



City of Seattle
Seattle Department of Transportation

RE: SR519 Project
Letter of Recognition
For Cement Masons of Local 528

To Whom it May Concern,

I would like to acknowledge the work done by the Cement Masons of Local 528 who worked for Kiewit Pacific Co. on the SR519 project near the Seattle stadiums. Since a majority of the infrastructure built on this project was turned over to the City of Seattle for ownership and maintenance, I worked in the field office and inspected much of the work as the City lead for 2 years.

Since I work for the Seattle Department of Transportation, I had a lot of input on the street design for this project and cared about how the end product turned out. So I spent a good deal of time watching the concrete construction related to the Royal Brougham Bridge sidewalk paving, and the east/west plaza construction including the grand stairway. This experience gave me the opportunity to meet many members of Local 528 and I got to see firsthand how hard they work and learned to appreciate their craftsmanship. They took a lot of care to make sure the grades and joints were set right before they poured. When placing the concrete, they paid extra attention to forming sidewalk score lines that were straight, parallel, and uniform. On this project, it was not an easy task because the alignment on the east end of the bridge was a continuous horizontal and vertical curve section from spanning over the railroad tracks to meeting finished grade at 4th Ave. It was challenging to say the least, but the end product couldn't be better.

The east plaza also had an urban design element which used river rocks set in concrete. Initially I was concerned about how this was going to turn out. If not done right, it would have distracted from the vision we were trying to create in this very high profile area near the stadiums. But the Cement Masons rose to the challenge and did a superb job of placing the rocks and making it look aesthetically pleasing and not just thrown together. I walk by the project everyday on my way to work and still notice how good it looks. When we first finished the job, I got several compliments from the travelling public, Qwest and Safeco reps, and people who I work with at the City. I feel it's important that Local 528 get some of the recognition and hear this feedback.

Sincerely,

Katherine Claeys

Katherine Claeys, P.E.
Construction Project Engineer
SDOT