**Best Practices: Design Excellence**

Public Works values design excellence and utilizes a collaborative approach to design and construction, producing an aesthetically pleasing, high quality, and high performing project that fully meets the County's established criteria described as follows:

Form

* Design that articulates architectural form, massing, and detailing.
* Architecture that is visually engaging, contextually responsive to the community, and timeless.
* Integrate art in the fabric of design.
* Architecture that creates a sense of "place".

Function

* Meet the programmatic requirements efficiently and creatively.
* Innovative designs that add value beyond the expectations of the program without increase in cost.
* Provide a safe and productive workplace for County residents and staff.
* Design a building that is durable, operationally efficient, easily maintainable, and has low operational cost.

Environment

* Incorporate sustainability/green building concepts in design.
* Reduce energy consumption or carbon footprint compared to mean baseline.
* Mitigate impacts to surrounding environment.
* Design that contextually responds positively to the site conditions and to environmental policies.

Technology

* Utilize technology to meet and exceed program requirements.
* Incorporate innovation through multi-disciplinary integrated design.

Process

* Delivery of Design Excellence on time and on budget.
* Use industry best practices to define measure, analyze, coordinate, and validate the design.
* Manage the design phase effectively to assure high-quality design.
* Build consensus through collaboration with tenants to meet the project goals and objectives.
* Ensure that highly talented and proficient design professionals are selected and maintained for the project duration.