RGV Branch participated in a Port of Brownsville tour with approximately 30 members in attendance. This included a presentation and discussion with the Port Director, William Dietrich, and other representatives. Mr. Dietrich explained how its recent fast growth has led to strategic coordination regarding infrastructure and planning with local cities and county officials to keep this vital economic engine running. Especially impressive was the addition of multi-billion dollar investments for LNG (liquefied natural gas) projects, the America First Refining Project, and its close neighbor SpaceX.



### March 6, 2026 RGV Bowling Social

Lastly, RGV members were invited to take their work shoes off and put on colorful bowling shoes and show off their stuff. This was the first Bowling Night Social for the Branch and of course a good opportunity for all to network, exchange stories, and have a good time.

#### Events coming up:

April 22, 2026 General Branch Meeting – Lunch & Learn

McAllen EOC 2nd Floor, 201 N. 21st Street, McAllen, TX; 12pm

Guest speaker will be Tony Vasquez with Agile Strategic Ventures and Lewis Concrete Restoration to discuss infrastructure rehabilitation techniques and services.

# GET INVOLVED: Help Shape the Future of the Texas APWA

Our Chapter doesn't run on its own - it's powered by volunteers. From events and education to advocacy and outreach, everything we do is made possible by members who step up and get involved.

Volunteering is a great way to grow your network, build leadership skills, and get more out of your APWA experience. Whether you have a little time or want to take on a bigger role, there's a place for you at both the Chapter and Branch levels.

Many of our current leaders started by joining a committee or helping with an event. If you've ever considered getting more involved - or even serving on the Chapter Board in the future - this is the perfect place to start.

We're always looking for engaged members to join committees, support events, and help lead the way forward for public works in Texas.

**Want to learn more about committees?**

Visit: <https://texas.apwa.org/homepage/about/chapter-committees/>

You can also reach out to your Branch leadership or a Chapter committee chair to get connected - we'd love to have you involved.



## Interested in Volunteering?

[Click Here](#)

## Current Open Positions on the Texas Chapter Site

Below is a snapshot of recently posted roles on our site (as of this writing).

Please check the full listing for more details. ([Job Opportunities](#))

### Job Title

Assistant Director of Public Works  
General Manager  
Senior Professional Engineer: In-House  
Design  
Utility Superintendent  
Assistant Director: Public Works  
AMSS Application Admin  
Civil Engineer  
Water Quality Specialist  
Utility Operator I, II, or III  
Streets Maintenance Works

### Agency

City of Waco, TX  
Harlingen Waterworks System  
City of Fort Worth, TX  
  
City of Belton, TX  
City of San Antonio, TX  
North Texas Tollway Authority  
Town of Schertz, TX  
Town of Addison, TX  
Town of Addison, TX  
Town of Addison, TX

## Texas APWA Job Opportunities

### Connecting Public Works Talent Across Texas

Looking for your next career move - or the right professional to join your team? The Texas Chapter APWA Job Opportunities page connects agencies and job seekers across the state.

For employers, posting is simple and affordable. [Submit your position online](#), pay the \$100 fee, and your listing appears on the Chapter website for 60 days—reaching a statewide network of public works professionals.

For job seekers, it's your one-stop shop for roles in engineering, operations, management, and infrastructure. Bookmark the page and check back regularly for new postings.

Visit [texas.apwa.org/job-opportunities](https://texas.apwa.org/job-opportunities) to post or explore openings.



# PUT YOUR BRAND IN FRONT OF THE PEOPLE WHO KEEP TEXAS RUNNING

## Why Advertise in the Texas APWA Reporter?

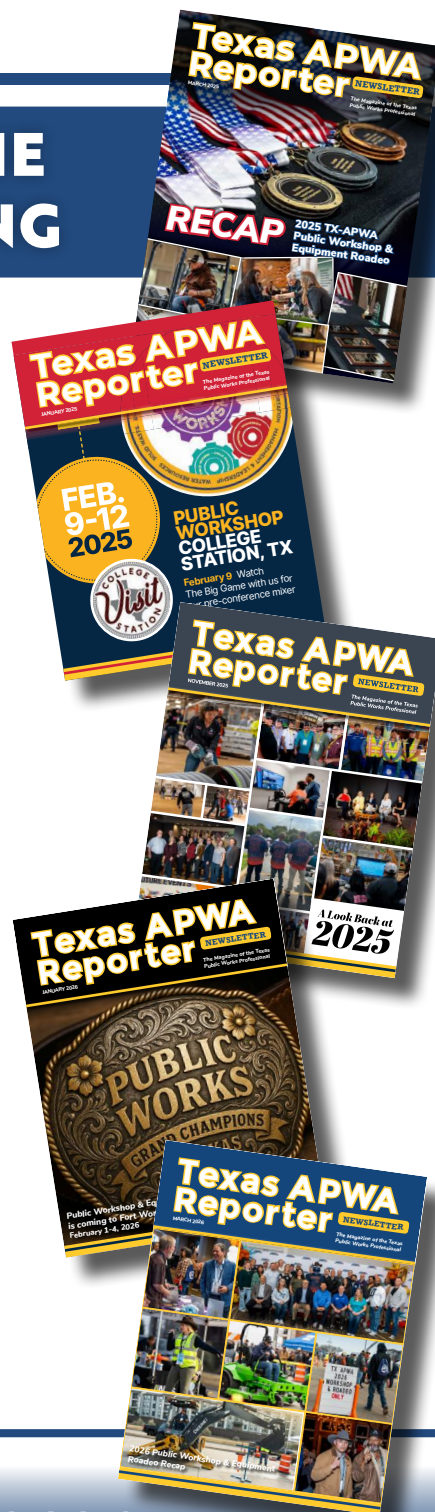
From streets and drainage to utilities and transportation, Texas public works professionals rely on trusted partners. The Texas APWA Reporter offers direct access to this audience—decision-makers who plan, design, build and maintain critical infrastructure across the state.

Whether you're promoting services, technology, or products this is a focused platform to stay top-of-mind.

| Pricing Chart     | Dimensions         | Single/One Time Rate | Yearly Rate |
|-------------------|--------------------|----------------------|-------------|
|                   |                    | Pricing              | Pricing     |
| Business Card     | 3.625 in x 2 in    | \$80                 | \$480       |
| 1/2 Page          | 7.5 in x 4.75 in   | \$180                | \$918       |
| 1/2 Page Vertical | 3.625 in x 9.75 in | \$180                | \$918       |
| 1/4 Page          | 3.625 in x 4.75 in | \$130                | \$663       |
| Full Page         | 7.5 in x 9.75 in   | \$300                | \$1,530     |

## Connect with Texas Public Works Leaders

For all inquiries please reach out to [ChapterAdmin@TXPublicWorks.com](mailto:ChapterAdmin@TXPublicWorks.com)





ej

Simplicity at its finest.

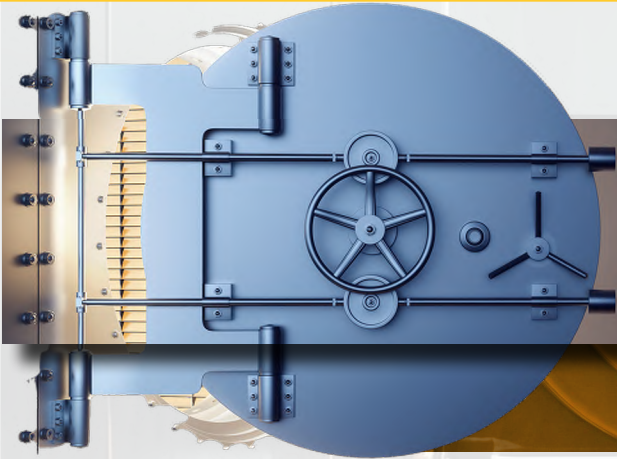


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or call 800 626 4653

*1883*  
Made in USA



# FROM *the* VAULT

## A JOURNEY THROUGH *History*



# May 1984 - National Public Works Week

This month's From the Vault takes us back to May 1984, when The Participant featured **National Public Works Week** on its cover. More than 40 years later, the message still holds true: public works professionals are essential to every community.

The cover spotlighted themes like **supporting people and projects** and **protecting and enhancing the environment** - proof that while equipment and technology have changed, the mission of public works has not.

Inside, the issue shared ideas for celebrating NPWW through proclamations, media outreach, and community engagement. As we prepare for this year's National Public Works Week in May, it is a fitting reminder that promoting and celebrating public works has always mattered.

**Some things change. Public works always delivers.**

TEXAS CHAPTER APWA

# the *participant*

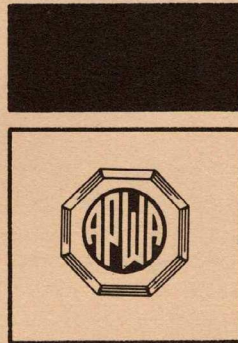
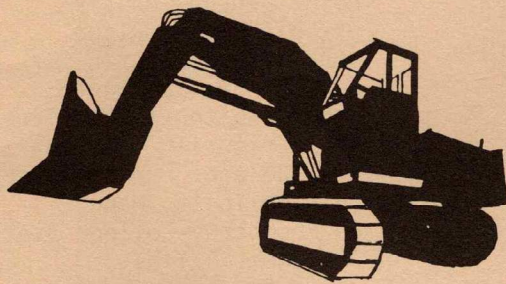
participating pleases people plus prevents problems

VOLUME XV

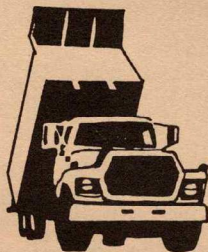
MAY 1984

NUMBER 2

## NATIONAL PUBLIC WORKS WEEK



SUPPORT PEOPLE AND PROJECTS-



PROTECTING AND ENHANCING  
THE ENVIRONMENT

MAY 20-26, 1984<sup>o</sup>

From the President

President's Message  
May 1984

The 13th Annual TPWA Short Course held at Texas A&M University in February was another real success. If you missed it, you missed a fine opportunity for fellowship and professional growth. The staff of the Engineering Extension Service at A&M and committee members are to be congratulated. The entire chapter owes a debt of gratitude to these dedicated individuals.

The TPWA Spring conference May 2-5 in Beaumont fulfilled the theme of this year's meeting "Cajun Work and Play." In addition to the very informative conference, the American Public Works Management Seminar May 1-2 offered timely assistance in "Avoiding Public Works Managerial Burn-Out."

I would urge all members to support the membership committee in recruiting additional members for the Texas Public Works Association. Our goal is that of continuing to be the biggest and best chapter. Each member contributes their knowledge and experience to the association, and in truth, to each of the members who participate. We can all benefit from this knowledge and experience. Bill Friedrich, Chairman of the Membership Committee, can provide application and information for all prospective members.

National Public Works Week is May 20 through 26. All public works agency members received information from APWA concerning promotion of National Public Works Week. Make an effort to promote Public Works in each individual community. A sample proclamation declaring the week as Public Works Week is available. We provide a vital service to the citizens of Texas; help them recognize this service. Summarize your activities and forward them to Beth Brown, City of Austin, Chairman of the Public Relations in National Public Works Week Committee.

If you have, in the past, made a presentation at a short course Spring meeting or Fall meeting, review the presentation. Was it a new idea, was it put into practice, can you give the members a report on what happened with the program? The outcome of a project or program is of vital interest to all members and can help avoid many pitfalls that occur when new projects are implemented.

After winning the APWA president's plaque for two years in a row, we narrowly missed the third year (by eight points). The chapter is definitely in the running for the president's plaque for 1983 due to the leadership of past president, John L. German. This record indicates the Texas Chapter is a strong, and I think, the best chapter in American Public Works Association. We all owe a debt of gratitude to the membership and officers who have supported and built this association. Recognize and thank them for this service.



The Participant is a publication of the Texas Chapter, American Public Works Association. It is printed by the Texas Engineering Extension Service, College Station, Texas. Materials for publication should be submitted in writing to Ed Rhomberg, Participant Committee Chairman, Civil Engineering Department, Texas A&M University.

1984 TEXAS PUBLIC WORKS ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| President . . . . .                            | Fred G. Baker, DPW, Midland               |
| President-Elect . . . . .                      | Clarence T. Daugherty, DPW, Collin County |
| Vice-President . . . . .                       | C. Wayne Dickens, Asst. City Mgr., Waco   |
| Secretary . . . . .                            | Richard L. Ridings, P.E., DPW, Austin     |
| Trustee . . . . .                              | Bill Friedrich, Asst. DPW, Houston        |
| Treasurer . . . . .                            | Don Dietrich, Asst. DPW, Grand Prairie    |
| Immediate Past President . . . . .             | John L. German, Asst. City Mgr., Austin   |
| House of Delegates Representative . . . . .    | Kurt F. Schnellenbach, DPW, Arlington     |
| TML Representative . . . . .                   | William R. "Bill" Hogge, DPW, Plainview   |
| Director; Region VII, APWA, Honorary . . . . . | B. Jack McDaniel, Asst. DPW, Houston      |

Committee

- North Central Texas Branch - President
- Southeast Texas Branch - President
- Central Texas Branch - President
- Buildings and Grounds Division
- Advisor Council
- 1984 Spring Meeting
- 1985 Spring Meeting
- Membership
- Audit
- Awards
- Participant
- Education and Training
- Administrative Management
- Municipal Engineering
- Street Maintenance & Construction
- Equipment Maintenance & Operations
- Solid Waste Management
- Transportation
- Water Resources/Drainage
- Research
- Scholarship
- Public Relations/National Public Works Week
- International Coordinator
- Nominating
- Utility Coordination
- Health Department Liaison
- Solid Waste Certification
- Construction Inspection Certification
- Street Maintenance & Repairs Certification
- Equipment Repairs Certification
- Supervisory Certification

Chair

- Sharon Williams, Fort Worth
- Norman Dykes, Baytown
- Alice Benson, Austin
- Art Blahowski, Plano
- John German, Austin
- Joe Ternus, Beaumont
- Robert Whitehead, Abilene
- Bill Friedrich, Houston
- Earl Deland, Farmers Branch
- John Philpott, Waco
- Ed Rhomberg, College Station
- Jim Hamm, Dallas
- Jesus Garza, Austin
- Norman Dykes, Baytown
- Steve Stephenson, Houston
- Bruce Conover, Austin
- Ulysses G. Ford III, Fort Worth
- Joe S. Ternus, Beaumont
- Jimmy D. Berry, Austin
- John Mason, College Station
- Michael Barnes, Killeen
- Beth Brown, Austin
- John Teipel, Dallas
- Walt Boetcher, Austin
- Richard Ridings, Austin
- Jesus Garza, Austin
- Jerry Smith, College Station
- Leon Barba, Austin
- Marion Johnson, Dallas
- Ed Rhomberg, College Station

# NATIONAL PUBLIC WORKS WEEK MAY 20-26, 1984

THERE ARE SEVERAL ACTIVITIES during National Public Works Week that can enhance the public works profession, your APWA chapter, and your local, county, state, or provincial agency. Best of all, these activities are easy to accomplish and provide an avenue to better understanding of public works by the citizens of your community.

**Radio and Television Spot Announcements** — Printed here are several spot announcements that can be given to your local radio and television outlets. Most stations have public service time available at no cost to qualifying agencies. Contacts with the media will assure good National Public Works Week coverage. An attractive television slide on National Public Works Week is also available. Contact NPWW General Secretary, APWA, 1313 East 60th Street, Chicago 60637; or call 312/667-2200.

**Proclamations** — Ask your mayor, county executive, or governor to proclaim May 20-26, 1984, National Public Works Week. A sample proclamation is printed here.

**NPWW Posters** — An order form for the NPWW poster is on the inside back cover of this magazine. Use it to order quantities of posters and make sure that all public buildings, stores, and shopping centers have copies.

*"Protecting and Enhancing the Environment"*

SAMPLES OF RADIO SPOT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Maintenance of public facilities is a wise investment. During National Public Works Week we salute the professionals who maintain and prolong the life of the systems and vital services that protect our health, safety, and comfort.

During National Public Works Week, May 20-26, 1984, we salute the public works people who manage our water, sewer, transportation, and refuse collection systems. The maintenance of these services and facilities is a wise and timely investment.

The maintenance of our streets and roads, removal of snow and ice, the smooth functioning of public transportation, water, sewage, and refuse removal systems are easy to take for granted. During National Public Works Week, May 20-26, let's remember the public works people who allow us to take these things for granted.

May 20-26 is National Public Works Week. All of us depend greatly on the work of the dedicated people who clean our streets, maintain our public buildings, collect and dispose of our refuse, and manage our public transportation facilities. Let's all join together to salute the public works professionals in our community.

SAMPLE PROCLAMATION

Whereas public works services provided in our community are an integral part of our citizens' everyday lives; and

Whereas the support of an understanding and informed citizenry is vital to the efficient operation of public works systems and programs such as water, sewers, streets and highways, public buildings, solid waste collection, and snow removal; and

Whereas the health, safety, and comfort of this community greatly depend on these facilities and services; and

Whereas the quality and effectiveness of these facilities, as well as their planning, design, and construction are vitally dependent upon the efforts and skill of public works officials; and

Whereas the efficiency of the qualified and dedicated personnel who staff public works departments is materially influenced by the people's attitude and understanding of the importance of the work they perform; now therefore

Be it Resolved that I, \_\_\_\_\_ Governor/Premier/Mayor of the State/Province/City of \_\_\_\_\_ do hereby proclaim (date) as NATIONAL PUBLIC WORKS WEEK in \_\_\_\_\_ and call upon all citizens and civic organizations to acquaint themselves with the problems involved in providing our public works and to recognize the contributions that public works officials make everyday to our health, safety, and comfort.

IDEAS TO GET THINGS GOING

Public Works Departments all over North America perform vital services for the communities they serve, but these services are often taken for granted. In an effort to gain recognition and stress the importance of public works in everyday life, NATIONAL PUBLIC WORKS WEEK will be celebrated May 20-26, 1984.

The theme of this year's event is "Protecting and Enhancing the Environment." As in years past, all state and local chapters, municipalities, and government agencies are encouraged to get involved.

There are no definite guidelines for how local agencies celebrate National Public Works Week. Whether it's a quiet recognition of dedicated workers or a big party, public works people everywhere add their own creative touches to the nationwide festivities. Here are a few reports that may help you design your own NPWW program:

Lawton, Oklahoma has shown that individual programs often result in fresh, timely ideas. The organizers of Lawton's NPWW effort decided to change the usual format for using the media. Each day the public was shown a different division of the public works department through local television and newspapers. Tours of the wastewater treatment and water treatment plants were conducted. The week closed with an Employee Appreciation Day Barbecue sponsored by local businesses. Lawton Public Works Director Bill Baker feels that "the coverage given by the news media and the contact with the public during NPWW allowed us to tell and sell ourselves to the people we serve."

In terms of interesting results from NPWW, the activities in Westminster, Colorado, surely rate some kind of prize. Public works officials offered to present a slide show and demonstrate a street sweeper at area schools. City engineer Carroll Amond, P.E. did this at three elementary schools for students ranging from second to sixth grades. The thank-you letters he received from the students resembled those that Johnny Carson occasionally reads. Here are some of the excerpts.

"Thank you for showing me the big truck." "I like you very much, you are a niche man." "I fond out some things I didnt now." "Thank you for showing us the truck and the magic. How did you get the quarter into the bottle?"

The kids were impressed, that much is evident. Many of them surely told their parents about the truck, the magic and the nice man from public works.

Isn't it time that your chapter did more to celebrate NPWW? Isn't it time you did more, too? If you need help or more ideas, call APWA.

**13th ANNUAL**



The Board of Directors of the Texas Public Works Association met in the Rudder Conference Tower on Sunday, February 19, 1984, prior to the start of the Public Works Short Course. The meeting, chaired by Clarence Daugherty, included several items of important business including adopting the 1984 TPWA budget.

L to R: Front - Hogge, Diertich, Daugherty, Dickens  
Back - Burnside, McDaniel, Frederich, Ridings

Nearly 400 participants attended the Short Courses. Shown here is Gary Santerre, Director of Public Works, Forth Worth, picking up his registraton package.



At the opening session Victor Suhm, Asst. City Manager, Dallas, detailed critical issues for public works officials. Also presenting at the opening session were Fritz Lanham, President of the Texas City Management Association; Don Woods, Professor of Civil Engineering, Texas A&M; Bill Hogge, DPW, Plainview and John Teipel, Director of Streets and Sanitation, City of Dallas. Jesus Garza, Asst. Director of Public Works, Austin, was moderator for the session.

**SHORT COURSE**



Tuesday's Short Course banquet was the occasion for presenting the TPWA contractor of the Year Award. Richard Ridings, Director of Public Works, Austin, presented the award to Rodger Bailey of the Austin Bridge Company.

Nelson Evans, Head, Public Works Training Division, Texas Engineering Extension Service, presented the Public Works Resource Center's past president award to TPWA 1983 president John German of Austin. The TPWA announced continued support of the Public Works Resource Center's programs.



Tony Brigmon, goodwill ambassador from Southwest Airlines, got the audience "moving and improving" after the banquet meal. Showing everybody how it's done are L to R: Bahman Yazdani, Texas A&M; Sharon Williams, City of Fort Worth; Brigmon; Cefe Valenzuela, City of Corpus Christi, and Richard Ridings, City of Austin.



**TPWA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  
MINUTES  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY CAMPUS, COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS  
FEBRUARY 19, 1984**

The executive committee of the Texas Public Works Association met February 19, 1984 prior to the 13th Annual Public Works Short Course on the Texas A&M University campus. President-Elect Clarence Daugherty of Collin County presided over the meeting.

Mr. William T. Friedrich, Trustee and Membership Committee Chairman proposed a membership competition for the Public Works Short Course which was approved by the committee. Mr. Friedrich also requested funds in this year's budget to conduct membership committee activities. Under this item the APWA revised membership goal for the 1984 activity year at 1300 members.

A working discussion of last year's appropriation and current revenues and expenses was undertaken by the committee. The 1984 revenue will be \$7,050.00 and expenses \$28,125.00. With a beginning balance of \$54,933.19, the ending balance for 1984 was projected at \$33,878.19.

Clarence Daugherty appointed Mr. Edward Rhomberg, Mr. Kurt Schnellenbach and Mr. Wayne Dickens to investigate a proposal by the APWA to form student chapters with the American Society of Civil Engineers. Mr. Richard Ridings moved that the TPWA send a letter endorsing the concept with the provision that financing would be arranged at a later date.

Mr. Joe Ternus indicated that the program would be ready for the membership on May 2-5 in Beaumont for the spring meeting.

Reports from the treasurer, past president, the financial and activities reports were presented at the meeting along with updates from the TPWA branches.

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

**PLAN TO ATTEND  
THE 14TH ANNUAL PUBLIC WORKS SHORT COURSE  
FEBRUARY 18, 19, 20, 1985  
COLLEGE STATION  
.....**

**BEAUMONT SPRING MEETING  
SUCCESS FOR TEXAS  
PUBLIC WORKS ASSOCIATION**

Co-Chairmen Joe Ternus and David McKinney are to be congratulated for the excellent TPWA Spring meeting hosted by the City of Beaumont in Southeast Texas May 2-5, 1984.

TPWA members from throughout the State of Texas came to Beaumont's Sheraton Spindletop Inn for the excellent technical sessions and the opportunity to visit with other public works officials. The special brand of hospitality associated with the "Cajun" influence insured that this spring meeting would be a truly memorable event for the Texas association.

The Texas Public Works Association, responding to the needs and interests of its over 1200 members presented a seminar "Avoiding Public Works Managerial Burn-Out" May 1-2 preceding the Spring meeting. Carl H. Nev, Jr. and Lyle J. Sumeck joined Tom Pekney, Mary K. Simon and Joe Ternus in conducting the seminar. The Texas Chapter underwrote the presentation financially in order to make it available to the TPWA membership during the Spring meeting. Both Nev and Sumeck have developed national reputations for their excellent seminars.

A special thanks goes to the City of Beaumont team for their excellent efforts for the benefit of the membership of TPWA. To each of you, we appreciate your contribution:

Co-Chairmen: Joe Ternus David McKinney

Program Coordinator: Warren Dudley

- |                                    |                   |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Administration and Management   | Tom Horne         |
| 2. Municipal Engineering           | Martin Maniscalco |
| 3. Solid Waste                     | Charles Ross      |
|                                    | Gerald Robinson   |
|                                    | Dalton Dominique  |
|                                    | Jim Terry         |
| 4. Street Maintenance/Construction | Tom Warner        |
| 5. Transportation                  | Jud Tatum         |
| 6. Building/Grounds Maintenance    | S. A. Webb        |
| 7. Water & Wastewater              | Reggie Watler     |
| 8. Equipment Maintenance/Operation |                   |

Program Announcements

**Transportation:** Ed Evans  
Jim McEwen

**Special Events:** Jim McKanna  
Carol Hearn  
Tom Horne

**Exhibitors:** David McKinney  
Helen Denmon

**Registration & Hotel:** J. P. Colbert  
Carol Matthews  
Jim Terry  
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**Finance:** Doug Hearn  
Donald Fields

**Publicity/Printing:** Tom Warner  
Carol Hearn

**Gift/Decoration:** Gladys Howell  
Carol Toups  
Cecelia Kurtiz

**Ladies & Children:** Mrs. Agnes Dominque  
Mrs. Marie Maniscalco

Are you ready for the 1985 Spring meeting in Abilene? Well, they'll be ready for us! Make your plans now to be there!

A five-day short course on Water Distribution System Analysis will be held at Texas A&M University, May 21-25, 1984. The objective of this course is to provide participants with both basic principles of pipe network analysis and in-depth training in solving pipe network problems. Registration fee is \$500 and includes all course materials, Kentucky Pipe Network Analysis User's Manual, Wylbur User's Manual, \$50 computer time, Analysis of Flow in Pipe Networks text by Jeppson, break refreshments and an evening banquet. Enrollment is limited, so advance registration is requested.

For registration or information, call or write:

Public Works Training Division  
Texas Engineering Extension Service  
F. E. Drawer K  
College Station, TX 77843-8000  
(409) 845-2912

ARE YOU A MEMBER OF THE AMERICAN PUBLIC WORKS ASSOCIATION?

If not, you're missing the chance to be a part of the largest Chapter in APWA!

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Agency (City or County) \_\_\_\_\_

Return form to:  
William T. Friedrich, P.E.  
Membership Committee Chairman  
Public Works Department  
P.O. Box 1562  
Houston, TX 77251

BRIDGE INSPECTOR'S TRAINING PROGRAM. Personnel responsible for bridge inspection in local jurisdictions now have the opportunity to participate in a "Bridge Inspector's Training Program." The new course, conducted by the Public Works Training Division of the Texas Engineering Extension Service, is designed to give participants background information and technical ability to conduct inspections on frequently encountered basic-type bridges, rate component conditions and fill out inspection forms in accordance with National Bridge Inspection Standards.

The bridge inspector's program can be made available to interested groups on a fee basis, anticipated costs being \$150-200 per student. The four day course includes three days of classroom lecture, discussion and demonstration activity and one day in the field inspecting bridges and completing inspection and rating forms for those bridges. A critique follows each exercise.

Interested parties are asked to complete and mail the following information to the Public Works Training Division, Texas Engineering Extension Service, F. E. Drawer K, College Station, TX 77843-8000.

I would be interested in participating in a Bridge Inspector's Training Program. \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to schedule a Bridge Inspector's Training Program. \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ ORGANIZATION \_\_\_\_\_  
TITLE \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ P. O. Box/Street City State Zip

PUBLIC WORKS RESOURCE CENTER

Any municipality, county, school district, government agency, non-governmental unit, or other group having responsibility for the construction, operation, or maintenance of public works facilities is eligible for affiliation with the Public Works Resource Center. Annual affiliation fees are based on population served. The initial fee schedule is as follows:

| POPULATION   | ANNUAL FEE |
|--|------------|
| 0 - 4,999  | \$ 50.00   |
| 5,000 - 9,999  | 75.00      |
| 10,000 - 24,999  | 100.00     |
| 25,000 - 49,000  | 150.00     |
| 50,000 - 99,999  | 200.00     |
| 100,000 - and greater                                    | 300.00     |
| Other Governmental Units (C.O.G.'s State Agencies, etc.) | 200.00     |
| Non-Governmental Units                                   | 500.00     |

To take advantage of the many benefits offered by the Resource Center, mail the completed form to:

PUBLIC WORKS RESOURCE CENTER  
Texas Engineering Extension Service  
The Texas A&M University System  
F. E. Drawer K  
College Station, TX 77843  
Attention: Larry Burnside, Manager

PUBLIC WORKS RESOURCE CENTER  
Application for Affiliation

City \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_  
State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Population \_\_\_\_\_ Public Works Employees \_\_\_\_\_  
Areas of Special Interest \_\_\_\_\_

Method of Payment

\_\_\_ A check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed.  
\_\_\_ Please bill me.

Make check payable to:  
The Texas A&M  
University System

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_



PUBLICATIONS ORDER FORM

PLEASE PRINT

| Name _____      |  | City/Agency _____ |     |
|-----------------|--|-------------------|-----|
| Street/P.O. Box | City   | State             | Zip |
| QUANTITY        | PUBLICATIONS   | AMOUNT            |     |
| ___             | Accounting System for Solid Waste Collection                       | -0-               |     |
| ___             | Cable TV Operations in Texas (\$5)                                 | ___               |     |
| ___             | Capital Recovery Fees (\$5)  | ___               |     |
| ___             | Decision-Makers Guide in Solid Waste Management                    | -0-               |     |
| ___             | Energy & Resource Recovery from Municipal Solid Waste              | -0-               |     |
| ___             | Energy Management in Local Governments Series (\$5 each)           | ___               |     |
| ___             | Building Energy Management   | ___               |     |
| ___             | Comprehensive Community Energy Management                          | ___               |     |
| ___             | Energy Management of Vehicle Fleets                                | ___               |     |
| ___             | Land Use Planning  | ___               |     |
| ___             | Renewable Energy and the City                                      | ___               |     |
| ___             | Street and Outdoor Lighting  | ___               |     |
| ___             | Wastewater Treatment   | ___               |     |
| ___             | Water Utilities  | ___               |     |
| ___             | Engineering Economy & Energy Considerations Series (\$5 each)      | ___               |     |
| ___             | Energy Requirements Associated with Pavement Construction          | ___               |     |
| ___             | Costs Associated with Pavement Construction                        | ___               |     |
| ___             | Field Manual on Design and Construction of Seal Coats              | ___               |     |
| ___             | Pavement Failure Analysis Example Problems                         | ___               |     |
| ___             | Field Performance of Littercrete in a Bituminous Base Course (\$5) | ___               |     |
| ___             | Five-Stage Improvement Process for Solid Waste Collection Systems  | -0-               |     |
| ___             | "Fuel Conservation Task Force Report" [City of Plano]              | -0-               |     |
| ___             | Guide to Mandatory Certification in the Municipal Work Force       | -0-               |     |
| ___             | "Guidelines on Maintenance & Reconstruction of Embankment Slopes"  | -0-               |     |
| ___             | Hazardous Waste  | -0-               |     |
| ___             | Heuristic Routing for Solid Waste Collection Vehicles              | -0-               |     |
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| QUANTITY | PUBLICATIONS   | AMOUNT |
|----------|--|--------|
| —        | Management of Urban Construction (2 vols. \$5/set)                                     | —      |
| —        | Manual for Organizing a Chapter Branch   | -0-    |
| —        | Orientation Handbook for Board & Commission Members in Texas (\$2)                     | —      |
| —        | Pavement Evaluation for Increased Wheel Loads Due to Ready-Mix Concrete Vehicles (\$5) | —      |
| —        | Pavement Rating System for Low-Volume Asphalt Roads                                    | -0-    |
| —        | Pothole Primer   | -0-    |
| —        | Procedures Manual for Ground Water Monitoring at Solid Waste Disposal Facilities       | -0-    |
| —        | Productivity Improvement Programs in Texas (\$5)                                       | —      |
| —        | Quality Assurance for Local Governments  | -0-    |
| —        | Sanitary Landfill Design & Operation   | -0-    |
| —        | Sewer & Water Utility Extension Policies (\$5)   | —      |
| —        | "Sidewalk Repair & Maintenance Practices for Selected Texas Municipalities"            | -0-    |
| —        | "Site Grading & Tree Removal Regulatory Practices"                                     | -0-    |
| —        | Solid Waste Data (\$5)   | —      |
| —        | Solid Waste Rate Survey (\$3)  | —      |
| —        | Street Cut Replacement Policies of Selected Cities (\$5)                               | —      |
| —        | Texas Cities Truck Route Ordinance Development (\$5)                                   | —      |
| —        | Texas Sanitary Landfill Disposal Costs (\$3)   | —      |
| —        | Training Manual for Setting Street Maintenance Priorities (\$3)                        | —      |
| —        | Transportation in Texas  | -0-    |
| —        | Urban Stormwater Management [November 28-December 1, 1983] (\$45)                      | —      |
| —        | Waste Worth Saving (\$2)   | —      |
| —        | "Water & Waste Water Policies of Fourteen Texas Cities"                                | -0-    |

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Send check payable to Texas Engineering Extension Service.

Public Works Resource Center  
 Texas Engineering Extension Service  
 F. E. Drawer K  
 College Station, Texas 77843-8000

## 1984 TRAINING SCHEDULE

| TRAFFIC OPERATIONS COURSES                                 |       |               | Driveway Design  |       |                   |
|--|-------|---------------|--|-------|-------------------|
| <u>Traffic Control in Workzones</u>                        |       |               | June   | 14-15 | Austin            |
|  |       |               |  | 18-19 | Midland           |
| July   | 24-25 | McAllen*      |  | 28-29 | McAllen*          |
| <u>Advanced Construction Traffic Planning</u>              |       |               | <u>Advanced Traffic Engineering</u>                      |       |                   |
|  |       |               | June   | 5-7   | Houston           |
|  |       |               | July   | 17-19 | Abilene*          |
|  |       |               | <u>Microcomputers in Traffic Management</u>              |       |                   |
|  |       |               | May  | 29-30 | San Antonio       |
|  |       |               | June   | 14-15 | Dallas/Fort Worth |
|  |       |               | July   | 10-11 | Lubbock           |
|  |       |               |  | 12-13 | San Angelo        |
| May  | 15-17 | Tyler         | August   | 7-8   | El Paso           |
| June   | 11-13 | Corsicana     | September  | 5-6   | Wichita Falls     |
| <u>Basic Traffic Signal Maintenance</u>                    |       |               | SOLID WASTE TRAINING COURSES                             |       |                   |
| July   | 23-27 | McAllen*      | <u>"C" Courses</u>                                       |       |                   |
| <u>Corridor Management</u>                                 |       |               | May  | 21-25 | Longview          |
| September  | 18-19 | San Antonio   | <u>"D" Courses</u>                                       |       |                   |
| <u>Urban Traffic Operations and Management</u>             |       |               | June   | 4-8   | San Antonio       |
| June   | 26-28 | Amarillo      |  | 25-29 | Houston           |
| September  | 18-19 | San Antonio   | July   | 9-13  | Plainview         |
|  |       |               |  | 16-20 | Abilene           |
| <u>Preventative Maintenance of Traffic Control Devices</u> |       |               | * Pending as of March 1, 1984                            |       |                   |
| May  | 15-16 | Wichita Falls | This schedule is subject to change.                      |       |                   |
| June   | 12-13 | Fort Worth*   | To confirm specific dates and locations, please contact: |       |                   |
|  | 26-27 | Austin*       |  |       |                   |
| <u>Effective Promotion of Traffic Safety Programs</u>      |       |               | Public Works Training Division                           |       |                   |
| June   | 1     | Dallas        | Texas Engineering Extension Service                      |       |                   |
|  | 26    | San Antonio   | F. E. Drawer K   |       |                   |
| July   | 6     | Houston       | College Station, TX 77843-8000                           |       |                   |
|  | 9     | Abilene       | (409) 845-2912   |       |                   |
|  |       |               | STS 845-2912   |       |                   |

PUBLIC WORKS TRAINING DIVISION  
 Texas Engineering Extension Service  
 F. E. Drawer K  
 College Station, Texas 77843-8000

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