



2026 Public Works Leader of the Year

PURPOSE: The MCAPWA Public Works Leader of the Year program seeks to inspire excellence and dedication in public service by recognizing the outstanding career service achievements of individual public works professionals and officials. The primary focus of the award is on career service to the public works profession rather than on any one single event or project.

ELIGIBILITY: It is the intent of this award to recognize the career service accomplishments of Maine public works professionals and officials. Towards that end, candidates with a minimum of 10 years qualifying experience may be nominated from any of the following categories. The candidate must be in active service as of the year he or she is considered. APWA and Maine Chapter APWA membership is required. Officers of the MCAPWA Board of Directors and members of the Awards Committee are not eligible during the time they serve in these positions. Please note that individuals are only eligible to receive the Public Works Leader of the Year on one occasion.

Candidates may come from any of the following three Categories:

- A. Any non-elected employee of state, county or municipal government who is responsible for one or more major divisions of a governmental agency. Most of the candidate's time and efforts must be devoted to the administration and management of the design, construction, maintenance and/or operation of a street or highway system, refuse collection or disposal system, public building, drainage or sanitary sewer system, or any other type of public works installation.
- B. Service in an appointed (non-elected) position on a board or commission charged with the oversight or policy level review of public works or infrastructure issues. Such service may have been at the state, county or municipal government level dealing with surface transportation systems, refuse, solid waste, and recycling systems, public buildings, drainage or sewers, or any other type of public works or infrastructure systems. Such positions may typically include Town or City Manager; Public Works Director or Board Member; Road Commissioner; Highway Commissioner; Transportation Commissioner; or other comparable position.
- C. Elected officials who have prior qualifying experience from either category "A" or "B" may also be considered as candidates.

NOMINATION PROCESS: Candidate nominations may be made by any governmental entity, group, or individual; self-nominations are not accepted. Nominations shall include the Nomination Form and supporting documentation, and be limited to 20 pages, not including letters of recommendation (which should be limited to six). It is encouraged that these materials be completed by the nominating party and not be left for the candidate to prepare or submit themselves.

NOMINATION REQUIREMENTS: Submissions of Nominations shall include:

1. Nomination Form
2. Narrative with the following information:
 - a. Employment Record.
 - b. Job-Related Technical and Managerial Accomplishments
 - c. Initial and Lifelong Education
 - d. Publications and/or Presentations
 - e. Community Service
 - f. Professional Involvement
 - g. Awards
 - h. Impact
3. One high resolution color photo (headshot) of the nominee.

SELECTION PROCESS: A panel of judges appointed by the President of the MCAPWA Board of Directors. Membership of the panel represents the public works field and other agencies with an active interest in the public works profession.

SELECTION CRITERIA: Criteria to be considered in the review and selection process.

1. Employment Record: Beginning with current employment, briefly list all employment positions, dates of each position, and description of responsibilities.
2. Job-Related Technical and Managerial Accomplishments: Describe major achievements and accomplishments. State specific role in each. Including innovations in technical and/or managerial fields.
3. Initial and Lifelong Education: Include colleges and universities attended, dates of attendance, majors, and degrees received. List attendance at professional institutes and on-the-job training.
4. Publications and or Presentations: List any published articles and/or papers delivered at professional meetings.
5. Professional involvement: List organizations, activities, offices held.
6. Community Service: List organizations, activities, offices held.
7. Awards: List educational, professional and civic awards. Include recognition for public service.
8. Impact: Describe nominees impact they've made through their service to the Agency/Organization

SUBMISSION: Submissions or Nominations shall be made electronically in PDF format via email to Barry Sheff, Woodard & Curran at bsheff@woodardcurran.com no later than Friday March 6, 2026. Nomination Form is available on the Chapter [website](#).

PRESENTATION: Award winners will be formally recognized during the Maine Chapter APWA 2026 Spring Meeting on April 2, 2026 at Calumet Club in Augusta.

For further information or questions, contact Barry Sheff at 207.558.3667 or bsheff@woodardcurran.com



2026 MCAPWA Public Works Leader of the Year *Nomination Form*

DEADLINE: March 6, 2026

Please note below who is completing this form.

- Nominee
- Group/Individual Nominating

Candidate's Name

Title

Agency/Organization

Please indicate the category in which the candidate's agency/organization falls under:

- Municipality
- County
- State
- Utility

Please indicate the population served by the candidate's agency/organization: _____.