

## Golden Gate Bridge Project Specific Recognitions

### Golden Gate Bridge Landmark Designations and Other Distinctions

#### PROJECT SPECIFIC RECOGNITIONS

Over the years, a number of Golden Gate Bridge, Highway and Transportation District (District) projects and programs have received national and international recognition. The following highlights some of the primary awards and recognitions received.

**1977:** The District received the U.S. Department of Transportation Administrator's Award for Outstanding Public Service for displaying extraordinary initiative in advancing urban transportation in the public interest.

**1980:** The District was awarded the Presidential Energy Efficiency Award for operating transit services and actively promoting ridesharing and was the only public transit agency so honored.

**1983:** Chief Engineer Mr. Stahl, Amman & Whitney (A&W), received the ASCE Merit Award for Innovation in Civil Engineering in recognition of his combined innovations on the Bridge of systems for suspender rope replacement as such a project had never before been performed at such a large scale, and for the Deck Replacement Project.

**1984:** The Institute of Transportation Engineers Transportation Achievement Award was given to the District for recognizing innovations in providing for the transportation needs of the North Bay.

**1986:** The Deck Replacement Project received wide recognition in the local press and in national technical publications. In addition, the National Council of the ASCE and the State Council of the ASCE awarded the 1986 Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement Award to the District and the engineering and design consultant A&W for the Deck Replacement Project.

**1986:** The District and A&W received the 1986 Prize Bridge Award, in the category Reconstruction, from the American Institute of Steel Construction for the Deck Replacement Project (see Chapter 6).

**1986:** The District and A&W shared the James F. Lincoln Arc Welding Foundation Gold Award for the advancement of arc welding design, engineering and fabrication, in recognition of the advances in welding technology that were developed and implemented during the Golden Gate Bridge Deck Replacement Project.

**1987:** The District received the Grand Award from the Metropolitan Transportation Commission for design and implementation of North Bay ridesharing programs.

**1987:** In 1987, in recognition of professionalism, ingenuity and originality of the lighting design, the Bridge's new decorative tower lighting received two awards from the Illumination Engineering Society of North America: the International Illumination Design Award and the Edwin F. Guth Memorial Lighting Design Award of Merit.

**1989:** The District received the Annual Award for Architectural Excellence from the Foundation for San Francisco Architectural Heritage for the toll booth renovation project.

**1991:** The District and T.Y. Lin International received the 22nd Annual Award for Excellence in Engineering from the American Consulting Engineers Council for the Golden Gate Bridge Transit Feasibility Study.

**2005:** The Golden Gate Bridge Seismic Retrofit Design and Construction Project, Phase 2, was recognized as the Special Earthquake Engineering Project of the Year by the San Francisco Section of ASCE.

**2006:** Golden Gate Bridge Seismic Retrofit Design and Construction Project was named as one of the top nine Seismic Retrofit Projects of the 20th Century by Applied Technology Council and Engineering News Record as part of their "Celebrating 100 Years of Seismic Structural Engineering and Construction" in the United States.

**2007:** On April 25, 2007, Phase 2 of the Golden Gate Bridge Seismic Retrofit Project received the ASCE 2007 Outstanding Civil Engineering Achievement (OCEA) Award. Established in 1960 by the ASCE, the OCEA program recognizes projects on the basis of their resourcefulness in addressing planning and design challenges, impact on the environment, pioneering uses of materials and techniques, construction innovations and contribution to the well-being of people and their communities.

## **LANDMARK DESIGNATIONS AND OTHER DISTINCTIONS**

The Golden Gate Bridge has received several landmark designations and other notable distinctions over the years. The Bridge has received these designations primary because of its striking design reflected by its unique and distinguishing architectural qualities and characteristics. It represents the great period of suspension bridge engineering of the 1920s and 1930s, with its never before seen suspension bridge aesthetics that emphasized light and simplicity, rather than solidity and complexity. The Bridge embodies new shapes and forms that would transcend previous bridge designs showcasing its tremendous scale and

beauty. Its detailed Art Deco styling, International Orange color, extraordinary illumination, and the arch over Historic Fort Point all set the Golden Gate Bridge apart from all other suspension spans of the era as an architectural masterpiece.

**1955:** ASCE named the Golden Gate Bridge as one of the Seven Engineering Wonders of the World.

**1980:** Following the nomination by the United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, the Golden Gate Bridge was determined eligible for individual listing in the National Register of Historical Resources.

**1984:** The ASCE named the Golden Gate Bridge a National Civil Engineering Landmark.

**1990:** The Golden Gate Bridge was designated by the State Office of National Preservation as California Historical Landmark No. 974.

**1993:** In October 1993, the Golden Gate Bridge received the Society of American Registered Architects' Distinguished Building Award in recognition of enduring excellence in design. The Bridge is the first structure other than a building to receive the distinction since the society began presenting the awards in 1956.

**1994:** On February 16, 1994, the Golden Gate Bridge was named one of Seven Civil Engineering Wonders of the United States by the ASCE along with the Hoover Dam, Interstate Highway System, Kennedy Space Center, Panama Canal, Trans-Alaska Pipeline and World Trade Center.

**1995:** Popular Mechanics Magazine and ASCE together declared the Golden Gate Bridge one of the Seven Wonders of the Modern World.

**1999:** In March 1999, the Golden Gate Bridge was ranked number two in the list of the Top Ten Construction Achievements of the 20th Century announced at CONEXPO-CON/AGG (held in Las Vegas), the largest construction, aggregates, and ready mixed concrete industries trade show in the Western Hemisphere. The Bridge was selected along with Chunnel (ranked 1), Interstate Highway System (ranked 3), Empire State Building (ranked 4), Hoover Dam (ranked 5), Panama Canal (ranked 6), Sydney Opera House (ranked 7), Aswan High Dam (ranked 8), World Trade Center (ranked 9), and Chek Lap Kok Airport in Hong Kong (ranked 10).

**1999:** On May 21, 1999, the Golden Gate Bridge was designated as San Francisco Landmark No. 222 by the City and County of San Francisco Board of Supervisor's Ordinance 125-99.

**2000:** On June 12, 2000, the Golden Gate Bridge was named the winner of the Second Annual Gustav Lindenthal Medal as the most significant engineering project of the twentieth century.

**2000:** On September 19, 2000, the American Public Works Association selected the Golden Gate Bridge as one of the ten Most Outstanding Public Works Projects of the 20th Century. Other projects selected included the Grand Coulee Dam, St. Lawrence Seaway, the Interstate Highway System, Hoover Dam, Hyperion Treatment Plant, the Reversal of the Chicago River, Tennessee Valley Project, Panama Canal, and the Bay Area Rapid Transit District.

**2001:** On May 30, 2001, the ASCE named the Golden Gate Bridge one of the Civil Engineering Monuments of the Millennium along with the Panama Canal, Kansai International Airport, Osaka, Japan, Empire State Building, Hoover Dam, the Interstate Highway System, California Water Project, Eurotunnel Rail System, and Chicago Wastewater System.

**2007:** On February 7, 2007, the Golden Gate Bridge was named the fifth among the top 150 favorite structures in the U.S. by the American Institute of Architects. The Empire State Building was ranked first, the White House second, Washington National Cathedral third, and the Jefferson Memorial fourth.