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News Release

Element Consulting, Inc. Earns Construction Management Association of America Project Achievement Award for New Malibu High School

EL SEGUNDO, CA (June 8, 2026) – Element Consulting, Inc. and the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District (SMMUSD) were recognized with the prestigious Project Achievement Award in the Education (K–12, Colleges/Universities & Libraries) – more than \$50 million category at the Construction Management Association of America (CMAA) Southern California Chapter's 33rd Annual Awards Gala, held on May 27, 2026.

Representatives from Element Consulting and SMMUSD attended the awards gala, joining construction industry leaders from across Southern California in celebrating innovation, excellence, and achievement in project delivery.



Element staff: Dave Walsh, Thomas Heeg, Sherrie Wu, SMMUSD Superintendent Dr. Antonio Shelton, Element Consulting President Roger Bañuelos and Element Consulting Executive Vice President Nelson Martinez.

The award honors the successful delivery of the new Malibu High School Project, a transformative \$110 million campus improvement project that was completed ahead of schedule and on budget.

About the Malibu High School Project

The Malibu High School Project is a comprehensive modernization and new construction effort designed to provide state-of-the-art educational facilities that support student learning, safety, and well-being.

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Designed to complement Malibu's unique coastal character, the new campus incorporates fire-resilient features that support long-term safety, sustainability, and resilience. Completed ahead of schedule and on budget, the project provides a modern learning environment equipped to meet the needs of today's students while supporting future-ready learning for generations to come.

"This award reflects the dedication, collaboration, and commitment of everyone involved in bringing this project to life," said SMMUSD's Superintendent Dr. Antonio Shelton. "This recognition is a testament to the strong partnership between SMMUSD, Element Consulting, and the many professionals whose expertise and dedication made this project possible."

Element Consulting, Inc. also expressed its gratitude for the recognition and partnership with the district.

"We are grateful to the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District for their leadership and partnership, and we are honored to have played a role in delivering a project that will serve the Malibu community for decades to come," said Element Consulting, Inc. President Roger Bañuelos.

The recognition highlights the strong collaboration between SMMUSD and Element Consulting, whose expertise and leadership helped guide the project from planning through completion.

"The Element Team has demonstrated strong leadership, proactive planning, and a collaborative approach that consistently supported the district's goals," said SMMUSD's Chief Operations Officer Carey Upton.

Upton highlighted the longstanding relationship between the district and Element Consulting.

"The district is proud to note that we were Element's first client nine years ago, when they were initially engaged to provide construction management services for early projects at Malibu High School," Upton said. "Since that time, Element has successfully partnered with the district on multiple projects, including the construction of the new AB Building, development of new parking lots, portable classroom installations and relocations, and the modernization of several existing campus facilities."

Watch photo slideshow of event here: <https://bit.ly/ElementConsultingIncCMAAEvent2026>.

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