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Rhodeside & Harwell Providing Transportation Planning for National Parks

Assessments to Explore Traffic-Easing Options for Arches, Muir Woods National Parks

ALEXANDRIA, VA (2/8/12) – **Rhodeside & Harwell Incorporated**, an award-winning planning and landscape architecture practice, is providing site design and transportation planning assessment services for two heavily visited national parks in Utah and California. The National Park Service (NPS) selected the firm, along with prime consultant The Louis Berger Group, Inc., and Nelson\Nygaard, to study ways to enhance visitor experiences at Arches National Park in Moab, Utah, and Muir Woods National Park in Marin County, Calif.

Named for the more than 2,000 natural sandstone arches within its 77,000 acres, Arches National Park draws more than a million visitors a year. Muir Woods National Park, located within California's Golden Gate National Recreation Area, has approximately 850,000 visitors annually. Both parks consistently experience heavy traffic congestion that impacts the visitor experience, increases air and noise pollution, and strains park resources. The studies for NPS are aimed at identifying long-term improvements, including the potential for visitor shuttle service at Arches and improvements to the existing shuttle service at Muir Woods.

The work for both parks should be complete in 2012. "The National Park Service is carefully exploring options for safe and effective traffic management at these parks," says Elliot Rhodeside, FASLA, principal with Rhodeside & Harwell. "These are multidisciplinary assessments that will balance protection of the parks' resources with improved visitor experiences. Both Arches and Muir Woods are gems in our national park system, and are deserving of a clear and comprehensive plan to address congestion."

Rhodeside & Harwell has completed planning and landscape architecture services for a number of state and federal parks, monuments, and memorials. Projects have been completed for Gettysburg National Military Park, the George Mason National Memorial, the National Zoo, Arlington National Cemetery, Steamtown National Historic Site, the U.S. National Arboretum, the C&O National Historical Park, and the Iwo Jima Memorial. The firm is also widely recognized for its work in multi-modal transportation planning, and has worked extensively with state and municipal transportation departments and transit authorities on long-range visions for transportation networks and sustainable growth.

About Rhodeside & Harwell

Rhodeside & Harwell, which celebrated 25 years in 2011, has completed many prominent commissions in planning, landscape architecture, and urban design throughout the U.S. and abroad. The firm's work includes the restoration of Essex County Branch Brook Park in Newark, N.J.; the new waterfront park at the National Aquarium in Baltimore; the Hampton Roads Regional Transit Vision Plan in Virginia; revitalization plans for numerous urban communities in the mid-Atlantic; and planning and landscape design for U.S. embassies throughout the world. Rhodeside & Harwell has offices in Alexandria, Va., and in Newark. For more information, visit www.rhodeside-harwell.com.