



“CONSTRUCTING A WAY FOR A BETTER FUTURE”

ECA NEWSLETTER

JOHNS SOAPBOX



Here is the normal disclaimer-I am not espousing the opinion of the ECA or any member firm in this Soapbox-these are my own tortured opinions. Only mine.

Paint In Black!

Once again-it is a great time to be a contractor in the NorthBay area-and it will be for the next five years at least! The County of Sonoma is voting on \$42million worth of roadwork for years 2024, 2025 on 4-18-23. Also, the City of Napa ([From streets to parks, Napa looks at capital projects \(northbaybusinessjournal.com\)](#)) is working on a city capital improvements list for coming years, with proposed items ranging from Alston Park restrooms to widening a narrow section of Trower Avenue near Linda Vista Avenue.

There are plans for 77 projects totaling \$30.5 million in 2023–2024 and 41 projects totaling \$21 million in 2024–2025. Plus, there is a proposed five-year plan for 143 projects totaling \$154.2 million. ([See the map of projects.](#))

Sonoma County: On Tuesday, April 18, the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors will consider approving the Sonoma County Public Infrastructure’s (formerly TPW and the recipient of the ECA Bridge Award last Thursday night) proposed list of roads to be improved in the 2024/2025 construction seasons. As Janice Thompson said in her acceptance speech Thursday night, “there is a lot more work coming so get ready!”. For reference, the roads being improved this year were approved in 2021 by the Board of Supes.

Janice Thompson and her team propose to spend \$42 million to improve 37.3 miles of roadway in the 2-year season of 2024/2025. This equates to about \$1.26 million per mile (vs \$854,000/road mile in 2022/2023 construction season) and the County is definitely focused on longer lasting treatments than in past years when we saw a lot of “cape seal” treatment of unincorporated road surfaces.

Here is the list of proposed pavement projects for 2024/2025 with road names (Exhibit D List of Roads 2024-2025.pdf) and a map (Exhibit C Map.pdf) showing location of the proposed roads to be fixed. Click [HERE](#) for the list and the map.

Some of the roads will receive a new asphalt concrete overlay, while some will get a full depth reclamation (FDR), which involves mixing the existing asphalt aggregate subbase and soils with a chemical to produce a high strength subgrade to receive the new pavement.



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Continued from page 1

Since 2012, Sonoma County has invested over \$160 million in discretionary dollars to complete 468 miles of roadway projects throughout Sonoma County. It is time to email our Supes to let them know we support the proposed list of roads, and I will be writing them this afternoon on your behalf. If you want to attend the Zoom meeting and state your support/opinion, even better! The meeting starts at 9:30 am, and the item is #44 on the consent agenda. Here is the zoom link for tomorrow's meeting-

2. JOIN THE ZOOM MEETING: Participate by computer, tablet, or smartphone application: Go to: <https://sonomacounty.zoom.us/j/98662429185?pwd=S2ZCOXliNTJzWTAyMWdqGVldVMzd09>

Enter meeting ID: 986 6242 9185

Enter Password: 919371

Participate in Zoom by phone: Dial +1 (669) 900 9128 Enter meeting ID: 986 6242 9185 Enter password: 919371

Many thanks to our friends at SOS Roads who tirelessly advocate for fixing our county roads and have been very much partners with the ECA in advocacy efforts. Folks-this is what you pay your dues for, so we hope your firm gets its fair share of the work that is coming out to bid!!

That's All Folks!

John

COMMITTEE NEWS & INFORMATION

Auction Committee--We have reviewed the proposal from Graton Casino for holding the auction there on September 16, 2023. The venue looks great, the food will be terrific, and we believe this is a big change and a big upgrade from years past. If you have a problem with this venue, I invite you to come in to our Executive Committee meeting Tuesday, 4-18-23, at 11:15 am and express your concern. Apparently, some folks are excited about Graton, but some others have reservations about the venue. We want all members to support the ECA in our largest fundraiser of the year so we can keep doing good work for you, so we want to hear and respond to anybody who cares to voice their opinion regarding the venue. Please let me know if you plan to attend the exec meeting tomorrow on this subject at 707-483-0859. For our Auction: we are looking for donations. Typically, we do well with overnight trips, special dinners, or items that are unique to our industry. PLEASE HELP US!! We would like to have items that we can put online so folks can bid on the items between now and the Auction night, September 16, 2023. Next Auction Committee meeting to be held Wednesday, April 26 at noon.

Specification Committee--next meeting is at 4:00pm, May 17, 2023. The agenda will focus on public works issues so if you have any issues you would like to have us consider, please contact myself or Casey Wood of GBI.

Committee News & Information—continued from page 2

Golf Committee- The committee is looking for a premiere sponsor before preparing the flyer. Next meeting will be Tuesday, April 18, 2023, at the Exec meeting. Sponsor click [HERE](#)—

Government Affairs Committee: Chair Art Deicke just had shoulder replacement surgery, so he is recovering at home. I am sure we all wish Art a speedy recovery. The GAC is holding the next GAC meeting in May, and we will have State Assemblyman Damon Connolly as our guest. Art wants to invite anybody that wishes to come to that meeting. The tentative date will be Thursday, May 18 from 4-5:30pm at the NCBE main conference room.

Art had also arranged for City of Santa Rosa Mayor Victoria Fleming to announce our ECA Car Show from the dais at the City Council meeting as her community comment on Tuesday last week, which she did! Way to go Art! Our PAC fund is over \$10,000 and we feel we need to have a balance of around \$16,000 to \$19,000 in February of 2024 in order to get the right folks that will support infrastructure spending elected to local public office.

Community Relations Committee-Chair Lacey Torkalson Smith and Mary are focusing on doing promotion of our past CR efforts such that we have an accurate list of projects the ECA has worked on or funded over our history.

Car Show Committee-The Car Show Committee led by Chair Walt Turner, will be holding a committee meeting on Monday, April 17, from 4-5:30pm in the small board room at the NCBE.

ECA Executive Committee-next meeting 11 am on April 18, 2023. The Exec will be going over golf tourney info, hearing any comments on the auction venue, and hearing a short pitch by Glenn Smith for a food bank drive in May, along with their regular agenda. Busy Exec meeting tomorrow!

ECA Board of Directors – next meeting 12pm on April 18, 2023. Special guest will be the Sonoma Media Group. Just listen to their upcoming promotion of the ECA we recorded .-click [HERE](#) and look for March 27.

EVENT NEWS: Public Officials Night-Sponsored by **Team Ghilotti**, was held on April 13, 2023, at Herzog Hall on Petaluma Fairgrounds. We had around 40 public officials (better than usual turnout) and around 150 or so ECA members and guests attend. Jim Persons was honored with the Golden Hardhat Award and the Bridge Award went to Janice Thompson and her team at Sonoma Public Infrastructure for their work in getting paving projects out and mostly completed in 2022.

NEWS THAT YOU CAN USE:

The Petaluma Rainier Connector is “kind of dead” for now, but I would not agree that the \$10 million spent by Petaluma is “wasted” as Mr. Burns’ commentary says-[Community Matters: Rainier crosstown connector project is dead \(petaluma360.com\)](#)

Going from a plus \$100 million surplus to a \$22 million shortfall in one year is not an accounting error. It is Sacto lying to us. Regardless, here is my fave columnist Dan Walters opinion on how Sacto will scramble to plug the hole-[CalMatters Commentary: How will Newsom, legislators deal with growing revenue shortfalls? \(dailyrepublic.com\)](#)

More good work from CTA-

We are pleased to inform you that our advocacy efforts have successfully prevented the passage of [Assembly Bill 627](#), which aimed to create a de facto statewide ban on diesel trucks in 2035. The bill authored by Assemblymember Corey Jackson could have had significant negative impacts to residents of California who rely on our members to provide valuable services such as the transportation of agricultural goods, fuel, and groceries.

Thanks to the collective efforts of CTA's coalition of 60 organizations representing the agriculture, business, construction, fuel, grocery, retail, and transportation industry, Assemblymember Jackson indicated that he will not continue with the bill this legislative session. This is a significant win for our industry, and it would not have been possible without the support of our members.

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April 25th, 2023

8:30-11:00 AM

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ECA 2023 UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, April 13,

ECA Public Officials Night—Herzog Hall, Sonoma Marin Fairgrounds

To Register click [HERE](#) To Sponsor click [HERE](#)

Sunday, June 18

Father's Day "Show & Shine" Car Show, Julliard Park, Santa Rosa

Platinum Chevrolet—Showcase Sponsor

Herc Rentals Trench Plates—Donation

Pacific Sanitation—Donation

[Registration Flyer](#) to [Sponsor Flyer](#)

Friday, July 21

ECA Golf Tournament, Windsor Golf Course, Windsor, CA—[Sponsor Flyer](#)

Thank you Sponsors!

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[Herc Rentals Trench Solutions](#) - Beer Cooler Sponsor & Tee Sponsor

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Saturday, September 16,

ECA Wine & Dozers Event—Graton Rancheria

We Sell and Service Lasers! **SITECH**

SITECH NorCal is your local Warranty Repair Center for all Trimble and Spectra Precision construction equipment lines.

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WORKER'S COMPENSATION

Worker's Compensation Endorsement By ECA-

HELLO!!! HAVE YOU ASKED YOUR HUMAN RESOURCES PERSON TO CHECK OUT THE WORKERS COMP PROGRAM ECA HAS ENDORSED? Everybody likes to save money, don't they? Doesn't cost you a thing to consider this as an option! Jeff Okrepkie at 707-360-4338.



George Petersen Insurance Agency

FIRE CLEAN UP LIST:

The Sonoma County Environmental Health Department, Transportation and Public Works, and James Gore's office are utilizing the ECA as a resource for debris testing, and debris cleanup for fire victims from the Kincade Fire. Please review the list that has been provided to the fire victims and the County, of ECA Firms that are interested and listed in various categories as being helpful in the fire aftermath. This is another benefit for ECA members and if you want to be included on the list, and are not, please contact mary@nceda.org. There is no charge for this. You can access the list by clicking [HERE](#)

EMERGENCY RESPONSE MANUAL

Emergency Response Manual is now available online!

In the event of an emergency, we have put together this manual to help our community receive quick service from our members.

Thank you to our sponsors for helping to get this manual completed. It is sent to city and county agencies in case of an emergency so they will know who to call for services, equipment and materials.

Click [here](#) for the manual.

IMPORTANT INFO:

Get Prepared Now! Here are some very useful tips from CalFire to get your own house/property "in shape" for fire season. [link](#)

Pocket Guide for CALOSHA For Contractors: Click [here](#) for the pocket guide you all need!

Roadwork in Sonoma County - Check out the County website for road info [here](#)



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Click [HERE](#) To see the rest.



Expert COVID-19 Safety info Available at a Discount

The Shelter in Place Orders issued by County Health Officers in Sonoma, Napa, and Mendocino - as well as the Governor, have highlighted for the building industry the need for all contractors to have an up-to-date written COVID-19 Exposure Control Plan.

This should be an addendum to your IIPP and safety meetings for COVID-19

Jim Persons, SafetyPride, an ECA member who serves as a consultant and safety instructor for ECA, is offering his services to our members and they will receive a 40% discount on his regular rates if you are a current member of ECA.

Contact Jim if you are interested in getting his help on COVID-19 related issues or other health and safety programs. email: jimpersons@safetypride.com or phone: 707-889-0881



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Public Officials Night!



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Bridge Award
Janice Thompson, Sonoma County
Sonoma Public Infrastructure department.



Jim Persons receiving the
Golden Hardhat Award

ECA SAFETY TRAINING CLASSES

CPR Training for employees can save lives, improve workplace safety, increase worker confidence, and takes crucial skills outside of the office into the community.



Traffic Control / Flagger Training

Tuesday, May 2

1 pm—3 pm ~ Instructor Larry Richmond Jr., Mill Creek Safety

This certified course will instruct on the fundamentals of keeping workers safe on California Highways and roads.

Click [HERE](#) for flyer



ON DEMAND TRAINING

On Demand Training service provides relevant and targeted training, certification, or education when you **NEED IT NOW!**

Classes can be organized quickly so you can quickly get your employees back to work. In addition, business demands require flexibility. This service provides greater flexibility and added value. Classes can be set up at your facility or at the training room in Santa Rosa

Part of this **on-demand service** is a viable alternative to **in-house training** because it is designed for situations where only **one, two, three or four** people that need training. Importantly, this training can be very cost effective. We can combine the classes with other companies that need the training or you can have your own company class.

Whether you're in search of workplace safety training to meet OSHA compliance requirements, Competent Person, Trench Safety, Confined Space, CPR/First Aid initial or update training or implementing a Safety Program ECA can help!

The best way to beat an OSHA citation is to never get one at all.

Email mary@nceca.org to set up a class today If you don't see a class you need listed please contact me.

CPR / First Aid: 3 hrs - \$95 per person

Confined Space: 3 hrs - \$150 per person

Competent Person / Trench Safety: 3 hrs - \$125 per person

Flagger Safety Training: 2 hrs - \$125 per person

Sexual Harassment—1 hr for Employees—\$25 per person ~ 2 hrs for Supervisors \$35 per person

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Continued from page 3—News that you can use

Bill to require pilot projects on in-place recycling moving through Legislature

A bill is moving through the Legislature, AB981, that would require Caltrans to use Cold In-Place Recycling (CIR) or Partial-Depth Recycling (PDR) technologies on at least 12 projects each year from 2025-2032. The bill, authored by Assemblywoman Laura Friedman, D-Burbank, chair of the Assembly Transportation Committee, passed the Transportation Committee March 28 on a 15-0 vote. Information on the bill can be found [HERE](#).

We sent a letter to each of the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors in support of 44 regarding the 2024, 2025 list of roads and the budget for pavement preservation projects. Click [HERE](#) to see the letter



Northern California Engineering Contractors Association

The ECA, and its Board of Directors, has been the voice of the engineering construction industry for over 40 years.

The foundation of the ECA has been to address local needs and issues.

The purpose and goal of ECA and its staff are to provide services to the members that help them run their businesses safely, efficiently, and in compliance with the many rules and regulations and mandates of government.

The working committees are the heart and soul of the ECA. The committees are comprised of ECA members.

The committees promote events that enable the ECA to fund community projects that include: Fathers Day "Show & Shine" Car Show, Public Officials Night, the Golf Tournament, and, the "Days of Wine & Dozers" Auction Dinner.

If you would like to join a committee, please email mary@nceca.org ~ We would love to have you!

Northern California Engineering Contractors Association

John Bly, Executive Vice President
email: john@nceca.org

Mary Kennedy Cabrera, Member Services Director
email: mary@nceca.org

Cheryl Long, Bookkeeper
email: cheryl@nceca.org

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