PUBLIC WORKS

Goodwill in Mexico

Street Services completes donation of three trucks to Mexicali, Mexico.

Bureau of Street Services Assistant Director Nazario Sauceda recently represented Public Works as an international goodwill ambassador when he traveled to Mexicali, Mexico, to complete the delivery of three City Public Works trucks donated to that city.

Mexicali Mayor Rodolfo Valdez, Oficial (Deputy) Mayor Ruben Chavez, and Public Works Director Jose Reynoso officially received Sauceda and accepted the donated vehicles as a welcomed "great gift."

"We donated a 1997 Peterbilt 379 aluminum body dump truck, 12 wheeler; a 1996 Ford CF70 over-thecab loader dump truck; and a 1992 GMC mediumduty flatbed/stake bed lumber truck," Sauceda said.

While there, the public officials and Assistant Director Sauceda met to discuss public worksrelated issues, goals and challenges as well as innovative methods both agencies are implementing to resolve them. "All municipalities have generally the same public works challenges, tasks, and mission," Sauceda notes. "I am pleased that I was able to share information with them and offer them opportunities to exchange knowledge our City has gained from common experiences."

One of the major challenges facing Mexicali is rapid growth resulting from an influx of foreign investments in "maquiladoras," or electronics factories, creating numerous new housing developments, according to Sauceda. "Among other things, more widespread infrastructure and public works services are now needed, such as street maintenance, street lighting, installation of new street trees and sewer lines." With a population of roughly one million, the city is about one quarter the size of Los Angeles in area.



Bureau of Street Services Assistant Director Nazario Sauceda hands the keys to the Public Works trucks to Mexicali Mayor Rodolfo Valdez. Also on hand were Oficial (Deputy) Mayor Ruben Chavez and Public Works Director Jose Reynoso

PUBLIC WORKS / CITY ATTORNEY

Career Mentors

Employees from Public Works and the City Attorney's Office mentor students from Arleta High School.

The Board of Public Works and the Office of the City Attorney teamed recently for Career Shadow Day, where 38 Arleta High School students got an opportunity to observe City personnel in the working environment. Staff -- about 20 employees -- escorted students as mentors to provide work-related experiences and help them gain insights into potential future careers.

Donald C. Tillman Water Reclamation Plant served as the staging point. Students and mentors visited City work sites throughout the San Fernando Valley, then reassembled at the Japanese Garden Tea Room for lunch and debriefing, where they shared experiences. City Attorney Rocky Delgadillo and Commissioner Ernesto Cardenas addressed the assembly on the importance of higher education, perseverance and determination, and career opportunity.

Mentors from Public Works who took part included Principal Construction Inspectors Jim Cassley and John Olinger; Street Services Valley Superintendents Mark Simon and Gary Gsell; Civil Engineering Associates Amber Elton and



Board of Public Works Commissioner Ernesto Cardenas greets and talks with students from Arleta High School.

Christine Keushguerian; Wastewater Engineers John Mays and Rama Korand; and Wastewater Operators Lisa Macualey and George Hano. Public Works Commissioner Ernesto Cardenas and Principal Public Relations Representative Richard Lee, also took part.



City Attorney Rocky Delgadillo addresses the group during a lunchtime talk at Career Shadow Day.



Senior Construction Inspector Mike Hames, Bureau of Contract Administration, discusses his job during the work site visit

