



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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City of Panama City Public Works Project Manager Earns Top Management Certification

Panama City, FL – The City of Panama City is thrilled to announce that Suzanne Mandel, Project Manager for the Public Works Department, has achieved the prestigious designation of Certified Public Works Professional – Manager (CPWP-M). This esteemed certification highlights her exceptional skills and dedication in the field of public works management. In the United States, there are less than 100 individuals who have earned their CPWP-M and almost 35,000 municipalities that are members of the American Public Works Association (APWA).

Suzanne has nearly 20 years of project management experience and has served the City of Panama City for about three-and-a-half years as the Project Manager in Public Works. She works closely with the City Utilities Engineer and Underground Utilities Team while also acting as a liaison between consultants and contractors on larger scale projects. As of Summer 2024, she is managing over \$100 million in active projects for the City.

“What I love about being a Project Manager is using known solutions on unexpected problems, every day,” said Suzanne. “Additionally, my Public Works family is made up of really hard workers who share their knowledge, experience *and* workload, creating a fun, TEAM dynamic that is a game-changer and very tough to achieve in the average workplace.”

During her tenure with the City, Suzanne has consistently demonstrated exceptional project management skills and a deep understanding of infrastructure needs. Her leadership in managing complex projects and her innovative approach to problem-solving have greatly contributed to the efficiency and effectiveness Panama City’s Public Works Department.

“When our Public Works department got active in the APWA, I immediately saw an opportunity to engage with a support, education and networking entity to build knowledge and credibility,” said Suzanne. “As a ‘new to public works’ Project Manager, I felt that having the CPWP certification(s) would only boost the hands-on experience I gained every day, and when I found out that only a few individuals had achieved the CPWP-M designation, I made it a goal.”



Suzanne's successful attainment of the CPWP-M designation not only reflects her personal dedication to professional excellence but also enhances the City's credibility and capabilities. This accomplishment underscores her role as a leader in shaping and advancing our City's public works initiatives.

Please join us in congratulating Suzanne Mandel on this remarkable achievement. Her dedication and leadership continue to set a high standard for public works professionals and contribute to the betterment of our community.

About the CPWP-M

The CPWP-M designation is awarded by the APWA and is a testament to a professional's knowledge in managing public works projects and leading teams effectively. The certification is a rigorous process that evaluates candidates on their knowledge, experience, and management capabilities, ensuring they meet the highest standards in the field. Candidates must have three years of public works supervisory experience and prove their ability to manage a public works department. Candidates must also prove competence, by examination, in the areas of communication, budget and finance, human resource management, administrative operations, procurement and contract administration, project management, asset management, and emergency management, all while displaying an overall understanding of basic public works operations.

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