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**Contra Costa County's Public Works Department Awarded Fourth Re-Accreditation -  
Flood Control and Water Conservation District Receives Accreditation**

**KANSAS CITY, MO. – November 14, 2016** – Initially accredited in July 2001, Contra Costa County's Public Works Department was recently awarded a prestigious fourth American Public Works Association (APWA) Re-Accreditation. Newer to the program, the Contra Costa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District was awarded an initial Accreditation; one of the first independent flood control districts to receive such accreditation by the APWA. The APWA Accreditation program recognizes public works agencies that go beyond the requirements of the management practices established nationally in the public works industry, as contained in the APWA Public Works Management Practices Manual.

“Contra Costa's APWA Re-Accreditation is a program that enhances the effectiveness of our Public Works Department, and that has been accomplished over a lengthy period of time with four APWA Re-Accreditations since our initial Accreditation in July, 2001,” said Public Works Director, Julia Bueren. “With the APWA Re- Accreditation, the Public Works Department has updated and recommitted to concepts of continuous improvement and in-depth self-assessment of our agency's policies, procedures and practices,” Bueren said.

The Contra Costa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District and the Public Works Department staff will be presented its initial Accreditation and Fourth Re-Accreditation plaques respectively by APWA President Ron Calkins, P.E., PWLF, of Ventura, CA on December 13, 2016 at the County Board of Supervisors meeting at 651 Pine Street, Martinez at 9:30 a.m.

The Contra Costa County Public Works Department provides for the construction, maintenance and improvement of public infrastructure within the unincorporated area of the county. Public Works maintains 660 miles of roads and 150 miles of streams channels and other drainage facilities, as well as maintenance of 93 county buildings. Key services include Capital Projects Management, Design/Construction, County Surveyor, Airports, Land Development Services, Flood Control, Landscaping, Parks and Recreation, Purchasing Services, Real Estate, Records, Street Lights, Street Sweeping, and Fleet Services.

The Flood Control and Water Conservation District covers all of Contra Costa County, including its cities and owns property throughout the county for the purpose of constructing and maintaining regional flood control basins, channels, and creeks. The District's key services include regional flood protection, and provides technical information and education to cities and residents.

For Contra Costa County's review, a team of public works professionals from Victoria, BC, Pierce County, WA and Kansas City, MO, completed a thorough evaluation of operations during their October, 2016 site visit. “It's great to have the Contra Costa County Public Works Department reach

full compliance for the fourth time with their practices. I commend their continued and renewed commitment to the detailed review of the agency's policies and procedures to qualify again," said APWA Director of Accreditation, Ann Daniels.

The Contra Costa County Public Works Department became the eighth agency in North America to receive Accreditation and was the first county to do so in the State of California. Contra Costa County is joined by other accredited California municipalities, including Alameda City and County, Bakersfield, Berkeley, Encinitas, Fresno, Oakland, Orange County, Palo Alto, Palmdale, San Francisco, San Luis Obispo County, Thousand Oaks, Vallejo.

For more information about the Contra Costa County Department of Public Works, contact Director Julia Bueren at [Julie.bueren@pw.cccounty.us](mailto:Julie.bueren@pw.cccounty.us) or Deputy Director Carrie Ricci at: [carrie.ricci@pw.cccounty.us](mailto:carrie.ricci@pw.cccounty.us). For more information about APWA Accreditation, please contact APWA Director of Accreditation, Ann Daniels at [adaniels@apwa.net](mailto:adaniels@apwa.net). For APWA media queries, please contact Laura Bynum, APWA Media Relations and Communications Manager at [lbynum@apwa.net](mailto:lbynum@apwa.net).

**About APWA**

The American Public Works Association ([www.apwa.net](http://www.apwa.net)) is a not-for-profit, international organization of more than 29,000 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, Missouri, has an office in Washington, D.C. and 63 chapters in North America.

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