

THE FIRST WORD

February, 2010

Garver Receives 2009 ACEC OKLAHOMA Engineering Excellence "Grand Conceptor" Award

Garver was awarded ACEC OKLAHOMA's 2009 Engineering Excellence "Grand Conceptor" Award during ceremonies Thursday, January 21st in Oklahoma City. Garver received the award for the "Parallel Taxiway Realignment" project at the Ada Municipal Airport. The City of Ada had identified this project as a priority for the city to prepare their municipal facility for future growth, larger aircraft, and additional clients. Garver was selected to provide planning, design and construction administration to straighten a parallel taxiway and rehabilitate deteriorating pavement due to subgrade failure and increased traffic loads.



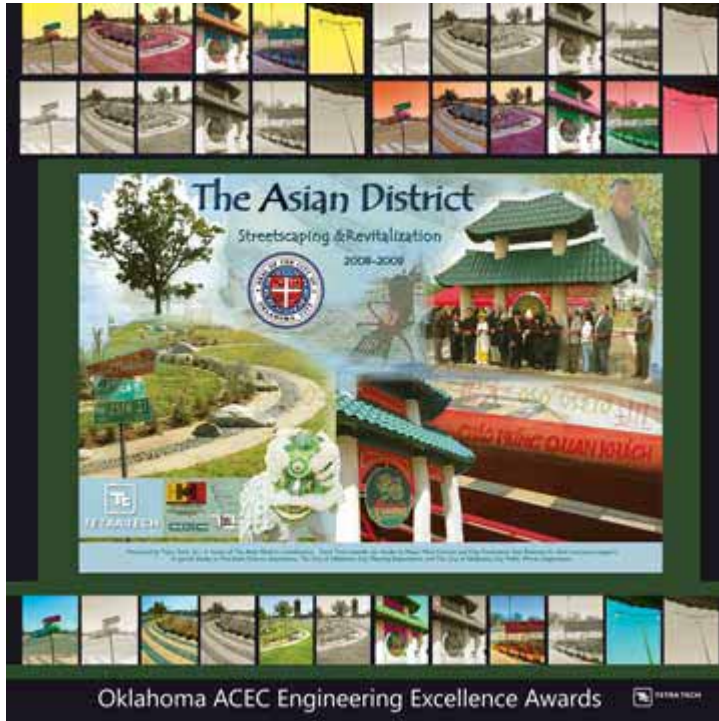
Early in the project, a conflict with the existing taxiway's layout was discovered. The taxiway was constructed on radial geometry, a non-standard configuration, and rather than running parallel to the runway it moved diagonally away from the runway and gradually rose some 30 inches above the runway. This created several oblique intersections and safety areas concerns, including in certain areas where pilots taxiing in high-wing aircraft could not see approaching aircraft. This discovery required lowering the taxiway nearly 3 feet and further required the entire terminal apron to be reworked; adjustments being made to the electrical system; and, reconstruction of the fuel farm. Also, the taxiway and pavements were completely removed, and utilities, electrical systems and drainage relocated to lower elevations.

Also, while the project was being bid, the firm's electrical engineer received information that a new technology was available...LED guidance signs. After a cost-benefit analysis, approval was received to modify the plans to install these new, innovative

LED Signs. While the signs were more expensive, the cost was offset by the lower power equipment required. In addition to reducing energy usage by 50% and providing 50,000 hours of lamp life, the LED signs save maintenance costs and time. The Ada Municipal Airport was the first in the state to utilize this new technology.

All of these were very important to the client as the city desired to seek FAA approval for additional precision approaches to attract larger aircraft. Had these conflicts not been discovered, the airport may not have realized the problems existed until FAA approval was pursued. Overall, this project provided the airport with a stable and serviceable taxiway system; reduced confusion at the airport by providing standard taxiway alignments; improved the ground safety system; and, allows for the accommodation of larger aircraft, all of which prepared the airport for future growth and additional clients.

Tetra Tech and Wallace Engineering Receive "Honor" Awards in 2009 EEA Competition



As part of Oklahoma City’s Streetscape Masterplan, Tetra Tech was selected to provide roadway improvements and streetscaping for the newly dedicated Asian District, an area of the city which has long been home to Asian business, local artisans and offers a unique cultural flavor.

In addition to roadway improvements, replacing curb and gutters, traffic signage and striping, and lighting, landscaping, and ADA requirements, Tetra Tech, Oklahoma City, and the Asian District business owners worked to create an identifiable image for the Asian District.

Tetra Tech worked closely with shareholders and members of the Asian District Board to design a corridor to not simply suit their needs, but rather to energize their living, breathing community, and to set the stage for new business opportunities and new jobs, and to provide a sense of community and commonality between the District, City and Visitors.

The TCC Center for Creativity is a building that showcases technology. It is filled with cutting edge educational technology and TCC believed it imperative that the building display architectural and engineering technology as well.

Wallace Engineering collaborated with TCC’s Architect to identify and solve problems together, and arrive at solutions with imagination and engineering skills.

The Center was designed as a series of masses that are separated to create circulation and gathering spaces, and that have a high degree of transparency allowing natural daylight into the building.

The Center was designed to fit into the urban fabric of downtown Tulsa. Boston Avenue on the building’s east side is the only downtown street which has maintained an “urban canyon” where tall buildings on each side of the road create a canyon-like view. A balcony and cantilevered viewing platform, extending over the right-of-way for Boston Avenue, were positioned along the north side of the Center to provide dramatic views of the Tulsa skyline.



2010 Legislature Begins Facing \$1.3 Billion Budget Shortfall

State lawmakers returned to Oklahoma City on Monday, February 1st to begin the 2010 Legislative Session, much of which will revolve around the 2011 state budget and the looming revenue shortfall.

In crafting the state's FY2011 spending plan, budget writers will have \$1.3 billion less with which to work, according to the General Revenue Fund estimate approved in December by the Board of Equalization. That number could change when the board meets Feb. 16 to approve a final estimate that will be the basis for Henry and lawmakers' work.

In addition to the budget woes, lawmakers will have plenty to talk about after filing 2,294 new pieces of legislation that must pass through both chambers before taking effect. House members filed 1,153 new bills, and Senate members filed 1,082 new measures for consideration. House members also filed 31 new joint resolutions, and Senate members filed 28 new joint resolutions.

In addition to the new measures filed by the Jan. 14 deadline, a total of 2,847 bills and joint resolutions were carried over from the 2009 legislative session that may be considered during the Legislature's 2010 session, including 901 House bills, 860 Senate bills, 48 House joint resolutions and 38 Senate joint resolutions.

Governor Brad Henry opened the Legislative session with his final State of the State address making his last scheduled address to a joint session of the House and Senate. Facing the largest budget crisis in the state's history, Henry urged the Legislature to, "...wield the budget knife carefully with clinical precision," adding, "We cannot balance the budget at the expense of the most vulnerable among us."

Henry asked legislators to work together and leave out political rhetoric — especially in this election year.

"Slashing government spending can make for catchy campaign rhetoric, but rhetoric has ramifications — human ramifications — that demand to be considered," the governor said.

With nearly 5,000 bills alive at the opening of the session, ACEC OKLAHOMA is keeping close tabs on the activities at the Capitol. During the first few weeks of the session, many of the bills will fail to meet Legislative deadlines, with the first major deadlines coming at the end of February and in mid-March.

We are currently tracking some 100 new bills and a handful of "carry-over" bills from the 2009 session. By mid-March that number will drop significantly, and we will have a good handle on which bills might actually receive approval before the end of the session in late-May.

At this writing, we are not aware of any major "bad" bills. With so many bills in process, we are going to forego a bill-by-bill update at this time, but will keep you informed as the session progresses on bills of interest.

However, as always, if you hear of something or have special interest in a specific bill, please don't hesitate to call.

Welcome New Member

ACEC OKLAHOMA is excited to welcome our newest member, **Wall Engineering, LLC** of Hugo.

Brandon Wall is the principal of the 4-person firm which provides a variety of civil engineering services to clients in southeastern Oklahoma and elsewhere.

We are pleased to welcome Brandon and Wall Engineering to ACEC OKLAHOMA and look forward to having the firm as an active member of the Council.



Congressman Jim Oberstar (D-MN), Chairman of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee (left) discusses transportation policy with ACEC OKLAHOMA Chairman-Elect Jim Benson (right) and President/CEO Jim Sullins. Oberstar was the featured speaker at the annual TRUST Banquet. Prior to the banquet, a fundraising event for the Chairman's re-election campaign was hosted by AGC at which Benson & Sullins presented the Chairman with a \$500 donation on behalf of ACECPAC, ACEC's national political action committee.

Erosion and Sediment Control Workshop Set for March 24th

The Oklahoma County Conservation District will be hosting an Erosion and Sediment Control workshop March 24th at the Oklahoma Engineering Center in Oklahoma City.

The workshop is open to all statewide, and will address the latest technology in erosion and sediment control, and what practices work effectively in Storm Water Pollution Prevention Control.

Registration information is below.



*Sponsored by Blue Thumb of Oklahoma and
Oklahoma County Conservation District*





Erosion and Sediment Control Workshop

**Earn
Professional
Development
Credits**

March 24, 2010
9:00 am to 4:00 pm
Oklahoma Engineering Center
201 NE 27th St, Oklahoma City, OK

**Engineers
Can earn
6 PDH'S**

Learn the latest technology in erosion and sediment control and what practices will work effectively in Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plans

Presented by Shirley Morrow, President of ABC'S of BMP'S

Shirley Morrow is a Certified Professional Erosion and Sediment Control Specialist (CPESC), Certified Inspector Sediment and Erosion Control (CISEC), and a member of the International Erosion Control Association (IECA). She has worked extensively in developing SWPPP's for major corporations and prepared the erosion and sediment control standards and specifications for the Kansas City Chapter of the American Public Works Association. She served as Vice President, Director of Content for Stormwater USA, LLC, an online based certification and training tool. Ms. Morrow is a certified instructor for CPESC and has conducted training courses throughout the US.
See more @ abcbmp.com

Registration Fee : \$75 before March 17

~~Registration fee includes lunch~~

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\$100 after March 17

Payments (check only)

Detach & Send Registration to:
Oklahoma County Conservation District
4850 N. Lincoln Blvd Ste B
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

For more information contact:
Don Bartolina or Becky Inmon
Phone: 405-524-4450 or
Email: oklahomaccd@conservation.ok.gov

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____
