## WSIP Receives Industry Award for Exceptional Performance in Safety (10/04/2012)

San Francisco Public Utilities - Communications and Public Outreach



WSIP Safety Program received the American Public Works Association Exceptional Performance Award. (L-R)
Todd Bjornsen, WSIP Safety Manager, Carolyn Jones, SFPUC Health & Safety Manager, WSIP Director Julie
Labonte and Alan Johanson, Manager of the SFPUC Construction Management Bureau.

The Water System Improvement Program (WSIP) was awarded the Exceptional Performance Award in Safety by the American Public Works Association (APWA) Awards Program 2012. In August, and Carolyn Jones, SFPUC Health and Safety Program Manager and Todd Bjornsen, WSIP Safety Manager accepted the award in a ceremony held at the International Public Works Congress & Exposition in Anaheim, CA.

The WSIP Safety Approach served as the cornerstone of the winning submission. "This innovative set of guidelines clearly defines roles, responsibilities, policies, and procedures for all program stakeholders, and has proven to be successful in its implementation in developing a culture of safety," said Alan Johanson, Manager of SFPUC Construction Management Bureau.



To date, the WSIP projects have just surpassed 4 million labor and crafts hours with incident rates less than half the national average for major construction projects. The Total Recordable Injury Incidence Rate in the construction industry is 4.3 for every 100,000 craft hours while WSIP's rate is 2.0. Total lost time due to incidents across the construction industry is 1.6 while WSIP stands at 0.7.

"I commend everyone working on WSIP projects for their commitment to Safety First," added Johanson.

WSIP Regional Safety Managers Rick Wakefield, Peninsula & Bay Division; Steve Nash, Sunol; Alan Ordaz, San Joaquin and Todd Bjornsen join Julie Labonte, Carolyn Jones and Alan Johanson to celebrate the safety award.

Prior to recognition by APWA's 2012 Awards Program, the WSIP Safety Approach was the subject of presentations at, among others, the 2011 Rapid Excavation & Tunnel Conference and local chapters of the American Society of Safety Engineers.

The \$4.6B WSIP comprises 81 projects to repair, replace, and seismically retrofit the Hetch Hetchy Regional Water System, which serves nearly 2.6 million retail customers.