

2020 Transportation Vanguard Award

Background

A vanguard is someone who is leading the way in new developments or ideas. In this spirit, the AASHTO Transportation Vanguard Award was established to honor a deserving individual doing extraordinary things in the field of transportation. Anyone age 40 or younger working for an AASHTO member department of transportation with a commitment to excellence and the implementation of innovative technologies and processes may be nominated.

AASHTO bestows this award in honor of James C. McMinimie, P.E., formerly of the Utah Department of Transportation, who during his lifetime of public service led innovation among his peers and the State DOTs.

AASHTO wishes to express its appreciation to Bentley Systems and HDR for their support of the 2020 Transportation Vanguard Award

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❖ 2020 Vanguard Award Winner ❖

Gregory Ciparelli, Connecticut DOT

“Greg has brought an incredible and impressive array of skills to [the newly established Enterprise GIS and Data Analytics Unit]. Through his dedication, passion, professionalism, and leadership, he is single-handedly changing the data culture of the agency while helping it to move strategically in enterprise data directions that it might not otherwise have embraced.”

“His influence...cuts across all aspects of policy, program, and technical decision making. His recent COVID-19 support work has influenced decisions by the Commissioner and has been used to keep all of state government informed, including the Governor.”

“His open and engaging style enables him to communicate easily at all levels of the organization. He is a teacher in the full sense of that term, by listening, understanding, and guiding his peers to adopt or develop new solutions of their own.”

“Greg’s commitment to excellence and insatiable curiosity in new forms of business intelligence, coupled with his willingness to help colleagues find pragmatic and useful solutions, are considered exceptional within the Department. [He is] an invaluable resource with which to confidently move forward with new cross-cutting tools and technologies that continue to add value to [our] mission and core functions.”

AASHTO is proud to present Gregory Ciparelli with the Transportation Vanguard Award for 2020

Congratulations to those nominated for the
2020 Transportation Vanguard Award

Nominees

Andrew Pavey
Alaska DOT and Public
Facilities

David Man
California DOT

Kurt Kionka
Colorado DOT

Gregory Ciparelli
Connecticut DOT

Julie Pike
District DOT

Steven Buck
Florida DOT

Andrew Heath
Georgia DOT

Brandon Oxley
Illinois DOT

Peter Becker
Indiana DOT

Tina Greenfield
Iowa DOT

Jason Siwula
Kentucky TC

Aaron Jones
Maryland DOT

Bryan Pounds
Massachusetts DOT

Joe Thick
Michigan DOT

Tim Sexton
Minnesota DOT

Eric Kopinski
Missouri DOT

Bethany Kappes
Montana DOT

Brendan Rahl
New Jersey DOT

Josh Kellen
North Carolina DOT

John MacAdam
Ohio DOT

Jeremy Planteen
Oklahoma DOT

Nicholas Shrawder
Pennsylvania DOT

Ryan Barborak
Texas DOT

Jamie Waller
Tennessee DOT

Tiffany Pocock
Utah DOT

David Tillberg
Vermont AOT

Cody Johnson
Washington State DOT

Jacob Bumgarner
West Virginia DOT

Sean Debels
Wisconsin DOT

Judges

Mo Harmon
Director Industry Strategy,
Bentley Systems

Bernard Arseneau
Director, Highways &
Roads, HDR

Kimberly Webb
Director, Metro Region,
Michigan DOT

Melinda McGrath
Executive Director,
Mississippi DOT

George McAuley
Executive Deputy
Secretary, Pennsylvania
DOT

Paul Degges
Deputy Commissioner/
Chief Engineer,
Tennessee DOT

Carlos Bracerias
Executive Director,
Utah DOT