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## Hayden Consultants Wins 2012 Gold Medal Award from American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) Texas for Riverfront Boulevard Bioswale Study

*Firm creates vegetated median bioswale for mixed-use urban community; award-winning concept derived from company competition for sustainable ideas*

(Dallas, Texas – January 12, 2012) – [Hayden Consultants Inc.](http://HaydenConsultants.com), a Dallas-based civil engineering firm, received recognition from the **American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) Texas Engineering Excellence Awards** for its Riverfront Boulevard Median Bioswale study. Retained by Dallas County as the prime consultant to design and reconstruct 1.5 miles of Riverfront Boulevard, Hayden Consultants displayed its expertise in sustainable design and low impact development while showing innovation with an employee competition that produced the concept of a vegetated median bioswale (a landscape drainage element designed to remove silt and pollution from surface water runoff). For its pioneering thinking and design the company was named a **2012 Gold Medal Award** recipient.

“We’re honored to receive the ACEC Texas award. The Riverfront Boulevard Median Bioswale will balance the functional needs for managing water runoff with the aesthetic desires that the community wants – and the sustainability our world deserves,” said Rachel Hayden, P.E., president, and founder of Hayden Consultants. “With the vegetated bioswale we can greatly reduce contaminants typically found in street runoff by filtering through native vegetation and engineered soil. We will use this together with the existing median as a filtration system for storm water runoff to improve storm water quality while naturally enhancing the beauty of the area.”

Hayden Consultants’ project involves reconstructing a major six-lane urban thoroughfare to adhere to zoning regulations, transforming the region into a mixed-use, walkable community and gateway to Trinity River’s planned lakes and parks. The project is scheduled for design completion in April 2013.

To kick-off the project Hayden Consultants held a sustainable design challenge among its employees from which the winning idea was selected. “We were inspired by the city’s plan to both beautify the area and introduce sustainable concepts, so we wanted to build on that energy internally. Our first design challenge yielded dozens of ideas and viable concepts, many of which would be new to the region.”

Alberta Blair, P.E. and Director of Public Works for Dallas County, noted, “Dallas County, as well as the City of Dallas, is taking many steps to increase the ‘green’ value of our communities and believe that projects like the Riverfront Median Bioswale are essential to enhancing the overall improvement of our environment. Hayden Consultants worked closely with Dallas County and the City of Dallas to create a design that not only met but exceeded the needs of this project.”

The Engineering Excellence Awards Competition has been held by [ACEC Texas](http://ACECTexas.com) since its inception in 1975, honoring and recognizing outstanding achievements within the engineering community. A panel of judges selects winning projects based on uniqueness, originality, technical features, value to the engineering profession, complexity, and how successfully the project met clients’ needs.



**About Hayden Consultants, Inc.**

Hayden Consultants is a trusted state and municipal engineering partner, supporting sustainable infrastructure improvement in North Texas and throughout Texas. Hayden Consultants provides exceptional civil and transportation engineering design services, surveying, and construction management for projects ranging from small sites and roadways to complex highways.

Founded in 2000 and certified as a woman-owned, historically underutilized, disadvantaged business enterprise, Hayden Consultants' clients include Dallas Area Rapid Transit, Texas Department of Transportation, and various airports and municipalities in Texas. Hayden Consultants' highly qualified team is registered with the Texas Board of Professional Engineers, and team members hold multiple TxDOT precertifications. ([www.haydenconsultants.com](http://www.haydenconsultants.com))

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