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**ALAMEDA COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR NAMED
2014 TOP TEN PUBLIC WORKS LEADER OF THE YEAR**

HAYWARD, CA – **Daniel Woldesenbet, Ph.D., Director of the Alameda County Public Works Agency**, has been named “2014 Top Ten Public Works Leader of the Year” by the American Public Works Association (APWA). The annual “Top Ten Public Works Leader” award has become internationally recognized in the profession and carries with it a level of prestige as the highest individual award given by APWA. This distinguished award recognizes Dr. Woldesenbet for his exemplary contributions to Public Works, his outstanding contributions to the fields of public administration/management and engineering, and his creativity, acute insights, and strategic thinking. This award also reflects his unwavering commitment to employee empowerment and excellence. Dr. Woldesenbet is now counted among an elite group of public works professionals recognized for excellence and considered the “best and brightest” leaders in the profession.

Alameda County communities continue to benefit from his visionary and entrepreneurial leadership that focuses on results, consensus building, and reaching mutually beneficial conclusions to important and controversial issues. He has earned the respect of local elected officials, state and federal representatives, and his peers.

Susan S. Muranishi, Alameda County Administrator, said, “I am thrilled – but not surprised – to hear that Daniel has been selected for this outstanding international recognition. Daniel’s creativity, seasoned excellence and leadership on many countywide initiatives benefit Alameda County and its residents each and every day.”

Under Dr. Woldesenbet’s direction, the Public Works Agency engages in the highest standards of engineering practices to consistently deliver an unprecedented number of community-oriented, environmentally-sustainable, public works projects. In 2012, the Alameda County Public Works Agency’s received the prestigious American Public Works (APWA) Accreditation, becoming only the third county agency in California to receive the Accreditation award and the 79th agency in North America.

After joining the Alameda County Public Works Agency, Dr. Woldesenbet has expanded the Capital Improvements Project program delivery dramatically. Since 2006, the Public Works Agency has delivered over \$165 million in Capital Improvement Projects throughout unincorporated Alameda County. These transportation improvements have created jobs in Alameda County, expanded access and improved mobility for hundreds of thousands of residents, and fostered more vibrant and livable Alameda County communities. Many of these projects have

received regional, state, and national recognition for excellence in engineering design, safety improvements, project delivery, and community service.

“Under Daniel’s leadership, projects of regional significance that formerly languished for years due to funding or implementation challenges have been completed. His dedication to ensuring that projects, small and large, are delivered in an efficient manner, highlights the fact that local government can ably deliver services and meet the expectations of the taxpaying public,” said **Supervisor Scott Haggerty, Alameda County Board of Supervisors.**

Dr. Woldesenbet has also successfully implemented numerous innovative programs that benefit employees, Alameda County departments and cities, and the general public. The most recent innovation was the launch of Alameda County’s versatile and user-friendly Smart Phone (Android, Apple) application “MOBILE CITIZEN.” This application allows residents to report issues such as potholes, graffiti, illegal dumping, and other requests for services by simply taking a photo and submitting it directly to the Public Works Agency who can then locate and rectify the issue quickly and effectively.

Dr. Woldesenbet approaches challenges with innovation, creativity, and strategic thinking. In addition to his active participation with APWA, Dr. Woldesenbet regularly participates in local, regional and state associations and organizations including the Alameda County Transportation Commission (ACTC), Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), the designated metropolitan planning organization for the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area region, California State Association of Counties (CSAC), and the County Engineer’s Association of California (CEAC). Several of these organizations have previously recognized Dr. Woldesenbet’s excellence in public service with awards including the 2013 County Engineers Association of California’s (CEAC) County Engineer of the Year Award and APWA 2011 Public Works Leader of the Year for Northern California.

“I would like to congratulate Daniel for being recognized as an APWA Top Ten Leader of the Year! I just want to know, what took them so long? He’s a great guy!” said **Board President Keith Carson, Alameda County Board of Supervisors.**

Representatives from the American Public Works Association will present Dr. Woldesenbet with this prestigious award at a future Board of Supervisors meeting.

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