



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:

Media Contact:

Clarissa Howard 407-599-3428

WINTER PARK WATER & WASTEWATER UTILITY DEPARTMENT RECEIVES MERIT AWARD FOR SWOOPE WATER TREATMENT PLANT

CITY OF WINTER PARK

401 Park Avenue South

Winter Park, Florida

32789-4386

WINTER PARK, Fla., a nationally recognized Crown Community and City Spirit Award Winner (November 14, 2006) – The City of Winter Park’s Water & Wastewater Utility Department has received a 2006 National Merit Award from the Design-Build Institute of America (DBIA) for the finished Swoope Water Treatment Plant.

David Zusi, Water & Wastewater Utility Director, was on hand to accept the award at the October 19 ceremony in Nashville, Tenn. “This DBIA award is national recognition for the team effort that went into the construction of the Swoope Water Treatment Plant. The project was completed on schedule, below budget and has been a great success story for the city and the area residents,” said Zusi. The plant, which was completed in March 2005, has received numerous accolades both on its overall design and low impact on the surrounding environment.

The city’s goal was to replace a 50-year-old dilapidated water plant located adjacent to a plot of land containing 27 rundown rental homes. Due to growing area property value, renters were in danger of being pushed out by private buyers. In an effort to stop gentrification, the city purchased the land and helped relocate residents in return for approval to build the new water plant on the contiguous land. Approximately one year after the project began, the 30 new apartments, designed to fit seamlessly into the existing neighborhood, opened to residents in February 2004.

The City of Winter Park transformed a water treatment plant project and associated housing unit into a community initiative, using award-winning Florida-style Vernacular architecture. CH2MHill provided total design-build services to construct the state-of-the-art 10-million-gallons-per-day (mgd) water treatment plant. Innovative thinking and planning saved the city over \$5 million in construction costs.

For more information on the City of Winter Park’s Water & Wastewater Utility, please visit www.cityofwinterpark.org.

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