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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

National Recognition for KDOT Procurement Practices

Geneva, IL. February 14, 2012. Kane County is the recipient of a distinguished national merit award that recognizes the county's commitment to engineering procurement practices often referred to as Qualifications-Based Selection (QBS). The Kane County Division of Transportation (KDOT) was selected for the 2011 Qualifications-Based Selection Merit Award by the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) and the National Society of Professional Engineers and presented Feb. 3 by the ACEC of Illinois at its 41st Annual Engineering Excellence Awards meeting.

KDOT was selected for the national award for having demonstrated exceptional leadership in qualifications-based selection. It recognizes Kane County's effective use and promotion of QBS methods to procure the professional services of consulting engineers at the state and local levels.

"This was a nationwide competition and only a handful of QBS awards are presented nationally," said KDOT director and county engineer Carl Schoedel. " QBS is not easy, so I'm particularly proud of this recognition," he said.

The straightforward, step-by-step QBS process for which Kane County was recognized is designed to assure open and fair competition, selection based on qualifications and competence of a firm, as opposed to a low bid, and the negotiation of a fair and reasonable fee. The process, by design, is well-documented and open to public scrutiny.

"This award validates the countless hours of effort put forward by the KDOT staff to make this process as fair and transparent as it can be," said Kane County Board Chairman Karen

McConnaughay. "Over the last seven years, our county transportation staff has thoughtfully and professionally carried out the QBS selection process, which involves a great deal of work that can be tedious at times," she said.

"We're driven to do the right thing, to provide a level playing field for engineering companies competing for work with Kane County," said Schoedel. "Ultimately, by successfully harnessing these competitive market forces, Kane County taxpayers benefit through better quality and value for their transportation project needs," he said.

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