



APWA MINNESOTA CHAPTER PUBLIC WORKS PERSONNEL AWARD NOMINATION FORM

Return to: Sarah Lloyd
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Submission deadline: October 1, 2021

All nomination and supporting data are to be submitted in electronic PDF format to Sarah at sarah.lloyd@bolton-menk.com with a maximum file size of 30 MEGS.

Personnel Award Category

- Director or Manager: ☒
- Superintendent or Supervisor: _____
- Engineering Technician or Field Personnel: _____
- Public Works Employee (i.e., Maintenance, Operations, other): _____
- Hugo G. Erickson Chapter Service Award: _____

Person Nominated: MICHAEL THOMPSON
Position Title: PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR
Employer: CITY OF PLYMOUTH
Employer Address: 3400 PLYMOUTH BLVD.
Employer Phone Number: 763-509-5501

Name of Person Making Nomination: CHRIS LABOUNTY
Phone Number: 763-509-5541

Criteria for Nomination

- Innovative applications of new or existing technologies and equipment.
- Innovative applications of new or existing project management and service delivery systems.
- Outstanding service to citizens that enhances the public perception of public works services.
- Outstanding efforts in career and personal growth and development.
- Outstanding efforts in development of teamwork and cooperative working relationships.

Reasons for Nomination: Describe the major accomplishments of this person that fulfilled any of the applicable criteria listed. For the chapter service award, describe chapter service activities. (Include description on a separate page.)

Below are some highlights which show the type of director and public works leader Michael is:

Career: Prior to moving to Minnesota worked for government & private firms in California

Michael worked for the City of Maplewood for nearly 12-years including serving as the Public Works Director.

Michael was hired as the Public Works Director for the City of Plymouth in 2017. In this role he oversees 9 divisions including: Street Maintenance, Engineering, Water treatment & distribution, Sanitary Sewer Maintenance, Storm Water, Solid Waste, Central Facilities, Fleet, and Transit.

Local Industry Service: City Engineers Association of Minnesota President
Transportation Advisory Board Technical Advisory Committee (currently chair)
City of Edina Transportation Commission

Professional Project Highlights:

1. Maplewood Living Street Plan: The City of Maplewood was one of the first cities in Minnesota to begin installing rain gardens as part of street projects and was nationally recognized for their work. While at Maplewood, Michael was integrally involved in the development and implementation of the their Living Streets Policy which was adopted in 2013. This effort integrated sustainability into engineering efforts and was awarded/recognized by multiple agencies following implementation. To highlight a couple, it won the: 2012 Minnesota Blue Star Award for Excellence in Stormwater Management, 2013 Innovation in Government Award by the RWMWD, 2012 APWA-MN Environmental Stewardship Award, and 2013 APWA-National Sustainability Practices Award.
2. Highway 36 & English Street Bridge Replacement: This project was a locally led nearly \$23 Million Dollar project, which included TED funds from MnDOT and DEED, private investors, and federal funds. The project constructed a new tight diamond interchange that replaced the existing at-grade signalized intersection, which had consistently ranked high on MnDOT's Top 200 Highest Crash-Cost Intersections. The project was also critical in the continued movement of traffic through the City as developments continued in the east metro and as businesses within the City continued to grow.
3. Rockford Road Interchange Replacement: Michael was challenged on his first week to make the replacement of the Rockford Road Interchange (Hennepin County bridge over a MnDOT facility) happen. The City of Plymouth served as the lead agency in pulling together a design and a funding plan for this multi-million dollar project to improve safety and mobility for the community. Michael was able to secure \$9.7 million dollars in state bonds for the overall \$16 million dollar project. The project also had a high potential to impact local businesses around the interchange, and Michael took this challenge head on. The City developed a comprehensive business engagement plan and worked with the businesses to develop a full bridge closure project concept. This involved full closure of the bridge, demolition, reconstruction, and opening to partial traffic in under 90-days, the use of construction incentives, and accelerating ramp construction.
4. Plymouth EV Charging Station Implementation: Michael and the Plymouth facilities division developed a City wide plan to have EV charging stations installed at City properties throughout the City including: City Hall, Maintenance Facility, Community Center, Ice Center, Transit Station, and numerous parks citywide. The approach has involved cross department collaboration, education to the City Council, and 3rd party negotiation on leasing the stalls, incentives, profit sharing, and addition of 3 EVs for use in the city fleet. Within the year 2022 the City is scheduled to have 110 parking stalls available for Electric Vehicle Charging City Wide and 5 EVs in the fleet. This would make Plymouth one of the first cities in the state witch such a program.