FHA Announces Highway Awards

Seven state highway departments, a town in Washington, a city in Florida, and a gasoline service station have earned national recognition as examples demonstrating the compatibility of highways and the environment.

The Federal Highway Administration initiated the program three years ago. The objective was to recognize efforts of public and quasi-public bodies, civic and professional groups, and private industry to improve the environment adjacent to highways.

Competition attracted 723 entries from 123 contestants in 46 states. The 11 category first place winners, and locations of the projects are:

1. Highway in its rural setting and environment; New York State Department of Transportation; section of Route 17 expressway in Sullivan and Delaware counties.
2. Highway in its urban setting and environment; City of Fort Lauderdale; improvement of Olas Blvd.
3. Bridge, overpass, tunnel approach, ramp or interchange area; Oregon State Highway Division; Interstate 80N viaduct around Tooth Rock Mountain.
4. Safety rest area; Michigan Department of State Highways; facility on Interstate 69 near Coldwater.
5. Highway-oriented private enterprise that preserves or improves the environment; town of Leavenworth, Washington; business section turned into Alpine village.
6. Multiple use of highway right-of-way; California Division of Highways; division’s maintenance station built under Interstate 405 and Interstate 10 interchange.
7. Preservation of wildlife or natural areas; Wisconsin Division of Highways; preservation of scenic view on Highway 107 between Merrill and Tomahawk.
8. Preservation of historical sites; Alabama Highway Department; number of buildings in Mobile with historical significance saved in construction of Interstate 10.
9. Landscape treatment along roadways and interchanges; California Division of Highways; State Highway 99 through Chico.
10. Screening or disposal of junked cars; Vermont Department of Highways; unique program for disposing of junked autos.
11. Outstanding motorist service station; Liberty Oil Company; station on U.S. 460 in Mt. Vernon, Ill.

Selected for honorable mention:
1. New Hampshire Department of Public Works; Interstate 89 from New London to Grantham.
2. City of West Palm Beach, Fla., improvement of Flagler Drive.
3. Washington State Highway Department; Cowlitz River arch span near town of Mossyrock.
4. California Division of Highways; Hunter Hill rest stop on Highway 80 east of Vallejo.
5. Travel Information Center; on I-80 near Echo Junction in Utah.
6. City of Chicago; development of rail rapid transit facilities in median strip of Dan Ryan Expressway.
7. Wisconsin Division of Highways; borrow pit utilized for swimming beach on I-94, Milletone.
9. Arizona Highway Department; landscaping I-8, Vekol Valley.
10. Wisconsin Division of Highways; screening of auto junkyard on U.S. 81 north of Stevens Point.
11. Shell Oil Company station on Highway 101 in Novato, Calif.

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