

Mooresville, NC Achieves American Public Works Association First Accreditation

Mooresville, NC – March 24, 2020 – The Mooresville Public Services Division has recently received full accreditation by the American Public Works Association (APWA). This accreditation formally verifies and recognizes that the agency is in full compliance with the recommended management practices set forth in APWA's *Public Works Management Practices Manual*.

“The Accreditation of the Mooresville Public Services Division indicates staff has met all applicable Accreditation documentation and practices over time. In a statement from Deputy Town Manager Ryan Rase, “The awarding of the APWA Accreditation reflects the dedication from the staff towards continuous improvement and excellence. We are extremely proud to receive this honor. The true stars of this prestigious APWA award are the Public Services staff whose mission it is to provide services and programs that contribute to making Mooresville a great place to live and work.”

The purpose of accreditation is to promote excellence in the operation and management of a public works agency, its programs and employees. Accreditation is designed to assist the agency in continuous improvement of operations and management, and in providing a valid and objective evaluation of agency programs as a service to the public and the profession.

APWA's accreditation process includes five major steps:

- **Self-Assessment:** Using the Public Works Management Practices Manual, an internal review of an agency's practices combined with a comparison of the recommended practices contained in the manual;
- **Application:** Once the decision has been made to commit to the Accreditation Program, the agency submits a formal application;
- **Improvement:** After the agency has completed the self-assessment and identified areas needing improvement, the agency will work to bring all practices into an acceptable level of compliance with the recommended practices;
- **Evaluation:** Following the completion of the improvement phase, the agency will request a site visit. The site visit will consist of a review and evaluation of the agency to determine the level of compliance with all applicable practices.
- **Accreditation:** The Accreditation Council will review the site visit results and recommendation from the team, voting to award or deny accreditation.

Awarded the prestigious accreditation by APWA's Accreditation Council February 27, 2020, the Mooresville Public Services Department becomes the third agency to achieve the Accreditation designation in the State of North Carolina. In addition to Mooresville, the accredited agencies in North Carolina include Garner and Morrisville.

Open to all governmental agencies with responsibilities for public works functions, initial accreditation from APWA is for a four-year period, during which time semi-annual updates will be required to demonstrate continuing compliance. After that time, there is a re-accreditation process which builds on the original accreditation, encouraging continuous improvement and compliance with newly identified practices.

For more information about APWA Accreditation, please contact the APWA Accreditation Program at accreditation@apwa.net.

About APWA

The American Public Works Association (www.apwa.net) is a not-for-profit, international organization of more than 30,000 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, MO, has an office in Washington, DC, and 63 chapters in North America.