2025 Engineering Excellence Awards

ACEC

American Council of Engineering Companies of Ohio

February 27, 2025
The Exchange at Bridgepark
Dublin, Ohio

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2024 EEA Grand Award Winner
Jacobs
I-480 Valley View Bridge Design-Build project

THE ENGINEERING EXCELLENCE AWARDS

The ACEC Ohio Engineering Excellence Awards Competition is a national program that, for over 50 years, has recognized engineering companies for the role they play in developing projects “that demonstrate a high degree of achievement, value and ingenuity.”

Every year, engineering companies from across the country enter their most innovative design projects and studies in state competitions, such as ACEC Ohio’s, with the top entries from each state advancing to the national competition in Washington.

Projects are judged according to these five criteria:

- Original or Innovative Application of New or Existing Techniques
- Perception by the Public
- Social, Economic, and Sustainable Design Considerations
- Complexity
- Successful Fulfillment of Client/Owner Needs

Congratulations to all the award winners in the 2025 ACEC Ohio Engineering Excellence Awards Competition!

Competition Judges

Cash Misel, P.E.	Former Assistant Director, Ohio Department of Transportation, retired
Jon Link, P.S.	Civil Engineering & Surveying Program Coordinator, Columbus State
William Shelley, P.E.	Former President, Shelley, Metz, Baumann & Hawk, Inc., retired
Lyle Flower, P.E.	Former Administrator of Consultant Services, Ohio Department of Transportation, retired
Mike Duffey, P.E.	Former Principal, SSOE Group, retired

2025 Scholarship Winners

Cannon Moser
University of Toledo

Megan Bhanoo
Ohio State University

Rachel Ballentine
Wright State University

Ryan Emch
Youngstown State University

Tamara Brown
Columbus State Community College

2025 Rising Leader Graduates

Alex Maistros, *Jacobs*
Angela Fedak, *EL Robinson*
Brett Allerding Curfman, *Clune Consulting*
Christine Rettig, *Crawford, Murphy & Tilly*
Craig Goodnight, *Woolpert*
Daniel Soroka, *Burgess & Niple*
Fred Whittaker, *HNTB*
Gail Massie, *Transystems*
Kevin Dickens, *Michael Baker International*
Kyle Layton, *DGL*
Lauren Lukowski, *HDR*
Mark Hopf, *Fanning Howey*
Mary Gelose, *HEAPY*
Michael Frye, *Fishbeck*
Mitchell McCluskey, *CTL Engineering*
Nathan Dickman, *DLZ*
Nora Anderson, *WSP*
Samantha Poehner, *Compass Infrastructure*
Abby Jacobs, *Woolpert*
Andrew Schetter, *WSP*
Bryan Kinch, *HEAPY*
Mark Rahall, *EMH&T*
Zac Sprunger, *Fanning Howey*

2025 Engineering Excellence Award Winners

Outstanding Small Project:

DGL Consulting Engineers, LLC
Multi-Modal Gateway Bridge: Connecting Community Resources

Outstanding Projects:

Jones & Henry Engineers
Ford Road Pump Station Replacement

Burgess & Niple, Inc.
FRA-71 Project 3B

American Structurepoint, Inc.
Massillon Road Roundabouts

Colliers Engineering & Design
Napoleon Road & Campbell Hill Road Roundabout

Stantec Consulting Services
King Avenue/Grandin Road Bridge Replacement

Honor Projects:

Woolpert, Inc.
Composite Material Applications & Research Roadmap

Karpinski Engineering
Cleveland Foundation New Headquarters

Korda/Nemeth Engineering
Pickerington Methodist Hospital

WSP USA Inc.
Devola Sanitary Sewer Improvements

Stantec Consulting Services
Upper Ridgewood Basin Improvements

Compass Infrastructure Group
South Main Street Design Build

ms consultants, inc.
CR 216/Pittsburg Avenue Roundabouts

Crawford, Murphy & Tilly
Taxiway C Extension

Mead & Hunt
US 42 Roundabouts

OHM Advisors
Home Road/Lewis Center Road Turbo Roundabout

Burgess & Niple, Inc.
State Route 32 & Brooks-Malott Road Intersection

LJB Engineering
Princeton Road Bridge & Roundabout

LJB Engineering
Kings Island Drive Roadway & Safety Improvements

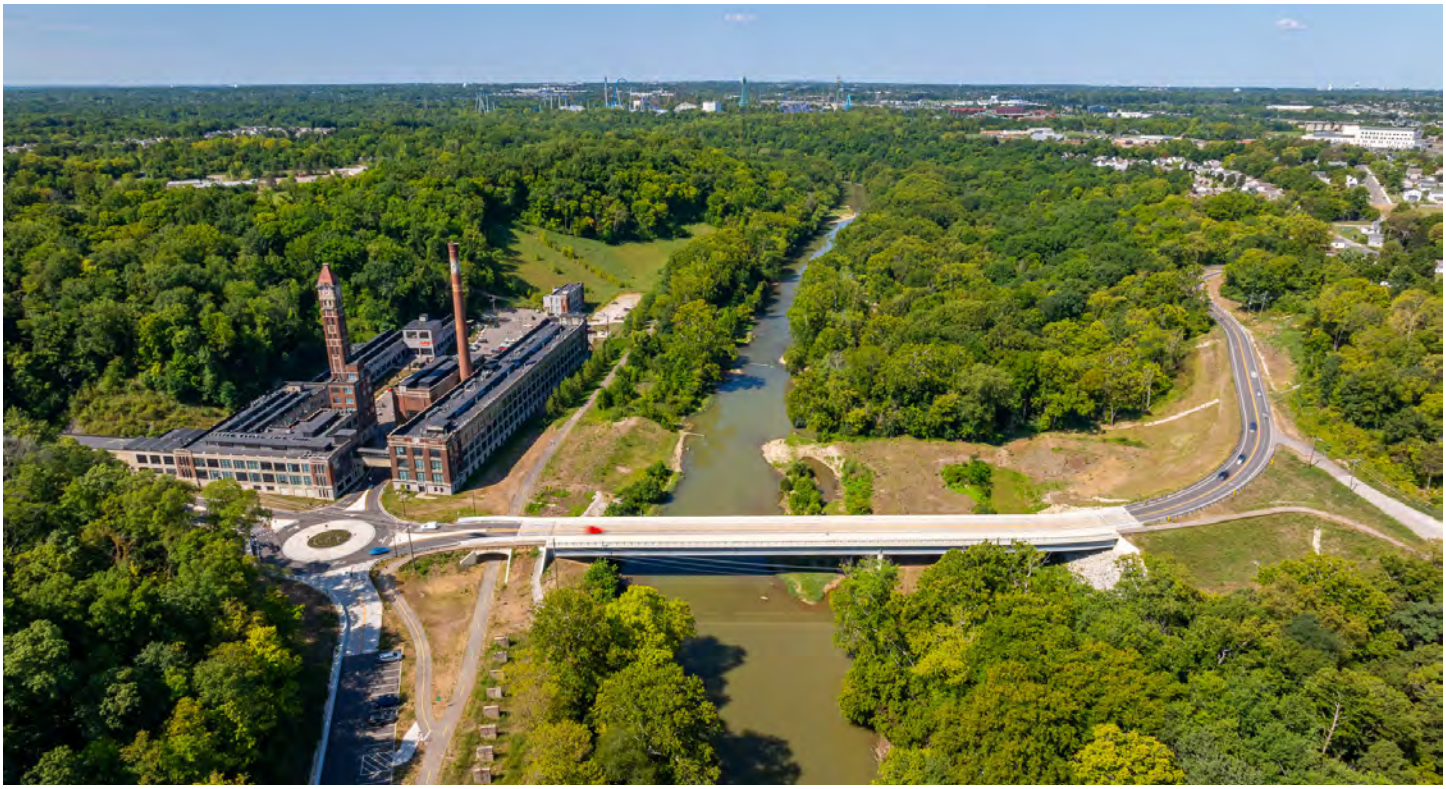
DLZ Ohio, Inc.
Maple Canyon Avenue Mini Roundabouts

The Mannik & Smith Group, Inc.
Schneider Park Soccer Complex Revitalization Phase 1

The Kleingers Group
Kellogg Avenue & I-275 Interchange Beautification

Osborn Engineering
Jesse Owens Memorial Stadium Track Reconstruction

Grand Award Winner



Stantec Consulting Services Inc.

King Avenue/Grandin Road Bridge Replacement

The King Avenue/Grandin Road Bridge Replacement Project represents a transformative enhancement to Warren County's transportation network. Led by Stantec, the project replaced an aging six-span bridge over the National Scenic Little Miami River with a streamlined two-span structure, eliminating river piers to protect natural flow and ensure long-term resilience. Designed to improve connectivity, safety, and access, the new bridge incorporates a multi-use path linking local and regional trails, a roundabout for better traffic flow, and upgraded access to the historic Peters Cartridge Factory, a newly revitalized mixed-use development.

With innovative environmental measures and sustainable construction techniques, this project preserves the area's natural beauty and community history. Eliminating load restrictions and reconfiguring approaches reduced travel times for commuters, freight, and school buses while enhancing recreational access. The King Avenue/Grandin Road Bridge Replacement exemplifies how infrastructure can elevate community and environmental priorities. Congratulations to Stantec on this significant achievement in sustainable design and engineering excellence.

Outstanding Small Project

DGL Consulting Engineers, LLC

Multi-Modal Gateway Bridge: Connecting Community Resources

Located less than 1/2 mile from Downtown Sylvania and less than 1/10 mile from two schools, the Silica Drive bridges over Ten Mile Creek are landmarks in the community. In 2018, while inspecting the vehicular bridge, the pedestrian bridge was recognized as having significant failures. Inspections continued at accelerated intervals to ensure safety was maintained until both bridges could be replaced. A Structure Type Study was completed to identify alternatives and provide recommendations for the best replacement. In 2020, the City was awarded ODOT Municipal Bridge Funding, covering 95% of construction costs for the new structure.

The combined pedestrian/vehicular bridge considered ecological impacts, hydraulics of Ten Mile Creek, and utility concerns. DGL worked with the City to incorporate an overlook was incorporated with decorative railings, benches, and pilaster centerpiece. Upon completion, the pilaster was adorned with artwork and plaque to honor Don Townsend, a beloved Sylvania high school art teacher.

Ford Road Pump Station Replacement

Outstanding Award Winner

Jones & Henry Engineers

The Northwestern Water & Sewer District's project in Perrysburg Township is an innovative upgrade to the sewer system. It replaces an outdated pump station with a submersible-style design, featuring pumps 50 feet underground for improved safety and efficiency. Using advanced technology like variable speed drives, the station adapts to changing water flow.

The project also includes a new 48-inch sewer line, a backup generator, and a visually appealing control building that blends into the community. By minimizing environmental impact and planning for future growth, this project sets a new standard for sustainable, community-integrated infrastructure.

FRA-71 Project 3B

Outstanding Award Winner

Burgess & Niple, Inc.

FRA-71 Project 3B in Columbus, Ohio is a crucial phase of the Columbus Crossroads Project, designed to reduce congestion and crashes in the busy I-70/I-71 split. Led by Burgess & Niple (B&N), this $45 million project replaced and widened the Broad Street bridge, improved traffic flow with continuous lanes on I-71, and connected Elijah Pierce Avenue and Lester Drive to Broad Street. The project featured key infrastructure upgrades, including new utility systems, retaining walls, and intelligent transportation systems (ITS) for improved safety and efficiency.

One of the project's most complex challenges involved raising the Broad Street bridge and lowering I-71 while protecting a nearby historic property. In addition to vehicular improvements, the project focused on active transportation, adding wide sidewalks, bike lanes, and bike boxes to promote cyclist safety and urban connectivity. Custom architectural features and landscaping further enhanced the area's aesthetic.

By eliminating hazardous weaving maneuvers and streamlining traffic, the project significantly improves safety in this high-crash location. The successful completion of Project 3B sets the stage for future phases of the Columbus Crossroads Project, advancing safety, mobility, and urban development.

Massillon Road Roundabouts

Outstanding Award Winner

American Structurepoint, Inc.

Heavy congestion plagued Massillon Road, a prime commercial business and retail hub in the City of Green, Ohio. American Structurepoint partnered with the City of Green to design two multilane roundabouts replacing signalized intersections at Boettler Road and Corporate Woods Circle/Thorn Drive to improve traffic flow, ease congestion, and enhance public safety.

New underground utility duct banks constructed to reduce overhead utility clutter enhance the corridor's aesthetic look. New pedestrian facilities on both sides of Massillon Road help promote multimodal travel and improve pedestrian connectivity in the area. Distinctive landscaping in each roundabout's center circle enhances community identity and creates a sense of place along the corridor.

The new roundabouts move traffic more safely and efficiently along the corridor. They also better position the city for an anticipated increase in traffic flow along Massillon Road, which is projected to exceed 40,000 vehicles per day by 2035.

WOO-Napoleon Road and Campbell Hill Road Roundabout

Outstanding Award Winner

Colliers Engineering & Design

The Napoleon Road roundabout marks a key milestone for Bowling Green State University and surrounding community, replacing a hazardous stop-controlled intersection with a safer, more efficient traffic solution. The innovative design improves traffic flow, reduces congestion, and enhances driver safety by slowing speeds. Colliers Engineering & Design has introduced Ohio's first "ecoluminance" roundabout, featuring energy-efficient lighting, sustainable vegetation, and improved nighttime visibility. This environmentally conscious approach also reduces construction and future maintenance costs by cutting the number of light poles from 8 to 4. Additionally, our engineers developed specialized turning templates to accommodate various types of farm equipment, ensuring the roundabout serves the diverse needs of the area.

The project's success stemmed from its innovative design and strong stakeholder collaboration. Colliers Engineering & Design thanks Jason Sisco and John Musteric from the Wood County Engineer's Office for their exceptional coordination and dedication, which were critical to the project's successful completion.

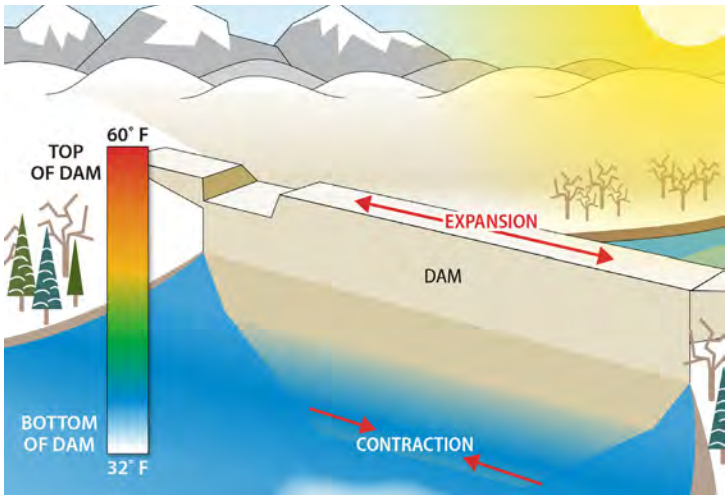
Composite Material Applications and Research Roadmap for US Army Corps of Engineers Civil Works

Honor Award Winner

Woolpert, Inc.

Composite materials are increasingly u lized in civil infrastructure due to their cost-e ec veness and durability as compared to steel and concrete solu ons. However, inadequate informa on has led to inconsistencies and elevated costs, hindering their adop on.

Consequently, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) tasked Woolpert with developing a research roadmap to advance composites in civil infrastructure. The report detailed a decision framework, challenges, benefits, applica ons, and technology limita ons, featuring an evidence- and risk-based logic tree for complex situa ons.



These e orts were worthwhile because composites allow for quicker fabrica on of complex components. This results in more e cient use of taxpayer dollars and lower CO2 emissions.

The team exceeded expecta ons, comple ng the project on schedule and under budget. The project con nues to generate lifecycle cost savings, e ec vely paying for itself. USACE is applying the report's findings, and many organiza ons are following this precedent, crea ng a widespread impact that is shaping infrastructure rehabilita on na onwide.

Wooden Family Fieldhouse

Honor Award Winner

LJB Engineering

The Wooden Family Fieldhouse—named for legendary basketball coach John Wooden—is a new 65,000-square-foot indoor recreation facility that helps Athletes in Action (AIA) continue its legacy of enriching young athletes' lives. Before this facility, there were no indoor sports venues at AIA's Total Athletes Complex, and it is estimated that 300,000 people will visit the new world-class facilities every year.

After previously supporting a number of projects on the AIA campus over the past 20 years, LJB provided civil and structural engineering for this new state-of-the-art facility and expanded training campus. LJB is proud of its long-term involvement with the AIA mission and campus, and are honored to be part of shaping the culture of sports ministry through this project.

DEL-CR124-9.02 (Home Road/Lewis Center Road Turbo Roundabout)

Honor Award Winner

OHM Advisors

As Delaware County continues to grow rapidly, the turbo roundabout at Home Road and Lewis Center Road was designed to improve transportation efficiency and safety, accommodating increasing traffic demands. This innovative roundabout effectively manages the high volume of southbound left turns and reduces congestion as the area develops.

The OHM-DLZ team implemented a modified-knee turbo roundabout that utilizes spiraled geometry and a raised lane divider to reduce conflicts created by vehicles weaving across lanes. This design is one of only a handful of turbo roundabouts in the country and exemplifies how advances in roundabout design foster a safer, more efficient transportation network.

Constructing a temporary diversion road and salvaging existing pavement highlight resourceful engineering practices, prioritizing cost savings and sustainability. Opened in November 2023, this roundabout enhances connectivity for residential neighborhoods and commercial development in Delaware County while exemplifying the benefits of integrating global roundabout design advancements for a safer and more efficient network.

Devola Sanitary Sewer Improvements

Honor Award Winner

WSP USA Inc.

As engineers, we have the honor of protecting our environment and improving the lives of communities through thoughtful design. Serving more than 500 homes and saving over $5 million dollars in construction costs, the Devola Sewer Improvement project prevented future waste runoff in the Muskingum River protecting it from contaminating the water supply that this community relies on.

WSP, along with their subconsultants, delivered this project successfully, resolving a great Ohio EPA concern by delivering innovative solutions that reduced construction impacts. To cap off the project's success, the team's hard work in securing financial support resulted in 75% of construction costs being funded by grants and funding assistance, preventing any financial burdens to the residents. Construction commenced in summer 2022 and is currently about 90% complete. Final completion is expected by spring 2025.

Upper Ridgewood Basin Improvements

Honor Award Winner

Stantec Consulting Services Inc.

The Upper Ridgewood Basin Improvements project, designed by Stantec in collaboration with the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District, transformed a flood-prone and ecologically degraded stormwater basin into a thriving, sustainable community asset. Located in Parma, Ohio, the project addressed critical flooding and water quality issues while enhancing the basin's recreational and environmental value.

Through innovative design, including a low-flow wetland system, unique erosion-control methods, and strategic grading, the project improved flood management and created diverse wetland habitats, increasing biodiversity and water quality. The redesign has significantly reduced flooding risks for over 150 homes, improved stormwater resilience, and elevated the basin's flood control capacity. In addition to engineering solutions, the project revitalized the space with trails and native plantings, engaging the community and connecting residents with nature. This project represents the successful integration of engineering, environmental stewardship, and community revitalization, creating lasting benefits for the environment and the people it serves.

South Main Street Design Build

Honor Award Winner

Compass Infrastructure Group LLC

The South Main Street Bridge over Nimisala Creek in Summit County serves nearly 6,000 vehicles daily, providing crucial access for Green and New Franklin residents. The bridge was closed just four days after a replacement contract was awarded due to severe deterioration, while the planned detour route, Christman Road, was already under construction, complicating local access.

In response, Compass Infrastructure Group and Kenmore Construction accelerated the project at the County's request, without altering the design. They quickly designed and ordered the new beams within four days of the closure. By retaining portions of the existing in-line wingwalls that were in good condition, they streamlined installation, saving 2-3 weeks in construction time.

Additionally, the Summit County Engineer's office facilitated rapid design reviews within 1-2 days, ensuring timely material orders. This collaboration allowed the project team to complete the design 171 days early, resulting in the bridge reopening 346 days ahead of schedule. The project highlights the effectiveness of teamwork among designers, contractors, and local authorities in successfully addressing community needs.

CR 216/Pittsburg Avenue Roundabouts

Honor Award Winner

ms consultants, inc.

ms consultants is honored to accept the 2025 Engineering Excellence Award for the Pittsburg Avenue corridor project in Jackson Township, Ohio. This project showcases how thoughtful engineering can transform a community by enhancing safety, supporting local businesses, and fostering economic growth.

Before the improvements, commuters and local businesses faced increasing traffic and safety concerns. To address these challenges, the Stark County Engineer engaged ms consultants and subconsultant American Structurepoint to develop a comprehensive solution that included environmental planning, roundabout design, and right-of-way services.

Key improvements simplified access to Dunkin', protected the North Canton Cemetery, and minimized impacts on Advantage Home Health. Advanced mapping technology ensured gravesites near Orion Street were undisturbed, and early property acquisition minimized disruptions.

This project exemplifies how innovative engineering solutions can boost a community's quality of life and advance its economic prospects. Thank you for recognizing this project's excellence.

Taxiway C Extension

Honor Award Winner

Crawford, Murphy & Tilly

CMT completed design phase services to extend the parallel taxiway at Port Bucyrus-Crawford County Airport by approximately 2600 ft., creating a full-length parallel taxiway for the entire length of Runway 4/22. The previous partial taxiway presented a dangerous condition to pilots, who were required to back taxi along the active runway until reaching the intersection with the taxiway, which provided access to the airport's aprons and hangars. Likewise, departing aircraft were required to taxi down the active runway to its end before taking off. With the completion of the extended taxiway, aircraft can immediately exit the runway after completing their full touch-down and enter the runway at the point of their takeoff maneuvers.

Prior to this project, CMT worked with the airport to make other FAA-required, safety-related improvements. By first addressing these compliance issues, the Airport greatly improved their chances of receiving FAA supplemental funds for the more expensive taxiway extension. With CMT's support, they received the full project cost of $8 million. Now that this much-needed safety enhancement has been developed, the airport is now in a strong position to make other improvements, such as a new terminal building that is expected to receive funding within the next two years.

US 42 Roundabouts

Honor Award Winner

Mead & Hunt

Mead & Hunt led the design of two roundabouts on US 42 in the City of Mason. The popular commuter route along Mason-Morrow-Millgrove Road and Bethany Road experienced significant delays and congestion during peak hours, as well as elevated crash numbers, due to multiple turning movements. By using advanced 3D modeling software, Mead & Hunt confirmed a seamless integration of the new roundabouts with the existing infrastructure. To minimize disruption during the construction phase, Mead & Hunt developed a six-stage maintenance of traffic plan that avoided detours for nearly the entire duration.

Now the roundabouts are open, reducing congestion and improving safety along the heavily-traveled commuter route. Collaboration was key to the project's success. The team engaged closely with the City of Mason, ODOT District 8, and utilities, making sure that all stakeholder needs and concerns were addressed comprehensively.

Pickerington Methodist Hospital

Honor Award Winner

Korda/Nemeth Engineering

Korda/Nemeth Engineering provided professional services for this $140 million hospital expansion, which added a strategic six-story 220,000 square foot hospital building, attached to the north side of the existing facility. For the existing building, renovations included the following: laboratory, administration, an additional MRI, and additional public components were added to the campus. The existing loading dock and back of house services were combined and expanded upon as they were integrated/relocated into the base of the new hospital.

During the design of this project emphasis was placed on energy efficiency and making this new facility the most energy efficient OhioHealth Facility while ensuring all systems were reliable and maintainable. This resulted in a highly efficient chilled water system and condensing heating and domestic water boilers. The equipment sizing was optimized for efficiency. The surgery department HVAC system was designed to minimize reheat energy while maintaining the stringent operating room environmental conditions.

State Route 32 & Brooks-Malott Road Intersection

Honor Award Winner

Burgess & Niple, Inc.

The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) District 9 contracted Burgess & Niple (B&N) to design a new diamond interchange along State Route 32 (SR 32) to replace two dangerous at-grade intersections in Mt. Orab, Ohio. B&N oversaw the design of a new diamond interchange, a new bridge and the construction of nearly a mile of new local roadway – Homan Way. The new interchange roadway over SR 32, Bruce Lunsford Way, honors the former mayor of Mt. Orab. He worked for two decades to secure funding and approval for the interchange prior to passing away before construction began.

This project addressed multiple concerns, including two high-crash at-grade intersections and the need for faster emergency response access, particularly for the Mercy Health Mt. Orab Medical Center.

The team managed complex challenges such as right-of-way acquisition, environmental mitigation of impacted wetlands and drainage solutions due to the flat terrain. Collaborating with subconsultants, the team handled structural and geotechnical engineering, drainage design, roadway design, environmental engineering and interchange aesthetic enhancements.

The project not only improved safety and traffic efficiency but also opened significant land for future development. With strong community support and ODOT's leadership, this project is a key infrastructure improvement for the region.

Princeton Road Bridge & Roundabout

Honor Award Winner

LJB Engineering

This infrastructure upgrade project required unique design and collaboration to not only address the deteriorated bridge, but to also accommodate a roundabout located immediately adjacent to the bridge's rear abutment.

While this is considered one project, it was divided into two design contracts—one for the roundabout and one for the bridge, with east approach. Combined, these projects improved congestion and safety by replacing the aging infrastructure and upgrading the adjacent intersection from a T-type intersection to a roundabout.

The roundabout at the Princeton Road-Mauds Hughes intersection resolved issues with the previous intersection, including traffic congestion, high speeds on Princeton Road, and poor sight distance. The bridge design involved the replacement of a 3-span continuous steel beam structure with a 128-foot single span, composite, prestressed I-beam bridge with flared geometry. To accommodate the adjacent roundabout, the bridge was shifted 20 feet to the east from the existing location, and it was constructed variable width.

Schneider Park Soccer Complex Revitalization Phase 1

Honor Award Winner

The Mannik & Smith Group, Inc.

The Mannik & Smith Group Inc. (MSG) worked with the City of Toledo to expand and transform Schneider Park, which has, for decades, been Toledo's only home for publicly-accessible soccer fields. The park is surrounded by residential and commercial/industrial properties in various degrees of vitality, distress, and abandonment. This project is creating an epicenter of soccer activity and accessibility with a focus on environmental and economic sustainability. It exemplifies how to leverage existing strengths, transform assets that are in need, and instill new energy through creative programs and established public-private partnerships. Over $4 million has been raised from local, state, federal, and private funding sources. MSG conceptualized the park vision, assembled a project team of partners, developed a comprehensive funding strategy and numerous successful grant applications, completed environmental assessments, geotechnical, survey, and engineering design activities, and prepared construction bid documents.

Amenities on the comprehensive master plan include: multi-sized grass and turf soccer fields, two ADA-accessible mini-pitches, an ADA-accessible playground, a multi-purpose building with restrooms, picnic tables with solar power; parking lots constructed with recycled tires; new, relocated access; native plants to increase biodiversity and habitat, a walking/running trail and sidewalks, and, bioretention treating over 4 million gallons of stormwater annually.

Jesse Owens Memorial Stadium Track Reconstruction

Honor Award Winner

Osborn Engineering

In 2024, Osborn Engineering led a comprehensive $2.76 million replacement of the track at The Ohio State University's Jesse Owens Memorial Stadium. This project addressed underlying subgrade instability and moisture intrusion issues identified in a previous facility assessment study performed by Osborn in 2022. Ultimate remediation efforts included a full-depth pavement removal and cement stabilization of existing subgrade, prior to new paving and track surfacing installation. The project was presented with a unique set of challenges, including tight design and construction windows to work around existing Track & Field and Soccer seasons at the Stadium. The project was designed to accommodate certifications and performance requirements set by NCAA and World Athletics standards to support the highly-accoladed Ohio State Buckeyes Track and Field program.

The completed project utilizes Beynon Sports Surfacing's - BSS2000 running track surface, a full-pour polyurethane track surfacing system, which provides an Olympic-caliber performance to the facility. The project also involved complete removal and replacement of existing pole vault, long/triple jump, javelin, and training areas in addition to the 9-lane running track. The completed project will allow OSU Athletics to pursue a World Athletics – Class II facility certification, joining a handful of other facilities across the nation.

PIK-CR8-5.75 (Dry Bone Road) Bridge Replacement

Honor Award Winner

Resource International, Inc.

The Dry Bone Road Bridge Replacement project involved upgrading a narrow, structurally deficient bridge that serves as a critical transportation link for residents in rural Pike County. This area, designated as disadvantaged and facing notable transportation barriers, required a thoughtful and efficient approach. Resource International, Inc., as the Lead Designer, partnered with Shelly & Sands, the Prime Contractor, to design and construct a sustainable bridge with a minimum 50-year service life to support the local Amish community and surrounding residents.

Resource International, Inc.'s design prioritized community input and safety. The new design eliminated the weight restriction – supporting all Ohio legal loads – and widened the bridge to accommodate two lanes of traffic – allowing both modern vehicles and Amish horse-drawn buggies to travel comfortably across the bridge together. The roadway profile was adjusted for a smoother travel experience and new guardrail was placed enhancing overall safety.

Notably, using a Design-Build delivery method, the bridge was completed less than a year after contract signing, opening to the public a full month ahead of schedule. This bridge now stands as a safe, durable, and community-centered improvement to Pike County's infrastructure.

Kings Island Drive Roadway & Safety Improvements

Honor Award Winner

LJB Engineering

To support the growing needs of Mason, Ohio, and prepare for the opening of a new $156 million hospital complex in the area, LJB Engineering led a transformative project near the I-71 Innovation Corridor. Facing both traffic and safety challenges around the 30-acre hospital site, LJB took on the crucial task of designing roadway improvements to accommodate demand. The LJB team stepped up with an "all hands on deck" approach, completing the design of more than 1 mile of new roadway infrastructure in just nine months—an impressive feat, given the scope of the work.

The project brought essential upgrades to the area, including new through and turn lanes, a signal at the hospital's main entrance, and enhancements to existing traffic signal systems to ease congestion and improve safety. Beyond just enhancing capacity, LJB's design prioritized utility coordination, maintenance of traffic, and pedestrian safety for the adjacent high school, ensuring that this thriving area of Mason could welcome the hospital's opening with minimal disruption.

Maple Canyon Avenue Mini Roundabouts

Honor Award Winner

DLZ Ohio, Inc.

The City of Columbus identified the need to enhance the East Dublin Granville Road/SR-161 corridor between I-71 and Cleveland Avenue, which was widened and improved to its current configuration in the 1970s. As traffic continued to increase, some service road intersections with side streets near signalized intersections became high crash locations. DLZ thoroughly studied the corridor's traffic and safety operations to produce short-term improvements and long-term alternatives.

The preferred long-term alternative was maintaining two-way operation on the service roads with medians on the side streets and implementing the first-ever mini roundabouts in the City of Columbus. Mini roundabouts were chosen to minimize right-of-way impacts in a highly developed corridor, eliminate dangerous conflict points, and greatly improve the safety of the intersections. The first project will install four mini roundabouts, with Maple Canyon Avenue intersections selected first because they ranked No. 3 on the MORPC yearly "Top 40 Regional High Crash Locations" list.

The City plans to implement similar mini roundabout solutions at each of the seven sets of intersections along SR-161, for a total of 11 mini roundabouts and one full-sized roundabout.

Cleveland Foundation New Headquarters

Honor Award Winner

Karpinski Enginering

The Cleveland Foundation embarked on a groundbreaking project with its new headquarters, aiming to make a transformative place-based investment aligning with their mission to enhance the lives of all residents of Greater Cleveland. The result is a 55,000 square foot, LEED Gold Certified building situated on Cleveland near east side, a historically redlined district.

The building's mass timber structure highlights the project's uniqueness, which deliberately minimizes ceiling coverings, allowing systems to be integrated as visually appealing, exposed elements. A comprehensive energy model was crucial in guiding decisions related to the HVAC system, optimizing the building envelope, and incorporating additional systems such as a PV array. The VRF HVAC system was selected for its superior efficiency, providing precise zone-by-zone climate control and relative energy savings projected at approximately $55,000 annually.

The new headquarters not only elevates public awareness of the importance of engineering in sustainable development but also positions the engineering profession as a leader in crafting solutions that resonate with and benefit the community.

Kellogg Avenue and I-275 Interchange Beautification

Honor Award Winner

The Kleingers Group

he Kellogg Avenue and I-275 Interchange Beautification project stands as an example of innovative interchange infield design. This initiative transformed an underutilized, ecologically depleted area into a vibrant gateway, attracting 665,000 visitors weekly.

Led by The Kleingers Group, the project integrates landscape architecture and civil engineering, emphasizing sustainability, artistry, and cutting-edge solutions. Challenges, including steep 2:1 slopes, ODOT regulations, and stormwater management within a floodplain, were navigated with interceptor swales, rock chutes, and curb details that capture and direct water, minimize erosion, and maintain the design aesthetic.

Designed as a landmark gateway to Anderson and Cincinnati, the project honors the region's historical orchards and the Ohio River through sweeping curves and color-blocked planting rows. This modern aesthetic, rooted in historical and geographical significance, redefines interchanges as cultural landmarks.

Sustainability was key with native drought-tolerant plantings chosen to enrich biodiversity, attract pollinators, endure harsh conditions, and minimize maintenance. A solar-powered signage wall with backlit lettering, complemented by programmable underpass lighting, transforms the area into a vibrant art space.

This project exemplifies a successful blend of form and function, creating an inviting environment that sets a new benchmark for future interchange projects across Ohio and beyond.

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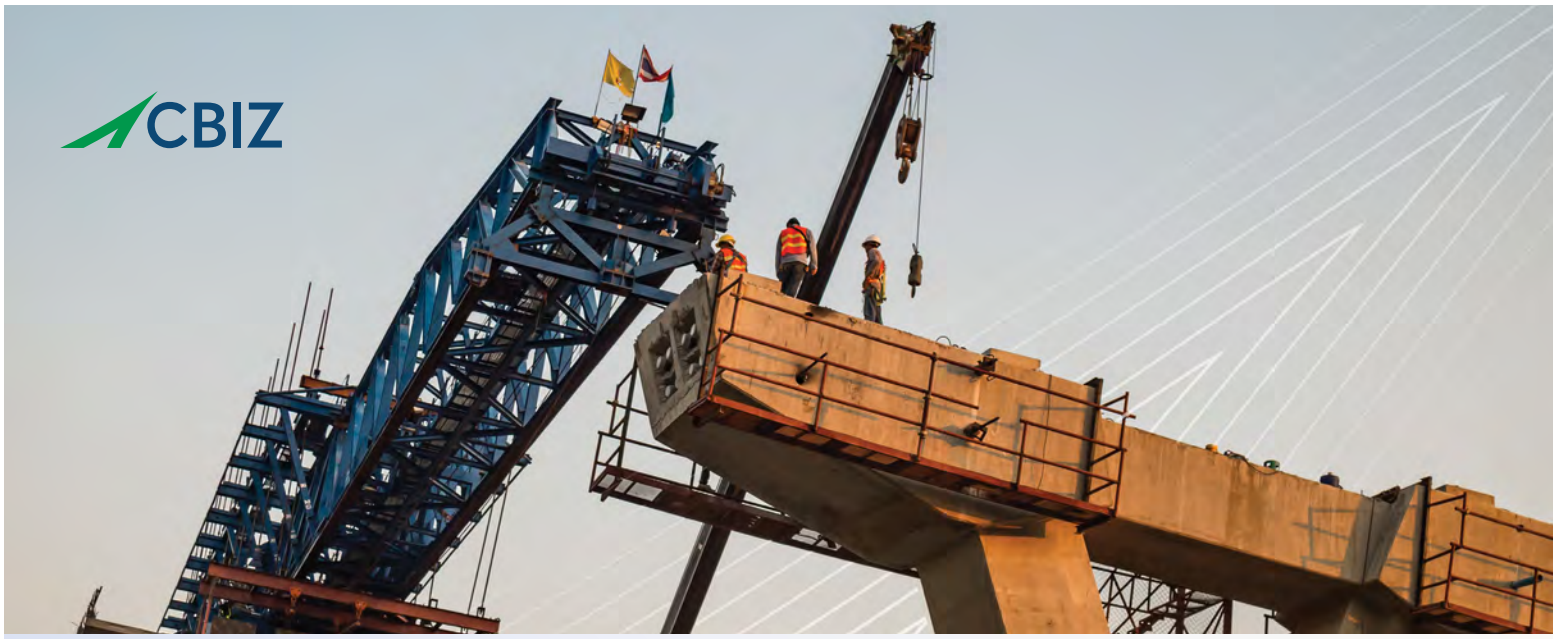

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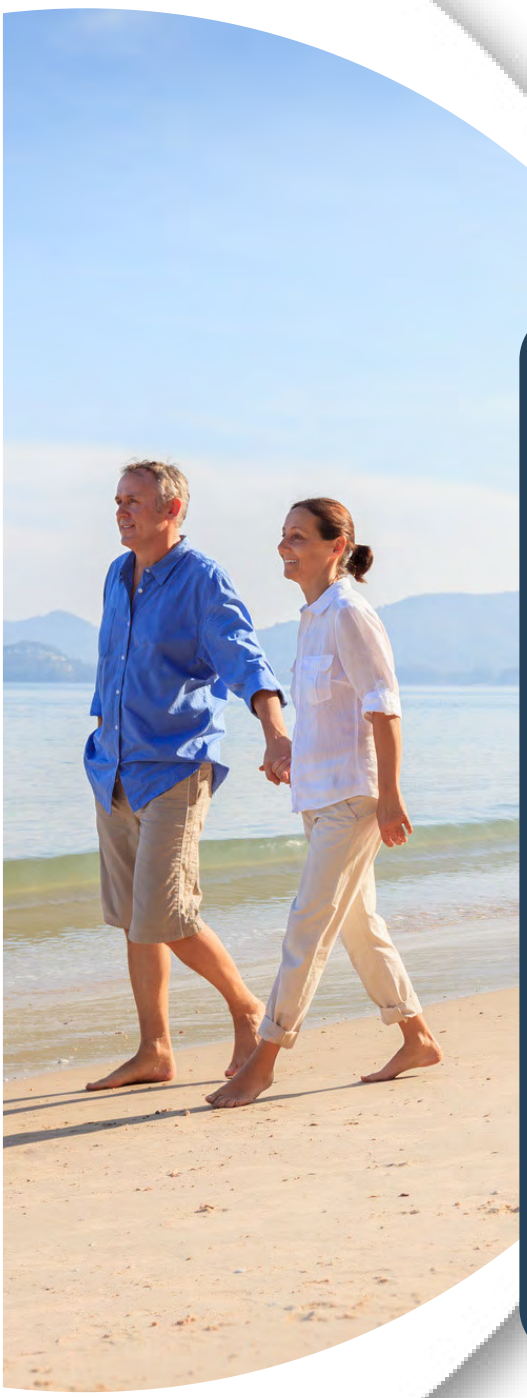

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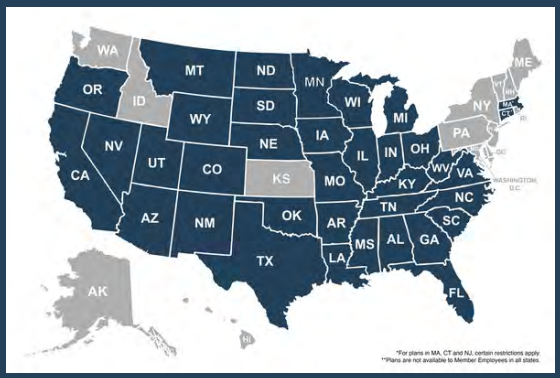

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