Public, Private Partnerships

Even in the best of times, governments at all levels are challenged to keep up with the demands of their constituents. During periods of slow growth, government revenues are frequently not sufficient to meet spending demands, necessitating painful spending cuts or tax increases. Partnerships can provide a continued or improved level of service, at reduced costs. And equally important, partnerships can also provide the capital needed for construction of major facilities. By developing partnerships with private-sector entities, governments can maintain quality services despite budget limitations.

P3s have been in use in the United States for over 200 years and thousands are operating today. These contractual arrangements between government entities and private companies for the delivery of new facilities are used for water/wastewater, transportation, education and urban development, to name only a few areas of application. Today, the average American city works with private partners to perform 23 out of 65 basic municipal services. The use of partnerships is increasing because they provide an effective tool in meeting public needs, maintaining a high level of public control, improving the quality of services, and are more cost effective than traditional delivery methods.

In Virginia, public-private partnerships were instrumental in constructing over 30 new school buildings. By working with a private real estate development company, city and county school systems were able to build state-of-the-art facilities with a modern computer lab, gym and library. Often, allowing the private sector to utilize publicly-owned underutilized assets for commercial activities provides a major portion of the funding for these projects. Today, a number of other states are now following this example, driven by the need to address the problem of aging education infrastructures.

Through a PPP agreement, the skills and assets of each sector (public and private) are shared in delivering a service or facility for the use of the general public. In addition to the sharing of resources, each party shares in the risks and rewards potential in the delivery of the service and/or facility. It’s a win-win for both public and private entities in an economy where traditional funding sources are diminished.

Member News

With crews working “full speed ahead,” Miller Construction Company has completed a fast-track project at the Rybovich Superyacht Marina, delivering three new amenity buildings on a 60-day schedule.

Marina owner Rybovich Boat Company, LLC, turned to Miller as general contractor for the new, country club-caliber cafe and fitness center at the marina, which is located on North Flagler Drive in West Palm Beach, just south of the Port of Palm Beach. The project also included a new maintenance building. The concrete masonry structures total 16,560 square feet and feature wood roof truss systems and standing-seam metal roofs - all hardened to withstand proximity to salt water.

“The marina was fully operational throughout construction, in an extremely busy yachting season,” said Jeff Slade, vice president - operations manager with Miller Construction Co.

CASF’s next Bar-B-Que will be Wednesday, March 7, at the FAU Stadium Priority Deck. Come on out to see the finished product of the Balfour Beatty Construction/James A. Cummings - Joint Venture.

Rybovich M/Y Cafe
Providing Hands-on Personal Service

Each month Construction FOCUS features a CASF member company, selected by drawing a business card from among those attending the monthly networking breakfast. The next breakfast, sponsored by Stiles Construction Company, will be held on Thursday, March 22, 7:30 a.m. at the Courtyard by Marriott-Cypress Creek in Ft. Lauderdale.

Southern Waste Systems was founded in 1999 by Anthony Lomangino and Charles Gusmano. Together they have over 64 years of experience in residential and commercial waste collection, which many waste management executives do not even come close to. With their main focus on providing hands-on personal service to customers, they have grown from their one small operation to over twelve facilities today. The company's mission is to always leave the customer completely satisfied.

SWS is the largest recycler of construction and demolition material in Florida. As waste professionals, they understand the importance of sustainable programs, both in individual residences and in the workplace. They offer full service waste removal programs that include state of the art recycling options. SWS recycles all of the materials they collect and currently process the materials with a 93% diversion rate, whereas most waste hauling companies dispose the materials they haul into landfills. The company is committed to partnering with customers in fulfilling their recycling goals and preserving Florida's natural resources. As a full service construction site provider, they also offer portable restroom services through their affiliate company All Star Toilets and recycled aggregate products and fill through Sun Recycling.

SWS currently employs 450 people and will be opening several new facilities in the near future. Some of their key people include: Chairman/Owner Anthony Lomangino, President/CEO/Owner Charles Gusmano, General Manager/Owner Charles Lomangino, General Manager Tony Badala, CFO Anthony Correnti, Vice President/Director of Business Development Patti Hamilton, and Major Account Executive Santo Licamara. "The best thing about working for SWS is that they are privately owned and our leadership team is hands-on and engaged in every aspect of our business. The company values each and every member of our team, and is constantly looking at ways to help each other grow personally and professionally," expresses Hamilton.

One of the companies most significant moments was being awarded the 2010 Governor's Business Diversification Award in the Green to Gold Category. They were also awarded the 2011 Recycling and Waste Reduction Award in the category for Outstanding Institution/Business by the state's leading recycling organization, Recycle Florida Today.

SWS makes it a point to attend the networking events regularly. "CASF has given us the ability to partner with like-minded companies and share the great things our team does. It has also helped us grow our business and provide superior service to those companies," explains Hamilton.

Southern Waste Systems LLC's main office is located at 790 Hillbrath Drive in Lantana. For more information, call Santo Licamara at 954-275-8559, slicamara@swsfl.com or you can visit www.southern-wastesystems.com.
Each year, approximately 700,000 underground utility lines are struck in excavation work, too often with lethal consequences. In 40 percent of these excavations, no calls were made to state one-call centers to ascertain the location of utility lines before digging began.

Anyone who intends to excavate (disturb the surface of the earth) in Florida, must contact Sunshine 811 - Sunshine State One Call's new name. Simply dial 811. One free, easy call gets utility owned lines marked and helps protect you from injury and expense. When you do not know where utility lines are located, you can hit them causing a service outage, property damage, personal injury and even death.

Sunshine 811 is a not for profit corporation which began with the 1993 adoption of the "Underground Facility Damage Prevention and Safety Act," Chapter 556, Florida Statutes. Member underground facility owners and operators fund its operation. It is a free service for the excavator. Its main purpose is to assist with the prevention of damage to underground facilities.

In doing this, Sunshine 811 has two main areas of responsibility:

1. Educate underground facility owners and operators, contractors, excavators, homeowners and the general public about the importance of calling before digging.
2. Provide 811 dialing to call for location of underground facilities.

By contacting Sunshine 811, the risk of personal injury and property damage can be reduced. By being members, companies may reduce the risk of damage to underground facilities, service disruptions, environmental contaminations, loss of products and potential disasters.

Safety is a primary concern. Its team consistently works for the prevention of damage to buried facilities by promoting the following:

1. Membership - owners of underground utilities
2. Use of 811 service to the digging community
3. Public awareness

How the System Works

1. The notification process is a free service to all excavators. The process begins when an excavator notifies Sunshine 811 of a proposed excavation. This must occur at least 3 days prior to excavation.
2. Based on the information received from the excavator, Sunshine 811 then notifies those members that may have underground facilities near the planned excavation. This notification is called a locate ticket. The locate ticket tells Sunshine 811 Members (companies or cities that own or operate underground facilities such as electric, cable, gas, etc.) that you will be digging near their facilities.
3. After receiving the ticket, underground facility owners have two full business days to:
   - Locate underground facilities at the proposed excavation site described on the locate ticket.
   - Reschedule the locate to a mutually agreeable date and time.
   - Notify the excavator that there are no underground facilities in the area described in the notice.

Now, excavators must verify Positive Response before digging. Positive Response is the system used to let you know the marking status of the proposed excavation of the locate ticket. You will need to confirm if your site has "no conflict" or is "marked" or "unmarked".

You cannot assume if you see no markings that it is safe to dig. It is the law that you must verify the system's positive response before excavating.

Also new, the law requires that you follow low-impact marking practices to prepare your work site for locates and to request a more efficient locate ticket. The goal of this is to reduce the amount and length of time locate marks are visible. You must request locate tickets for only those areas where actual digging will occur within 30 days. Work sites that are difficult should be pre-marked with white water-soluble paint.

For more information, contact Sergio Clavijo, Damage Prevention Specialist at 305-861-1873 or email Sergio.clavijo@mail.callsunshine.com. Check out their website at www.callsunshine.com.

Each month CASF's Safety Committee gets together to discuss issues and topics and to share information regarding safety on the construction site. Next month's meeting will be at 8 a.m. on Thursday, March 29 where Vergie Bain, OSHA will talk about dealing with Heat Stress.
In August 2011 members who attended CASF’s Annual Summer Getaway & Planning Meeting identified the need to motivate young people in the construction industry to take a leadership role in the future of the Association. “If we are going to succeed in retaining and attracting the next generation, young people themselves must be engaged as part of the solution,” said CASF President Bill Bower.

As a result the Young Leaders Committee was formed and Mindy Szarowicz, Baker Concrete, was appointed as Chair. “As the next generation of decision-makers, we have to want to take part in our industry and community - and we have to encourage others to do the same by taking an active part in CASF.”

The Committee has two main purposes: to organize and educate 20 to 35 year-old construction professionals about how they can work “We cannot solve our problems with the same thinking we used when we created them.” Albert Einstein together for the betterment of our industry and communities; And by taking part on existing committees they can prepare themselves for a future leadership position in CASF.

“It is not the intention of the Board to form a separate organization within CASF, where events and programs would be duplicated”, said John Siegle, Executive Vice President, “but the goal is to provide a forum where the younger members have the opportunity to play an active role in existing committees and activities. Overall, we hope to attract, retain, and empower CASF’s future leaders, who will take charge and develop the direction of the organization for years to come.”

The Young Leaders Committee held their kick-off event at Sopranos on November 17. The next Young Leaders Social will be at Bongos Cuban Cafe in Hollywood on Wednesday, March 14. They meet each month to learn more about CASF and plan their quarterly socials. Call Genna at 954-974-6333 for information and reservations.