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The Voice of County Road Officials

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> PAUL GRUNER AWARDED NACE 2016 URBAN COUNTY ENGINEER OF THE YEAR

Washington, D.C. – The National Association of County Engineers (NACE) awarded Paul W. Gruner, P.E, P.S., the 2016 Urban County Engineer of the Year during its 2017 Annual Conference held April 9-13 in Cincinnati, Ohio. Gruner has served as Montgomery County Engineer, Ohio, since 2011. He is responsible for 520 bridges and 316 miles of public roads.

"Paul is an outstanding urban engineer with the benefits of service in both the public and private sectors," said Brian Roberts, P.E., NACE Executive Director. "This experience contributed to his successful leadership in helping to form a statewide funding coalition for infrastructure. He co-chaired the Montgomery County campaign for the state capital improvement program, which generated \$175 million dollars for 5 years, followed by \$200 million for the next 5 years. The citizens of Montgomery County are fortunate to have Paul oversee their local roadways."

Under Gruner's leadership, his department has completed many successful projects, including: widening of the "gap" project at Austin Boulevard to 5 lanes from 2; widening of the 5 miles of North Dixie Drive to 5 lanes and sidewalks; replacement of the Ridge Avenue bridge; and the \$2.5 million intersection improvement at Clyo and Spring Valley Roads. Design is complete for the Keowee Street Bridge and the aesthetic design phase for the Peace Bridge is being finalyzed to commemorate Dayton's history.

For 2006-2010, Gruner was Senior Vice President with Gresham, Smith & Partners. He was a Partner/Vice President with Woolpert, Inc., for 1979-2006; and Chief Deputy Engineer with Montgomery County, 1973-1979.

Gruner has been active in NACE for 5 years and is currently First Vice President of the Ohio affiliate, the County Engineers Association of Ohio. He recently served as President of the ARTBA (American Road and Transportation Builders Association) Transportation Officials Division.

In its 61st year, NACE is a nonprofit, nonpartisan professional association representing over 2,000 county engineers, public works directors, highway commissioners, road managers, and related professionals in the U.S. and Canada. In the U.S., local roads account for about 75% of highways and roads, or 2.93 million miles. Counties manage 1.74 million miles of those roads while cities and townships account for another 1.19 million miles. Counties also own 231,000 bridges and operate one-third of the nation's transit systems.