

May 2, 2023

Seven agencies awarded for public works

By [JOURNAL STAFF](#)

Seven agencies have been honored with a 2023 Public Works Project of the Year Award by the American Public Works Association (APWA) Washington Chapter for diverse projects throughout the state. The winning organizations competed in the categories of Emergency Repair, Environment, Structures, Transportation and new this year, Sustainability, with other projects of the same budget size (division).

The winning projects are all publicly owned and promote excellence in construction, management, and administration. The awards recognize the alliance between the managing agency, the contractor, the consultant, and their cooperative achievements for the good of their communities.

The winners are as follows:

Category: Disaster/Emergency Repair < \$5M: Kitsap County Public Works for the Washington Boulevard Landslide Stabilization project. This project constructed a horizontal drain system, stormwater improvements, and mechanically stabilized earth (MSE) slope to stabilize a stretch of historically problematic and unstable roadway traversing a deep-seated landslide complex that serves as the sole access to services for 22 homes.

The primary contractor was Sound Pacific Construction. The primary consultant was Aspect Consulting, LLC

Category: Environment \$5M - \$25M: Whatcom County Public Works for the Birch Bay Drive and Pedestrian Facility. Completing a vision that began in 1975, the new Birch Bay Drive and Pedestrian Facility, also known as “The Berm,” is a 1.58-mile-long soft shore berm running parallel to Birch Bay Drive that provides mitigation for both beach erosion and roadway protection, as well as reducing coastal flooding impacts, improving pedestrian safety, and restoring the beach and marine habitat.

The primary contractor was Granite Construction. The primary consultant was Environmental Science Associates.

Category: Structures \$5M - \$25M: The city of Pasco for the Peanuts Park Restoration. The Peanuts Park restoration project provided expanded market pavilions, a new restroom, shade structures and custom seating along with upgraded utilities and decorative elements celebrating the diversity of Pasco's community, to the heart of the city's downtown. The work will extend the parks use as an urban plaza and the community's primary public open space for civic events.

The primary contractor was Booth & Sons Construction, Inc. The primary consultant was KPG Psomas.



Photo by Kim Fetrow courtesy of APWA-WA [\[enlarge\]](#)

The city of Pasco was awarded for its renovation of the market pavilions at Peanuts Park.

Category: Transportation < \$5M: The city of Olympia for Franklin Street

Improvements. The city of Olympia's Franklin Street project enhances walkability, maintains and improves mobility for cars and freight, and supports transit through the city's historic downtown core through roadway and urban design improvements.

The primary contractor was Sound Pacific Construction, Inc. The primary consultant was KPG Psomas.

Category: Transportation \$5M - \$25M: Snohomish County Public Works for 180th St.

S.E. Phase 1 Improvements (SR 527 to 23rd Ave. S.E.) This project improved the corridor between SR 527 and 23rd Ave. S.E. by constructing new vehicle lanes, bike lanes, sidewalk curbs and gutters, planter strips, stormwater detention and treatment facilities, improved ADA facilities, realigned Thompson Creek and installed two new fish-passable culverts on Thompson and Silver Creek at a construction cost of \$7.8 million.

The primary contractor was Rodarte Construction, Inc. The primary consultant was Otak

Category: Transportation \$25M - \$75M: Seattle Department of Transportation for The John

Lewis Memorial Bridge. The John Lewis Memorial Bridge 'bridges' two communities previously divided by the construction of I-5 over half a century ago with a non-motorized bridge that was befittingly named to honor John Lewis, an African American civil rights leader who symbolizes unity and progress in our region. The bridge is 16-foot-wide and stretches about 1,900 feet over the freeway at Northeast 100th Street connecting North Seattle College and the new Northgate Station across I-5.



Photo by DEA courtesy of APWA-WA [\[enlarge\]](#)

The John Lewis Memorial Bridge was awarded in the transportation category. This aesthetically pleasing bridge, which opened in October 2021, is named for the famed civil rights leader.

The primary contractor was Kraemer North America. The primary consultant was David Evans and Associates, Inc.

Category: Sustainability \$5M - \$25M: The city of Tacoma; Environmental Services for Tacoma RNG.

The city of Tacoma's Renewable Energy Plant is a groundbreaking project that represents a major step forward in the city's efforts to become more sustainable and reduce its carbon footprint. The plant, which processes wastewater digester gas into renewable natural gas (RNG) for use as vehicle fuel, promises to deliver significant greenhouse gas reductions while generating new revenues for the city.

The primary contractor was McKinstry Essention, LLC. The primary consultant was Kennedy/Jenks Consultants, Inc.

The winning organizations accepted their awards on April 27 at the Greater Tacoma Center in Tacoma.