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Columbia Section Meeting

Date: June 29, 2011

Place: Shilo Inn, George Washington Way, Richland

Meal: Buffet (Chef's choice) - FREE for ASCE Members and \$15 for Non Members. Please pay cash or check to treasurer at meeting

Topic: Lewis Street Overpass Design

Speakers: Rick Door, Travis Marden (JUB) and Ahmad Qayoumi (City of Pasco)

Lunch will start at 11:30, and the presentation will begin at Noon. RSVP to: Chris Ells cells@jub.com (509)783-2144

President's Remarks:

The 2010-2011 ASCE Columbia Section year is coming to an end. This month's meeting will be our last with the current officers and there will not be another meeting until September. That means that it is time to count the votes for who will become officers for next year. I have received several ballots already. You still have until June 29 to email your ballot to me, or you can bring it to the meeting and I will announce the results at the end of the meeting.

About the June 29th meeting, the current plan is that we will be hearing from Rick Door and Travis Marden from JUB will be presenting with Ahmad Qayoumi from the City of Pasco. Hopefully all three will be able to present, but as we saw last month, schedules can change at the last minute. No matter who makes it, the presentation will be about the design for the new Lewis Street Overpass over the Burlington Northern Santa Fe right-of-way. The overpass will be replacing the existing underpass which is narrow with limited vertical clearance and has stormwater issues.

It will be roughly a \$30 million project that will result in fairly significant changes to the Pasco downtown area. I actually worked on the preliminary alignment study a few years ago so I am particularly interested to see how the final design turns out.

I almost forgot. This has been a surprisingly good year for the Columbia Section financially. We have had good attendance at the meetings which has covered the cost of the lunches, and we have received more section dues from National than we expected. As a result we have a bit of a surplus. (It seems strange saying that now

days.) As a result, the officers have decided to use the extra money to cover the cost of the final ASCE lunch for all ASCE members. We will have a copy of the latest section rolls and if you are listed as a current member, then your lunch will be free. If you are not a member, however, you will have to pay the typical \$15.

So I hope to see you all there for what should be an interesting presentation and the election of our new officers.

Paul Smith
ASCE Columbia Section President
