



NEWS RELEASE

10-069

Today's Date: Thursday, May 13, 2010
District: 1 - Eureka
Contact: Julie East
Phone: (707) 441-3998

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LOCAL PROJECTS ANNOUNCED AS WINNERS IN CALTRANS' EXCELLENCE IN TRANSPORTATION AWARDS

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) has announced the winners of its 2010 Excellence in Transportation Awards. Now in its 24th year, the awards honor the best transportation projects across the state. In District 1, the following local winners were announced:

- **Klamath River Bridge Painting Project on Route 96 in Weitchpec, Humboldt County:** This repainting project, winner in the Context Sensitive Solutions category, involved a partnership between Caltrans and the Yurok Tribe. The zigzag pattern created by the bridge trusses reminds people of the renowned traditional Yurok basket patterns, and it was painted the requested cream and rusty red to represent traditional basket materials.
- **Ten Mile River Bridge Replacement Project on Route 1, near Fort Bragg, Mendocino County:** Winner in the Seismic category, this project was built to meet current seismic standards, helping to ensure reliable access to the northern Mendocino coast. Wider shoulders enhance pedestrian, bicycle, and motorist safety, and a 5-foot wide protected sidewalk on the west side of the bridge provides visitors access to the beautiful views of the Ten Mile River.

The Excellence in Transportation competition is conducted annually by Caltrans to recognize excellence in transportation design, construction, traffic operations, maintenance, planning, and improvements throughout California, based on the following criteria: Innovative engineering, design or construction; Functional efficiency; Safety, maintenance and operational factors; Compatibility with or enhancement of the environment; Preservation/conservation of natural resources; Visual appeal or impact; Quality of user experience; and Cost Benefit Ratio.





NEWS RELEASE

There were nearly 100 entries from across the state, which were reviewed by a panel of judges that included professional engineers, environmental specialists, and transportation planners. Entries were received from local and public agencies, private contractors and consultants, and Caltrans.

Caltrans is proud to showcase its work and the work of its partners in this annual awards program, which recognizes the best of the best. Caltrans congratulates its local winners who worked hard to help build and maintain a transportation system that meets public's mobility needs, enhances the safety for travelers, and supports the California economy.

###

Note to Media: Please contact Julie East at julie.east@dot.ca.gov or 707-441-3998 for accompanying photos.