

# Engineering Services Update



# Engineering Services

- Keeping up with PWU
- Employee Updates
- Recognition



# Keeping Up with PWU news

## Public Works and Utilities Newsletter

- [Lincoln.ne.gov](http://Lincoln.ne.gov)
- Public Works Department
- Look in the Documents Box

### Sign up:

- [Email](#)
- [RSS](#)



### SNOW REMOVAL

#### Effort Receives Multiple Compliments

At midnight Saturday, February 4, Public Works and Utilities had 19 sanders working their routes. At about 4 a.m., plow trucks, motor-graders and contractors joined the operation for a total of 76 pieces of equipment. After the storm was over and the routes were completed, the City moved into a residential plowing program. This added 16 agricultural tractors and 10 miscellaneous pieces of equipment (other graders and plow trucks) for a total of about 102 units. Working in 12-hour shifts, the effort continued through Tuesday. The City continued to plow back areas in our districts where cars had moved and where problems existed on Wednesday and Thursday.

Playing an important support role is Fleet Services, where personnel worked around the clock with only four mechanics per shift. Snow room staff took complaints and monitored the progress of our recovery effort. Over 900 requests have been taken by snow room and office staff since the beginning of the storm.

*Continued on page 3.*

### PWU Director Esposito Appoints Marketing Committee

Public Works and Utilities Director Miki Esposito has appointed an internal committee to help promote the work of Public Works and Utilities employees.

**"We need to take a proactive approach to educate the public about the core services we provide to them each day," said Esposito. "We begin with the premise of adding value to the community in such a way that makes the community feel valued."**

Ellen Wright, chair of the committee states, "We hope to start out with smaller groups from the committee working on events like Public Works Day at the Waterfest Event in June and a newsletter that will feature projects and employees doing their jobs."

After five months on the job, Esposito is impressed by the professionalism of the employees, as well as their commitment to our community and to the quality of work that they do. She said PWU has 560 ambassadors who go out into the community every day, so they should be well informed. Often times those work efforts go unnoticed, even taken for granted. She said one of her goals was to spend a little more effort acknowledging and celebrating successes. Esposito says that Public Works and Utilities employees are often very humble when it comes to acknowledging those great accomplishments.



Members of the PWU Marketing Committee. Front row from left: Curt Weber, Rock Krzycki, Roger Tiedeman, Gene Hanlon, Joshua Meyer, Nick McElvain (co-chair). Back row from left: Amy Cornelius-Jones, Pam Gadeken, Michelle Zuhke, Meagan Pratt, Karen Sackmayer, Kitty Elliot and Ellen Wright (chair)

The marketing committee is composed of representatives of each division. Each member brings different strengths and passions.

Once the team establishes some of the basics, it should be able to start adding features to our department Web pages. One goal is to reach a whole new generation that gets its news from Facebook, Twitter, and other websites. The Internet is changing the way we communicate and we need to embrace this opportunity.

Please feel free to ask questions and approach a member regarding items you would like to see in this newsletter. The committee hopes this will be a positive opportunity for all members of Public Works and Utilities.



Miki Esposito, Director of Public Works and Utilities

# Keeping Up with PWU projects

- Through Website (keyword: Spring)

Helpful Information on City's Website: [Lincoln.ne.gov](http://Lincoln.ne.gov)

## Keyword Searches:

*"Speaker"* – City of Lincoln Speakers Bureau where you can see what topics are available for public presentations

*"Project"* – Find information on many of Public Works & Utilities' projects

*"Closure"* – The Weekly Street and Pedestrian Closures List

*"CIP"* – The City's Capital Improvement Program – List of the funding for projects anticipated in the next 6 years

*"MPO"* – Lincoln/Lancaster County Metropolitan Planning Organization

*"Comp Plan"* – The City/County Comprehensive Plan showing the growth plans between now and 2040

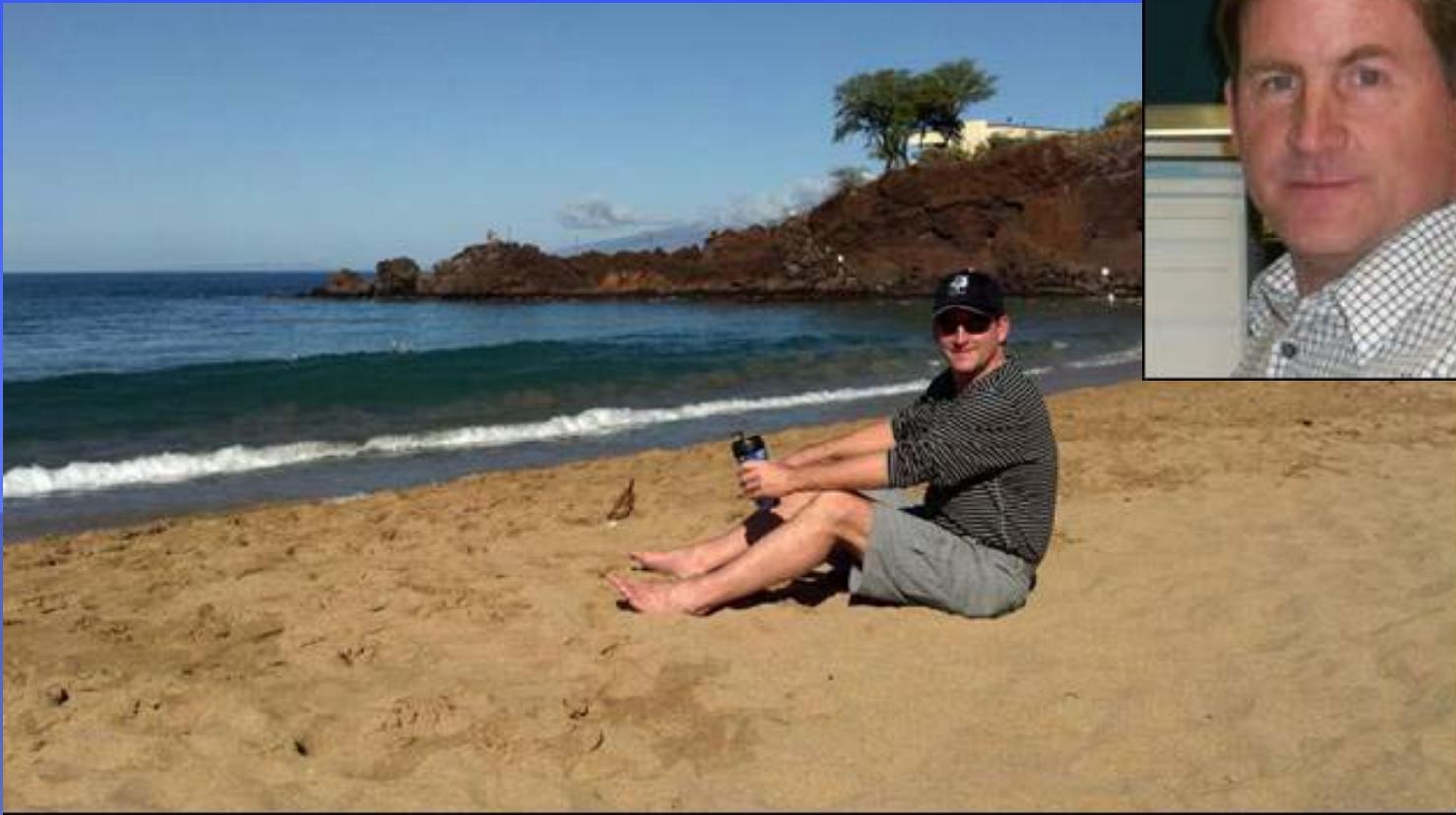
*"LRTP"* – The City/County Long-Range Transportation Plan showing the roadway improvement plans between now and 2040

- Through Meetings (contact Mary Lowe)

- First Tuesday of the month is a meeting of PWU personnel from all divisions, Private Utilities, Consultant Partners, and Contractors to review past, present, and future projects and issues.

# Employee Updates

- Brian Dittmann (40 years)
  - Construction Project Manager



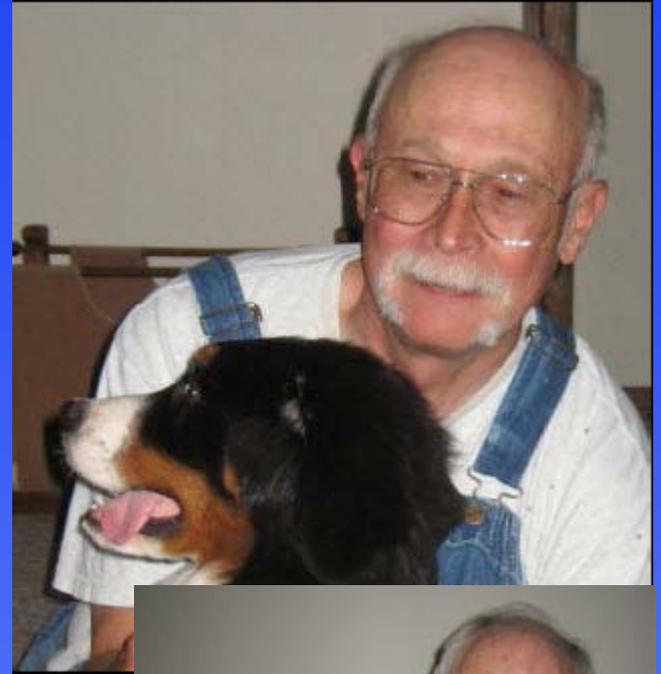
# Employee Updates

- Warren Wondercheck (33 years)
  - Construction Project Management
  - Care for others, Pride in his work, and project management skills will be dearly missed



# Employee Updates

- Steve Titus (38 years)
  - Records
- John Ottoson (38 ½ years)
  - Traffic Operations
- Kathie Neeman (19 years)
  - Records
- Alicea McCluskey (9 years)
  - Records



# Employee Updates

- **Barnie Blum**
  - Sidewalks moved to Development Services in the DSC at City Hall
- **Harry Kroos, Tim Byrne, Zach Becker**
  - New Duties as Construction Project Managers
- **Taylor Buss**
  - Full-time Construction Inspection
- Currently looking to fill two construction Inspectors



# Work Ahead

Year	# of Projects	Impr. Miles	Residential Blocks
2010	28	14.8	62.5
2011	16	7.2	46.5
2012	43	16.9	95.5
2013	55	15.9	58.0



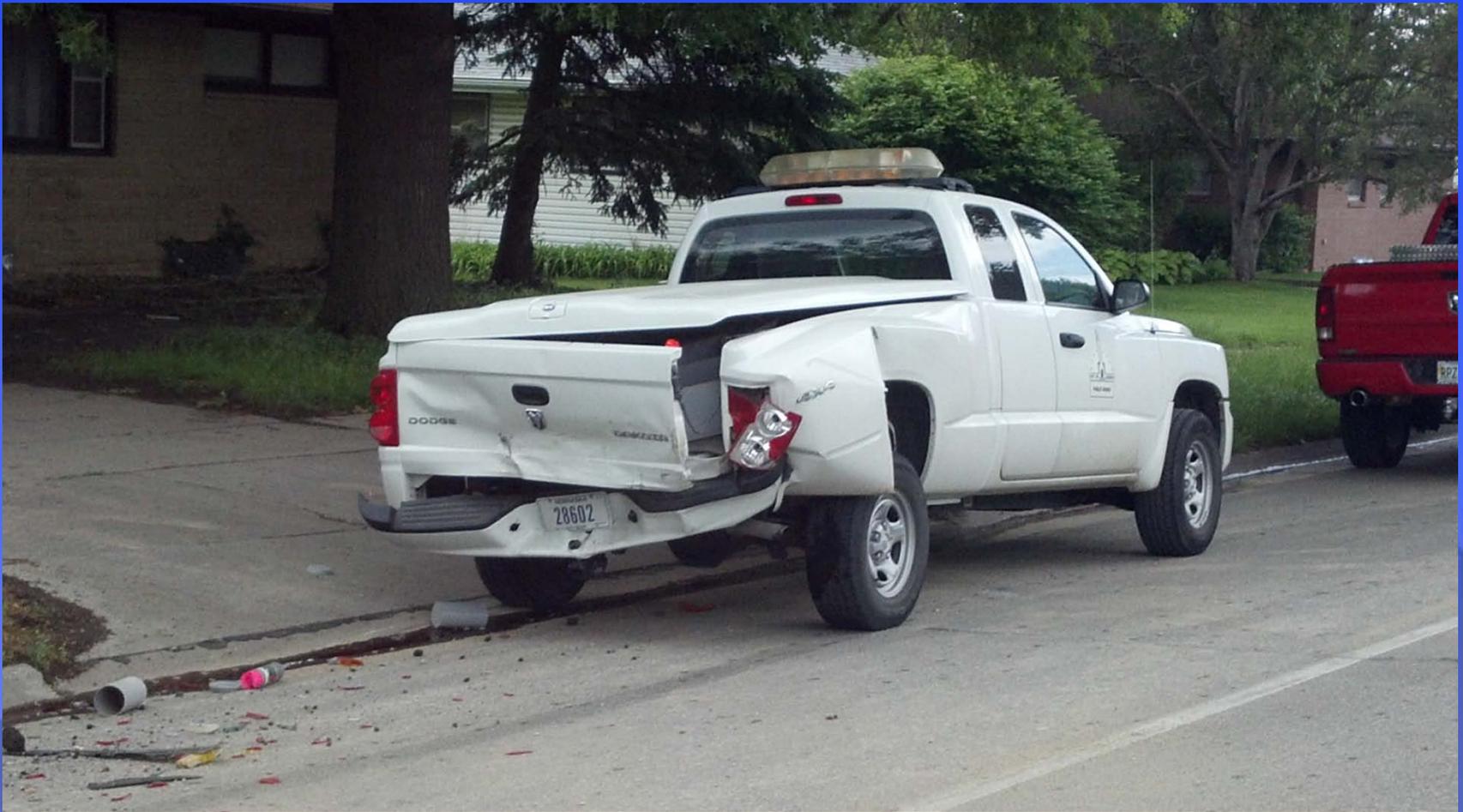
- Remind folks that infrastructure construction is worth it!
  - Invests in the Community through Job Creation.
  - Invests in the Community by creating Better Economic Conditions with reliable water, wastewater, storm, & transportation systems.

# 2013 Significant Work

- City Wide Arterial Rehab covering XX miles
- SW 40<sup>th</sup> Railroad Overpass
- N. 27<sup>th</sup> BNSF Railroad Viaduct near Leighton
- Cornhusker Highway from 52<sup>nd</sup> to 84<sup>th</sup>
- 27<sup>th</sup> and Superior Area – LIROs and U-turns
- Traffic Signals at 48<sup>th</sup> & Randolph/South; Cotner & Holdrege/Starr; 70<sup>th</sup> & Glynoaks; 84<sup>th</sup> & Eiger; 58<sup>th</sup> and “A”
- West Fletcher and Highway 34 Turn Lanes
- Superior & I-180 Ramp Widening
- 16 stretches of water main replacements
- 70 stretches of wastewater upsizing, lining, and replacement projects
- The very last of 2010 and very beginning of 2012 Storm bond projects

Source: [Lincoln.ne.gov](http://Lincoln.ne.gov) (keyword: Closure)

# Need for Safety



# Good Works Noted

- **Industry Recognition**

- Downtown Asphalt Paving Award



- 14<sup>th</sup> / Superior Roundabout – ACEC Excellence in Engineering Award and People’s Choice Award winner

- 2012 American City and County “Crown Communities” Award for Antelope Valley



# Good Works Noted

- **Community Recognition**

- *Just wanted to let you all know how well the Project went from our perspective. We felt the communication was great from the start and that it was taken into consideration that we are moving 70 foot vehicles in and out on a 24/7 basis. The very short time that access was restricted of 7-2pm Saturday was almost beyond belief. Thanks to the whole team. - Dick Salem, Pres. Lincoln Trucking Lightning Div.*
- Thank you so much for responding so quickly, and especially for prompting an opening of the intersection. It will be so greatly appreciated. Thank you!!! - Terri Brown
- *Fred Briggs called to compliment the work in front of his house. They have been most efficient, extremely congenial and getting the work done in a timely fashion.*
- “A citizen, female-didn't leave her name, called this morning at approx. 9:30 and expressed her gratitude, and the great explanation of the 14th St. Round-About meeting last evening.”

# More Good Works Noted



(I am sorry, too, if  
at any time I was  
abrupt or rude.)

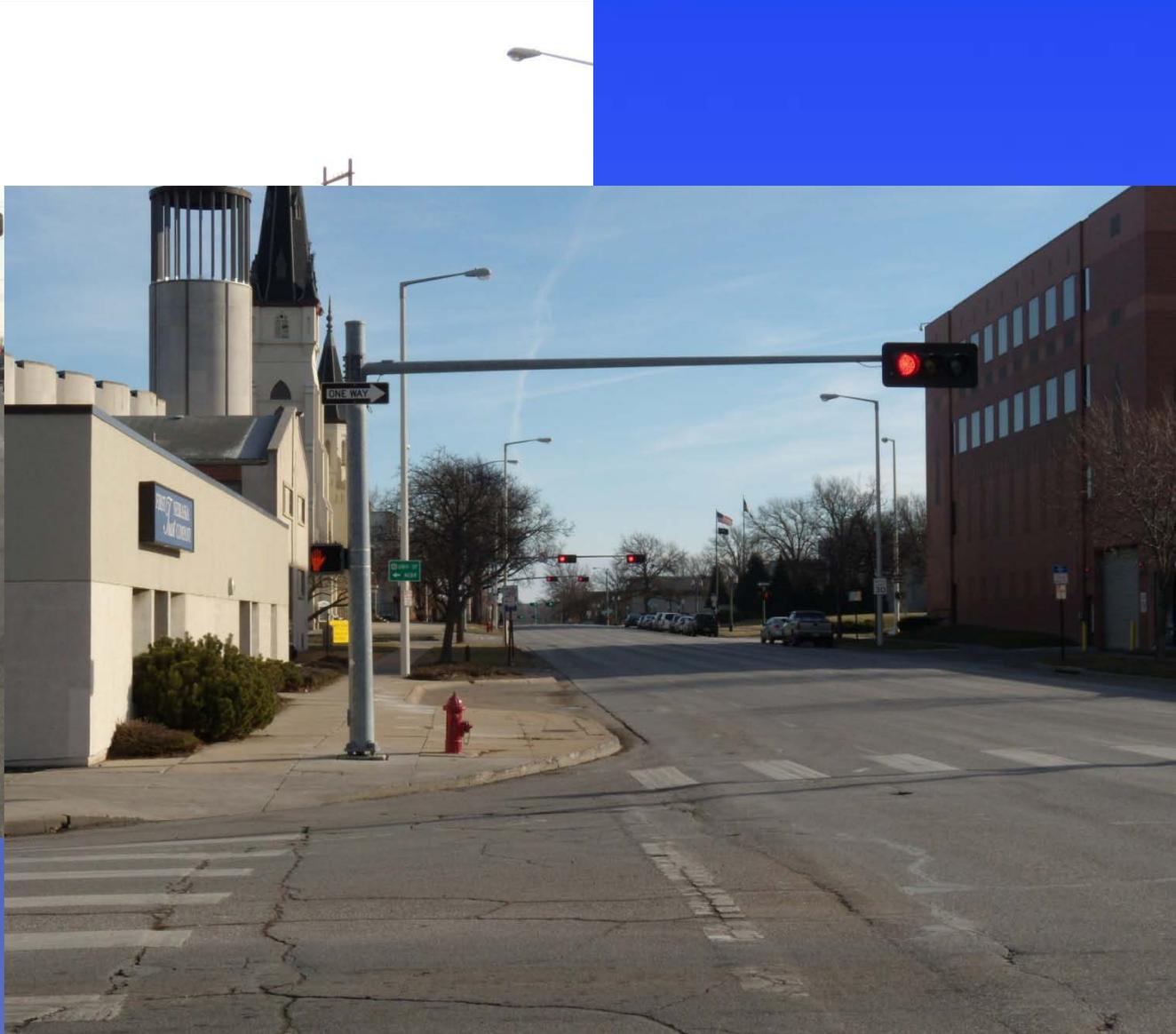
Warren,  
Thank you so much  
for bearing with the  
many questions and  
concerns during the  
road repair in front  
of our building. The  
help and information  
you gave kept our  
staff at ease with  
the situation. I don't  
envy your job and admire  
how cool you were with  
all my phone calls!  
@DoraBeran

## PWU Praised for Cooperative Efforts

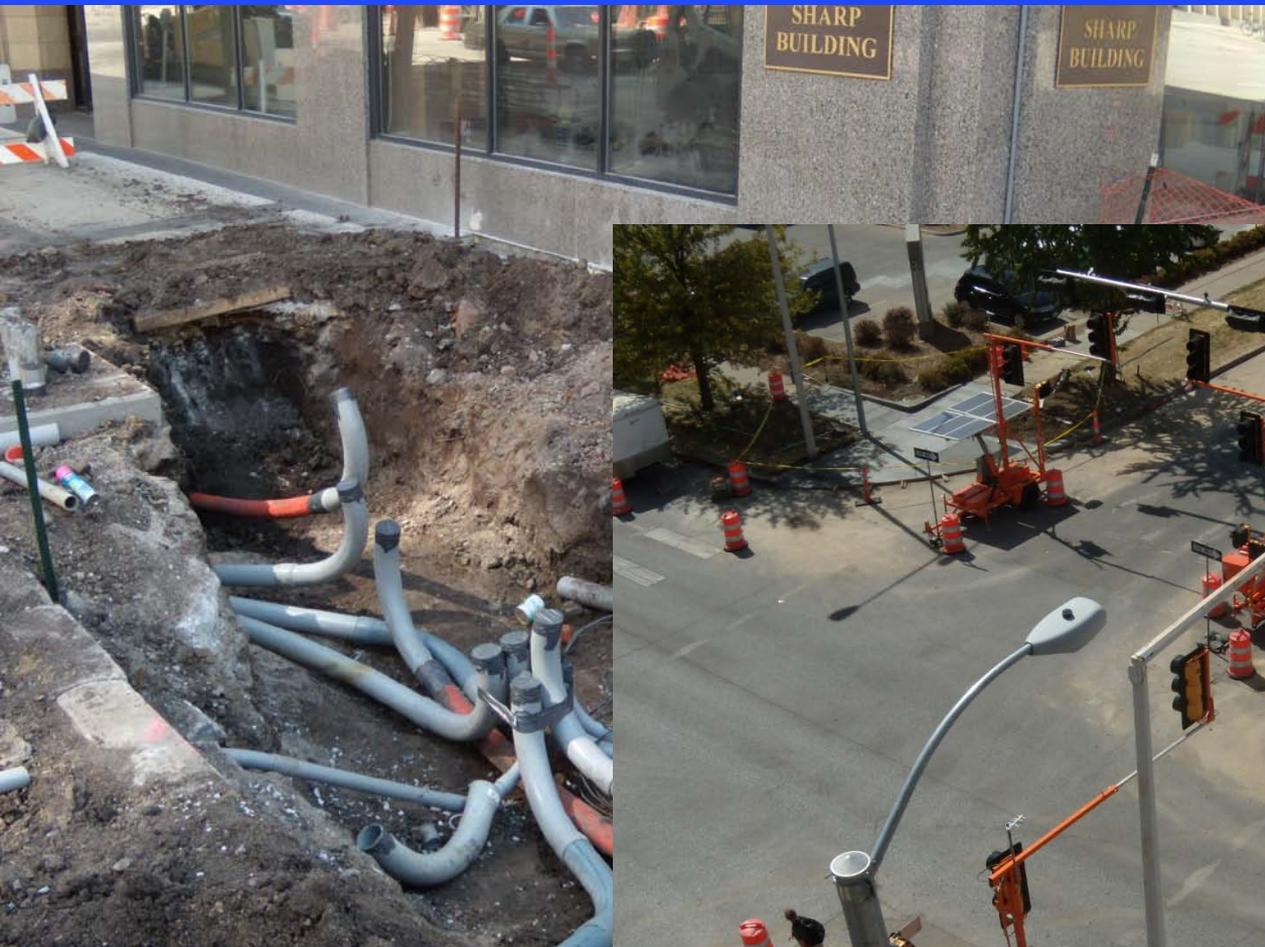


Members of the community continue to praise PWU staff for their cooperation this summer during construction. Below is an excerpt from a local church bulletin: "Thank you for your patience in getting into and out of the building safely during curb, sidewalk, and street construction. We thank the Public Works Department of the City of Lincoln, Constructors, Inc., and Ready-Mixed Concrete for working with us in allowing all regular-scheduled events to take place during construction. Thank you for your patience and safety during this construction project."

# Downtown Rehab - Before



# Downtown Rehab - During



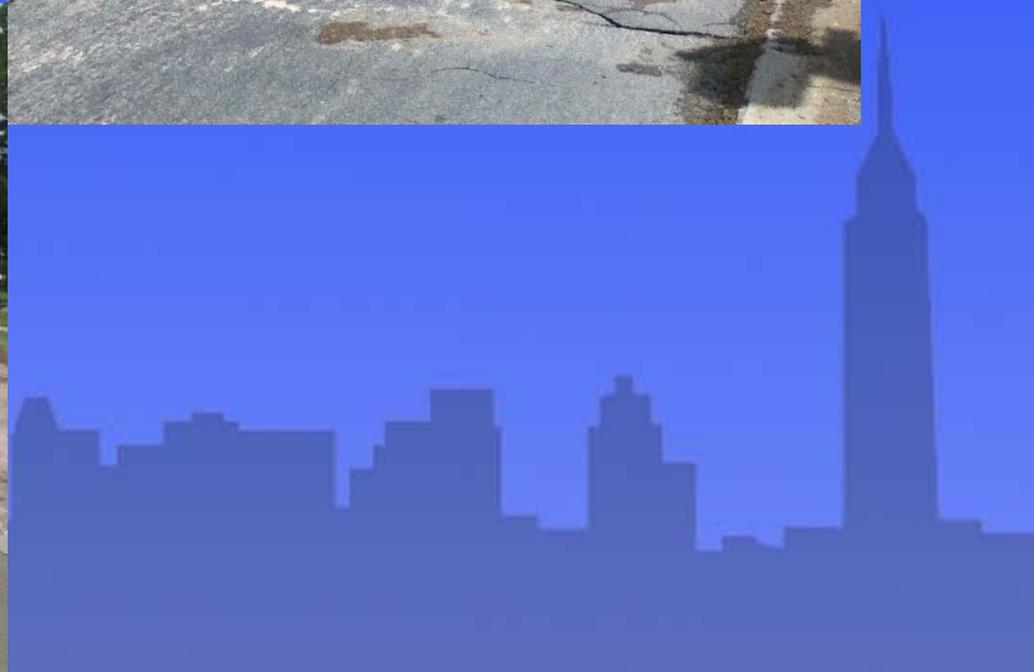
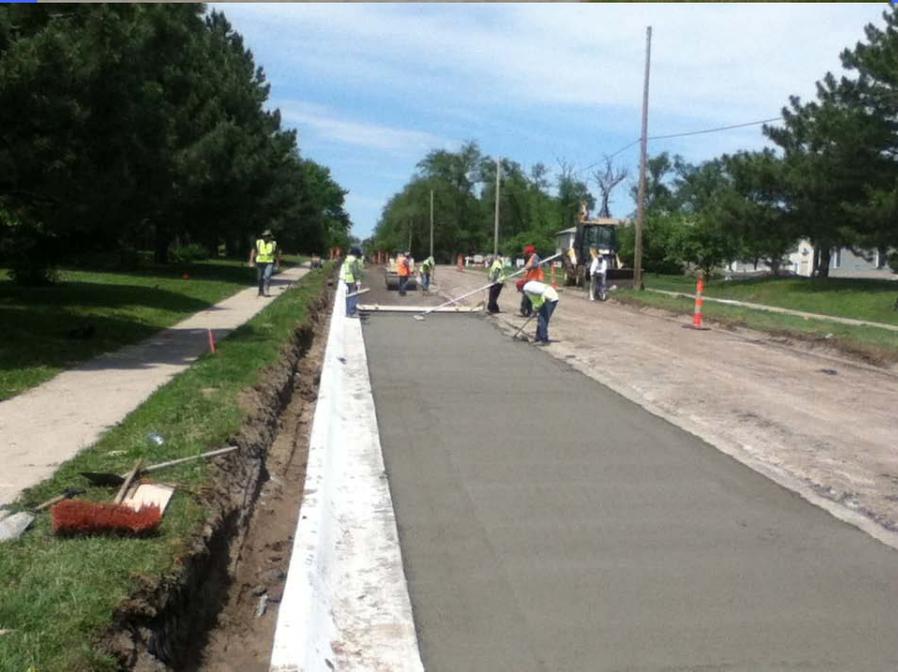
09.11.2012 13:54

# Downtown – Great Result



11.30.2012 11:36

# North First Street



# South Street BEFORE, DURING, and AFTER



# Antelope Creek Mainstem Water Quality Project



# N. 14<sup>th</sup> Street



# 14<sup>th</sup> & Superior Roundabout – Last Spring



# 14<sup>th</sup> & Superior Roundabout - Now





# GOLDEN SHOVEL



- Engineering Services awarded its first **Golden Shovel** Award to Lipsey Construction for outstanding construction services on the North 56th Street Water and Sewer District project.
- The **Golden Shovel** recognizes the teamwork, problem solving, quality product, and public relations that it takes to bring a project from merely being good to being great.



# 2013 Golden Shovel Nominees

- Pavers Inc – Doug Heusman; Watts Electric – Cory Carlson; Arrow Striping – Heath Whitney for their work on the Downtown Resurfacing Project.
  - Great job on coordination with businesses, other projects, and special events.
  - Very skilled at adapting the plans for ADA ramps.
  - Found creative solutions to fit within the existing condition with minimal impacts to schedule and cost.
  - Extremely proactive to indentify conflicts before starting underground work
  - Very detailed in striping installation and timely



# 2013 Golden Shovel Nominees

- Hawkins Construction Company for Antelope Valley from “K” to “Q”
  - Sited excellent communication and coordination
  - Overcame unexpected and additional work while staying within the original contract time allowed
  - Good rapport with businesses
  - Changed phasing to accommodate utility construction
  - Did an overall fantastic job managing and constructing the project.



# 2013 Golden Shovel Nominees

- Pavers Inc – Manuel “Manny” Martinez, Jr. for 13<sup>th</sup> Street and NW 4<sup>th</sup> Storm Bond Projects
  - Excellent job managing the construction process in a very professional manner
  - Overcoming a number of underground utility conflicts through superb communication and spirit of cooperation
  - Numerous testimonies to the high quality of work
  - His character and experience leads to effective and efficient resolution of any issues that come up.



# 2013 Golden Shovel Nominees

- M.E. Collins – Jason Schommer (and crew) for work on the S. 37<sup>th</sup> and Calvert watermains
  - Worked in a timely manner and displayed expertise and planning ahead
    - allowed shut downs to be performed very quickly.
  - Treated the public in a professional manner
    - Including no spitting, cussing, or chewing tobacco
  - Kept the job site cleaned up as work progressed
    - Dirt piles minimized, superior landscaping installation
  - Had great suggestions and potential solutions to issues that came up

# Round of Applause for all of the Nominees

And the Winner is...

Pavers Inc – Manuel “Manny” Martinez, Jr.  
for 13<sup>th</sup> Street and NW 4<sup>th</sup> Storm Bond  
Projects



# What won't win any golden shovels

When final inspections produce

this type of punch list item



# Golden Shovel Type of Work



03.29.2012 10:11

# 2013 Platinum Pen

- Similar to the Golden Shovel, the Platinum Pen recognizes a consultant for the teamwork, problem solving, attention to detail, proactive approach, and public relations that it takes to deliver a project through adversity.
- Other names considered included...
  - The Great Teammate
  - Golden Ladder (Extension of staff)
  - The Prized Service Provider
  - **Platinum Pocket Protector**

# 2013 Platinum Pen Nominees

- For the work on 14<sup>th</sup>/Superior/Warlick designs
  - HDR and team leader, Ralph Batenhorst
  - FHU and team leader, Kyle Anderson
  - Schemmers, Iteris, Parsons Brinkerhoff, and team leader – Mark Lutjeharms
  - *Less than 5 months to listen, develop, and present what might be the ultimate solution for an important link in the City's transportation system*
  - *Participated in unique and unusually design competition that had both sides having to work through many unknowns during the process.*

# 2013 Platinum Pen Nominees

- For work on the 14<sup>th</sup> Street and “H” Street watermains.
  - Parsons Brinkerhoff’s team of Mike Rauhut, Scott Rathjen, and team leader Karl Fredrickson.
  - *Both were tricky projects with a lot of complex issues, sensitive shutdown issues including the state of Nebraska’s server building and Capitol Building.*
  - *Communication and Record Keeping were outstanding throughout.*

# Round of Applause for all the Nominees

And the Winner is...

Parsons Brinkerhoff's team of Mike  
Rauhut, Scott Rathjen, and team leader  
Karl Fredrickson.



Thanks for coming and have  
a safe construction season.

