

Smith-Midland gets contract for Dulles Corridor Metrorail project

Through the end of 2016, Smith-Midland will provide 15,000 tons (14,000 tonnes) of concrete for the Dulles Corridor Metrorail silver line phase 2 project in Virginia near Washington, D.C., in a deal contracted at \$4 million.

Just over 6 miles (10 km) of Smith-Midland precast concrete aerial guideway parapet panels will run along the sides of the elevated silver line track, beginning in close proximity to Dulles Airport and continuing along Autopilot Drive. In addition, 10,000 ft (3 km) of J-J Hooks precast concrete barriers are included in the deal.

The parapet will serve as a noise barrier and visual screen. The 265 precast concrete manholes will serve as electric, communication, and traction power vaults, which will support Metrorail controls and power lines from the airports authority and Dominion Power.

The Dulles Corridor Metrorail project is a 23-mile (38 km) extension of Washington's existing Metrorail system and is being built in two phases by the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority. When both phases are complete, the silver line will provide a one-seat, no-transfer ride from Dulles, Va., to Washington and will include 11 new stations. Phase 2 will include six stations along 11.4 miles (18.9 km).

The primary construction company on this project is Capital Rail Constructors and includes a joint venture between Clark Construction Group and Kiewit Infrastructure South.

—Source: Smith-Midland Corp.

Ellis Island Medal of Honor goes to Wahby this year



Wafeek Wahby

Wafeek Wahby, professor of construction technology at Eastern Illinois University (EIU) and member of numerous PCI committees, is the recipient of the 2015 Ellis Island Medal of Honor. This prestigious award is presented by the National Ethnic Coalition of Organizations (NECO).

The Ellis Island Medal of Honor is presented annually to American citizens who have distinguished themselves within their own ethnic groups while exemplifying the values of the American way of life. Past medalists include six U.S. presidents, one foreign president, Nobel Prize winners, and leaders of industry, education, the arts, sports, and government.

Wahby was recognized for receiving superior evaluations by students, peers, department chairs, and administration for his work at EIU; receiving numerous awards in service and engineering education; initiating, organizing, and administering a series of extended campuswide educational symposia; offering and planning study abroad courses for students, faculty, and professionals; and many other professional and service accomplishments.

NECO says that each nomination should satisfy one or more of the following items:

- Lives a life dedicated to helping others, whether at a community or national level.
- Preserves and celebrates the history, traditions, and values of their ancestry group while proving themselves valuable citizens of the United States.
- Strives for tolerance and acceptance between ethnic, racial, and religious groups in the United States and abroad.
- Shares their personal and/or professional gifts for the benefit of humanity.

Wahby received his BS in civil engineering from Alexandria University in Alexandria, Egypt, where he also completed two master's degrees in structural engineering and earned his PhD in structural/materials engineering. He worked for 23 years in the construction industry in Egypt while teaching as an adjunct instructor at his alma mater. After becoming an American citizen in 1994, Wahby worked as a professor of civil engineering at Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Mich. He joined EIU in 1998.

The award is presented to medalists on Ellis Island, New York, N.Y., during a ceremony that includes other distinguished Americans, as well as Joint Service Color Guards, the West Point Band, performers and dancers in native costume, and other Broadway performers' entertainment presentations.

—Source: Wafeek Wahby and NECO