

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**The City of Bettendorf, IA Department of Public Works Receives  
APWA 2014 Excellence in Snow and Ice Control Award**

**KANSAS CITY, MO.** – Bettendorf’s Department of Public Works (DPW) was recently selected to receive a national American Public Works Association (APWA) award for excellence in the city’s snow and ice removal program. APWA’s Excellence in Snow and Ice Control Award will be presented at the 2014 North American Snow Conference, which takes place May 4-7, 2014 in Cincinnati, OH, in the Duke Energy Center. This APWA award was established to promote excellence in the management and administration of public works snow and ice operations, and to promote the best practices in snow and ice removal while minimizing environmental impacts.

For the past 20 years, Bettendorf has had a policy with the objective of snow removal operations to have bare pavement within 24 hours after the cessation of snow fall from an average snowstorm of four to six inches (4”-6”) on all city streets. Bettendorf is the only city of its size (population 33,217) in Iowa to have a bare pavement standard. Its citizens have consistently given the city high ratings, according to surveys taken by the National Citizen Survey (NSC), which is a collaborative effort between the National Research Center and the International City/County Management Association (ICMA). Responses to the survey, given in 2006, 2008, 2010 and 2012 rated citizen satisfaction with the city’s snow removal between 80-89%, which is significantly above the benchmark.

The Department of Public Works has a vision statement of “Serving with Excellence.” In keeping with its vision statement, the Department’s objective is to provide superior service to the community while maintaining a balance between public safety, fiscal responsibility, and environmental conservation. This is achieved through a dedicated team of highly trained employees who are committed to excellence. The city was the first in the state of Iowa to become APWA accredited, and re-accredited in 2009 and 2013. Bettendorf was also fully compliant in all 13 practices involving snow and ice removal and ice control practices.

The city has adopted a proactive anti-icing program in an effort to improve road conditions and reduce salt usage. With recent upgrades to their Brine Xtreme machine, they are able to manufacture salt brine and blend a variety of liquids to be applied to the city streets several days in advance of snow or ice events. This prevents snow and ice from bonding to the road surface; provides better tire traction, more efficient plowing, and more economical and environmental salting practices. Other upgrades to their winter maintenance operations include computerized controllers to all of the heavy duty plow trucks that allow each driver to deliver accurate amounts of road salt in pounds per lane mile, GPS units, and pre-wetting systems to add salt brine or blended material to de-icing salt. The addition of pre-wetting systems alone has resulted in a savings of approximately 20% by keeping more salt on the pavement and jumpstarting the melting process.

“It is the city of Bettendorf’s goal to provide our community with the highest quality public service that continually enhances the quality of life for all of our citizens,” said Brian Schmidt, Director of Public Works. “We recognize that our employees are our most valuable resource we have and it is important they are properly trained to respond quickly and safely to any work task assigned and for any emergency that may develop,” Schmidt said. “We also recognize that our mission is to work in concert with other city departments, so that the overall mission of the city is accomplished,” he said.

For more information about the city of Bettendorf's DPW, please contact Michelle Javornik, Deputy Director of Public Works for Operations, at [mjavornik@bettendorf.org](mailto:mjavornik@bettendorf.org). For more information on the 2014 APWA North American Snow Conference that will be held in Cincinnati, OH during May 4-7, please visit the APWA website at: [www.apwa.net/snow](http://www.apwa.net/snow). For APWA media queries, contact Laura Bynum, the APWA media relations and communications manager, at [lbynum@apwa.net](mailto:lbynum@apwa.net).

**About APWA**

*The American Public Works Association ([www.apwa.net](http://www.apwa.net)) is a not-for-profit, international organization of more than 29,500 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, Missouri, has an office in Washington, D.C. and 64 chapters in North America.*

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