

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: APRIL 4, 2006

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: JAMES K. HARTMANN, CITY MANAGER *J*

SUBJECT: AMERICAN PUBLIC WORKS ASSOCIATION ACCREDITATION OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

ISSUE: Presentation of American Public Works Association (APWA) Accreditation Award to the City of Alexandria.

RECOMMENDATION: That City Council accept this Accreditation Award.

DISCUSSION: In 1996, the APWA initiated an accreditation program as a means of formally verifying and recognizing public works agencies for complying with nationally recommended practices for performance as a public works agency. This accreditation is based on an agency's voluntary, self-assessment of how its policies, procedures and practices compare to recommended practices identified by nationally recognized experts in the field of public works.

The City of Alexandria's Transportation and Environmental Services (T&ES) department began its self-assessment for accreditation in May, 2002, the results of which were submitted to APWA and reviewed by an accreditation panel of experienced public works professionals in February, 2006. On completion of this review, the panel recommended that T&ES receive accreditation as a public works agency, citing full compliance with 340 of 360 applicable practice areas. The panel also recognized the City's Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program as a national best practice program for future recommendation to other public works agencies.

On April 11, 2006, Diane Linderman, P.E., Director-at-Large for Public Works Management and Leadership for the APWA, will present the Accreditation Award to the Honorable Mayor and Members of City Council.

The City of Alexandria will be the third jurisdiction in Virginia and the 32nd nationally to be accredited by APWA.

STAFF:

Richard J. Baier, P.E., Director, T&ES
Ray Wiley, Accreditation Manager