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**City of Greenville**

# Press Release

**For Immediate Release**

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## Public Works Director Accepted into Leadership Program

The City of Greenville City is pleased to announce that Public Works Director Bill Grider has been accepted into The American Public Works Association Emerging Leaders Academy. The Academy is a national program offered by APWA that provides intensive leadership and management training within the context of public works. It encourages professional growth through a strong network of peers, and offers an in-depth introduction to APWA at the national, chapter, and branch levels.

Grider will be a member of the fourth class of the Academy, which only accepts sixteen applicants per year. The candidates must be “professionals who have been working in the field of public works for seven years or less” and “those who have demonstrated an interest in advancing their careers within the profession.”

Acceptance to the program comes through a lengthy application process and selection process. Selection criteria include: candidate demonstrated a commitment to leadership in their organization and their community; candidate sought growth in responsibility in their organization; candidate envisioned a more significant leadership role in their organization and their community in the future; candidate stated clearly defined goals; presented a willingness to contribute to the success of the Emerging Leaders Academy class; and submission of a complete application package.

The program consists of participation in year-long activities for the group. Each student is assigned a mentor from one of the previous Emerging Leaders classes. The Academy’s activities include monthly one-hour conference calls, bi-monthly online mentoring calls, a two-day retreat in Kansas City, MO, and attendance at the APWA International Public Works Congress & Exposition. It is expected that participants will also complete reading assignments and other class projects as requested by the Academy Coordinator. The program is intended to be dynamic and interactive.

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