



# Saint Louis County

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**James T. Foldesi, P.E.**  
Public Works Director/  
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## NEWS RELEASE

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 26, 2014

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### **Haines Road project honored as best in North America**

The rebuilding of Haines Road following the 2012 flood has already won the praise of motorists, bicyclists and pedestrians, as well as project of the year honors from the Minnesota County Engineers Association. Now, the \$12 million project has earned international recognition. The American Public Works Association (APWA) has chosen the Haines Road project as its Disaster or Emergency Construction Repair Project of the Year.

The APWA award considers public works projects throughout North America based on construction management techniques, safety, community relations, environmental protection, overcoming adverse conditions and other considerations. In addition to St. Louis County being honored as managing agency for the project, the APWA award also recognizes Hammerlund Construction as primary contractor, and LHB as primary consultant. St. Louis County Public Works Resident Engineer Steve Krasaway, who served as lead engineer on the project, received the award on behalf of the county and project partners at the APWA annual conference last week.

Haines Road, officially known as County State Aid Highway 91, had already been slated for repairs when the flood hit, leaving extensive damage to this key route traveled by approximately 7,000 vehicles every day. Despite the immense scope of the project – it's the largest individual road construction project ever for St. Louis County Public Works – engineers quickly modified and accelerated plans to complete what had been expected to be a two year project, in one construction season. This included working with the Minnesota Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration to allocate storm repair funding toward a planned reconstruction project.

“I would like to thank the St. Louis County Board and the citizens of St. Louis County for their support and patience through this process. Without the public’s support, this project would not have happened. Anyone who travels Haines Road appreciates the work that went into rebuilding it and the beautiful road that’s resulted from all that work,” said Jim Foldesi, St. Louis County Public Works Director. “But to receive this kind of recognition from our fellow engineers who understand the complexity of what we faced and were ultimately able to accomplish, it makes me so happy for all of our employees and project partners who worked so hard and so creatively to get this done.”

The American Public Works Association is a not-for-profit, international organization that promotes professional excellence and public awareness through education, advocacy and the exchange of knowledge. APWA is made up of more than 28,500 members involved in the field of public works throughout North America.

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*Larry Stevens, APWA president, presents the award recognizing the Haines Road project as Disaster or Emergency Construction Repair Project of the Year to St. Louis County Public Works Resident Engineer Steve Krasaway.*