

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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APWA Announces *Emerging Leaders Academy* Class of 2020 – 2021

KANSAS CITY, MO – October 12, 2020 – The American Public Works Association (APWA) is pleased to announce the selection of the APWA *Emerging Leaders Academy* class of 2020 – 2021. A year-long national program, the *Emerging Leaders Academy* provides intensive public works leadership and management training. The program encourages professional growth through a strong network of peers, and offers an in-depth introduction to APWA at the national, chapter and branch levels.

“The APWA Emerging Leaders Academy provided a wealth of great information and gave us the opportunity to network with other public works professionals from around the country. Overall, I believe the information we gained will help guide all who participated throughout their careers in public works,” said *Emerging Leaders Academy* graduate Jason Calbert, Assistant Administrator, Street Division, City of Newport News, VA.

The members of APWA’s *Emerging Leaders Academy* class of 2020 – 2021 are:

- Mr. Stephen Bonner – Surface Water Drainage Supervisor, City of McKinney, TX
- Ms. Sarah Oakley – Project Coordinator, Dexter Construction-Municipal Group of Companies, City of Bedford, Province of Nova Scotia, Canada
- Ms. Taylor Brown – Junior Sanitary Engineer, Buffalo Sewer Authority, City of Buffalo, NY
- Mr. Andrew Scipioni – Transportation Planner, City of Edina, MN
- Mr. Ben Clark – Group Manager Assets & Infrastructure, City of Walkerville, Australia
- Ms. Karen Self – Management Analyst, Newport News Public Works, City of Newport News, VA
- Ms. Cassandra Cunningham – Street Maintenance, City of Harrisonville, MO
- Ms. Stephanie Sullivan – Associate Engineer–Stormwater, City of Sammamish, WA
- Ms. Nataly Dakak – Environmental Engineering Associate III, LA Sanitation and Environment, City of Los Angeles, CA
- Ms. Teanna Thonpsom – TPW Stormwater Superintendent, City of Fort Worth, TX
- Mr. Salvador Galvan – Associate Project Manager, Rick Engineering Company, City of San Diego, CA

- Mr. Andy Wicks – Traffic Engineer, City of Council Bluffs Public Works, City of Council Bluffs, IA
- Mr. Matt Hogan – Roads and Bridges Department Manager, Anderson County, SC
- Mr. Robert Wielgos – Civil Engineer, R.A. Smith, Inc., City of Brookfield, WI
- Mr. Geoff Hunsaker – City Engineer, City of Beaverton, OR
- Mr. Andrew Williford – Civil Engineer, City of Mexico, MO

“When we speak about leadership, there are often misconceptions about what that means. We believe that everyone at any level within an organization can be a leader. That is why we have developed the Emerging Leaders Academy to bring out the innate talents and leadership skills of the participants each year. I have been so impressed and encouraged seeing the passion and hard work of our ELA members. Our future is in good hands,” said APWA Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Scott D. Grayson, CAE.

Sixty (60) public works professionals applied to join the Emerging Leaders Academy class of 2020 – 2021. Of the sixteen (16) chosen, four (4) work at APWA Accredited agencies, three (3) work in the private sector, one (1) is from Canada, and one (1) is from Australia.

For more information about the APWA *Emerging Leaders Academy* or APWA Education & Credentialing, please visit our [FAQ page](#), or contact APWA Associate Director of Education Deanne Cross at dcross@apwa.net, or by phone at (800) 848 – 2792 ext. 5216.

For additional information about APWA, please contact APWA Public Affairs Manager Charlie Arena at carena@apwa.net, or by phone at (202) 218 – 6736.

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About APWA

The American Public Works Association (www.apwa.net) is a not-for-profit, international organization of more than 30,000 members involved in the field of public works. APWA serves its members by promoting professional excellence and public awareness through education, advocacy, and the exchange of knowledge. APWA is headquartered in Kansas City, MO, has an office in Washington, D.C., and 63 chapters and 97 branches throughout North America.