



“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.

### Public Transit-Embrace the Suck!

I have not had an “edgy” Soapbox for a while, so I figured it was time to take some shots at society, government, tax spending, in general, and public transit in particular.

You either believe that carbon engines are the devil by now or you don't. I am not going to try to convince you one way or another. Clearly, battle lines are drawn, and one side wants nothing short of complete destruction and elimination of the gas and oil industry. Whether we (citizens) are ready or not.

1. Already we have seen new gas stations outlawed in virtually every city in Marin and Sonoma Counties.
2. We are also seeing the EPA approving the outlawing of diesel big rig trucks by 2035 ([California's plan to phase out diesel trucks has been approved by the EPA : NPR](#)).
3. We are also seeing the outlawing of any diesel trucks with a motor older than 2010 in CA ([California is blocking diesel big rigs with pre-2010 engines \(greencarreports.com\)](#)).
4. Now we are seeing “vehicle miles travelled” being the major factor in whether a road project will break ground or not.
5. All of these things are important, but I am really focusing on public transit.
6. Public transit is a key factor in climate change activist tools to lower GHG emissions. Compared to a car with only a driver, subways produce 76% less in greenhouse gas emissions per passenger mile, light rail systems 62% less, and buses 33% less, [according to the U.S. Transportation Department](#).

Obviously, the numbers listed above have certain assumptions-like there is at least one rider on the subway or bus or train. I wish I could give you more information on those assumptions, but the information is too damn hard to acquire. Needless to say, public transit is less harmful to GHG emissions if, and only if, a certain number of folks use the public transit.

Statewide, [monthly public transit ridership](#) dropped from 100 million in February 2019 to about 20 million in June 2020. As of June 2022, the numbers rebounded to about 60 million, but varied by region and transportation mode.

See page 2



### Inside this issue

John's Soapbox.....	1
Board of Directors.....	2
Committee News.....	2
Free Seminar.....	4
Upcoming Events.....	5
Workers Comp.....	6
Emergency Response manual.....	6
Fire Clean up List.....	6
From the Desk of Jim Persons.....	7
Food From the Bar Kick-off.....	8
ECA Safety Classes.....	9
Sustaining Members.....	10
News That you can use.....	11



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Continued from page 1

The fares that riders pay not only help keep buses and trains running, but help agencies qualify for state and federal grants. Transit agencies say that the federal funding they've received during the pandemic will run out within two years. Looking ahead, state regulations that phase out vehicles that use gasoline and diesel fuel will [also reduce the tax revenue paid to transit agencies](#), putting more stress on their finances.

Bottom line-dollars are being diverted from the infrastructure bill (\$1.2 trillion), as well as from state gas tax funded projects as well as federal excise gas tax projects to help public transit agencies stay solvent. [Federal bailout saves Bay Area public transit - Curbed SF](#)

My question is obviously just for musing-is there any "cap" to what government demands we pay to subsidize and support public transit?

The answer is

NO.

Embrace the suck fellow taxpayers!

That's All Folks!

John

## COMMITTEE NEWS & INFORMATION

**Auction Committee**-At the April Auction meeting, Kristi Pruitt, Corinna Fernandez and Mary attended. We went over several theme ideas for the auction. The last meeting we thought of Denims and Diamonds, but after a discussion we thought Rat Pack would be fun! Taking it back to the casino days with Fran Sinatra, Sammy Davis Junior, Dean Martin, Peter Lawford & Joey Bishop. It looks like Angie Dickinson was too! We will work our decorations around that theme.

Past : Lake Tahoe, Ghilotti Bros; 49er tickets Ghilotti Const.; Hog Hunt, Serres; Warrior Tickets, Ghilotti Bros. Mayacamas Golf, Crab, BoDean; Jim Persons Safety class; Check with previous donors to donate again. Game tickets, trips, BoDean Blast & Ideas:

Russian River Brewery VIP tour and dinner for 12,  
Cooking Class at El Faralito in Windsor,  
Golf for four- SR Golf & CC, Windsor, Rooster Run.  
Mayacamas Golf foursome

- specialty purses, Corinna found some purses that were seasonal. Kate Spade, Coach etc.... Have a live basket with them. Add champagne and flowers.

Year of treats. – once a month. Cake, cookies, pies

Year of flowers – each month have a bouquet sent to you. Ask Pedy to help on this. RCX drag races at Sonoma Raceway.

Get a Hawaiian or Mexico trip from member that owns a house.

If you can help us out give Mary a call!!!

Continued on page 3

## **Committee News & Information—continued from page 2**

**Specification Committee**-Bob Harder has been busy helping us with an ad-hoc committee meeting on Wednesday, April 26 (not a full spec committee meeting). The next full spec committee meeting will be held May 17 (the 3rd Wednesday of every other month) at 4pm in the NCBE main Board room. The chairs Dale Smith of RCX and Casey Wood of GBI will be chairing that meeting.

**Golf Committee**- no new report

**Government Affairs Committee**-Next GAC meeting date will be Thursday, May 18 from 4-5:30pm at the NCBE main conference room with Damon Connolly as our special guest.

**Community Relations Committee**-Glenn Smith proposed a Food Drive to the Board last week and Chair Lacey supported the community project. Here is the info and how you can help out—To Donate click [HERE-Food From The Bar : Food From The Bar : Redwood Empire Food Bank \(refb.org\)](#)

**Car Show Committee**-Walt and Mary had a meeting with the city parks to go over the concerns they may have for the park and concerns we may have. Went over the vendors, stage and where cars will be located. Confirmed they will have the sprinklers turned off a few days before the show so the ground won't be wet and will mark off the sprinklers so the cars won't run over them. They thanked us as we have been doing this for so many years and work well together!

**ECA Executive Committee**-next meeting 11 am on May 16, 2023.

**ECA Board of Directors** – next meeting 12pm on May 16, 2023. Special guests will be City of Santa Rosa City Manager Maraskeisha Smith, Assistant City Manager Jason Nutt and City legal counsel. This will be a SPECIAL Board Meeting with a SPECIAL presentation regarding Project Labor Agreement policy for the City of Santa Rosa Public Works contracts in excess of \$500,000. The City has been working on a PLA policy for over a year, and we are pleased that they are willing to come and let us know what will be in the policy before it becomes public. I have reached out to several stakeholders to invite them to this meeting as the information will affect their businesses. If you think you would like to attend, please contact me as space is limited. Thank you!

## **Event News**

### **Sunday, June 18**

Father's Day "Show & Shine" Car Show, Julliard Park, Santa Rosa  
[Registration Flyer](#) to [Sponsor Flyer](#)

### **Friday, July 21**

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

### **Saturday, September 16,**

ECA Wine & Dozers Event—Graton Rancheria

We want to highlight a member each week. What we need from you is a short paragraph on what is happening at your company. New employees, new logo, a new move, exciting new equipment! What ever you want to share about your company with our members.

Email [mary@nceca.org](mailto:mary@nceca.org) with your spotlight information and send in photos if you have them!

# North Bay Job Fair

northbayjobfair.com

## May 17

2:00-4:30

Luther Burbank Center for the Arts

\$650- Table + Resumes of Seekers

\$1,100- Upgrade to add 30 30-second  
Radio Ads!

**REGISTER NOW**

Job Seeker's Resumes will be shared with Businesses  
so you can communicate BEFORE the Job Fair!

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## ECA 2023 UPCOMING EVENTS

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



### Thank you Sponsors!

#### [Argonaut Constructors](#)—Showcase Sponsor

[Exchange Bank](#) - Lunch Sponsor

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[PACE Supply](#) - Golf Balls & Towels

[Aaction Rents](#) - Putting Sponsor

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[BoDean Company](#) - Golf Cart Sponsor

[Atlas Tree Surgery](#)—Hospitality Hole

[California Equipment Company](#)—Hospitality Hole

[George Petersen Insurance](#)—Hospitality Hole

[Personal Asset Brokerage](#)—Hospitality Hole

[Soiland Co. Inc.](#)—Hospitality Hole

[Peterson Trucks](#)—Hospitality Hole

[Cresco Equipment Rentals](#) - Promotional Hole Sponsor

[Landesign Construction & Maintenance](#)—Promotional Hole Sponsor

[Devincenzi Concrete Construction](#) - Raffle Sponsor

[Empire Construction & Engineering Co. Inc.](#) - Golf Cart Sponsor

[Kadon Trucking](#) - Award Sponsor

[Newfront](#)—Beverage Cart

[Smith Dollar PC](#) - Award Sponsor

[Adobe Associates, Inc.](#) - Beer Cooler Sponsor

[BKF Engineers](#)—Beer Cooler Sponsor

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

[J.M. Turner Engineering, Inc.](#)—Tee Sponsor

### Saturday, September 16,

ECA Wine & Dozers Event—Graton Rancheria

## 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](mailto: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](#)



## Cabrera and Associates

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Project Consultant  
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## From the Desk of Jim Persons

### Stop Work Authority

The purpose of this procedure is to ensure that all employees are given the responsibility and authority to stop work when employees believe that a situation exists that place them, their coworker(s), contracted personnel, or the public at risk or in danger or could adversely affect safe operations or cause damage to Company property.

click [HERE](#) for 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](mailto:jimpersons@safetypride.com) or phone: 707-889-0881

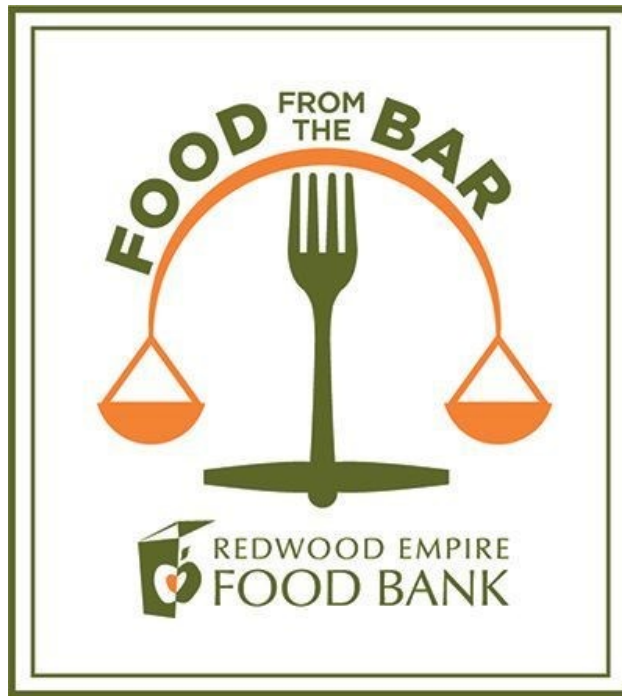


### Fire Debris Cleanup Management Services

- County Application and Work Plan Preparation
- Coordination of Asbestos Survey and Fire Debris Disposal
- Air Monitoring, Erosion Control and Confirmation Sampling
- Cleanup Certification Report by Civil Engineer

[info@TransTechConsultants.com](mailto:info@TransTechConsultants.com)

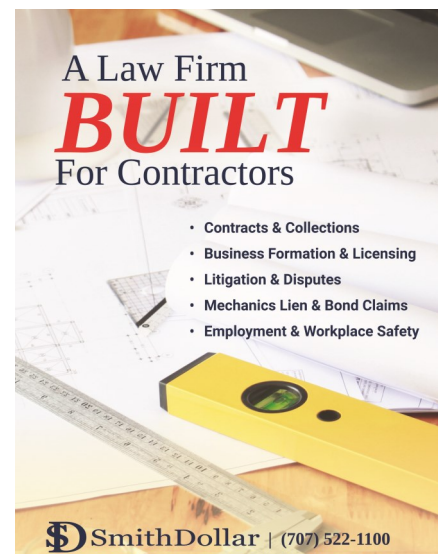
Office (707) 837-8408 or after hours (707) 478-2097



Throughout the month of May, the local legal community will come together for one purpose: to end hunger in Sonoma, Lake, Mendocino, Humboldt, and Del Norte counties where one in six people is at risk of hunger.

Participating firms, companies, and bar associations enter a friendly competition to see who can raise the most funds and volunteer the most hours for the Redwood Empire Food Bank.

Click [here](#) for more information. And click [HERE](#) for the link to donate!!!





## ECA SAFETY TRAINING CLASSES

### 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](mailto: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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## NEWS YOU CAN USE

1. **Without an electric or hydrogen alternative by 2035, what does outlawing diesel rigs mean for cost of goods transportation in CA?** [California's Ban on Gas and Diesel Vehicles—and How It Will Impact Expedited Trucking - Trucking News - ExpeditorsOnline.com](#)
2. **Since the State got rid of redevelopment districts and funding, many of our city leaders have been trying to put forth a system that will encourage private equity to be invested into downtown core projects. The City of Santa Rosa thinks they have the answer-**[Santa Rosa moves forward with new tax district to spur growth downtown. Here's how it would work \(northbaybusinessjournal.com\)](#)
3. **Sea Level Rise in Marin County-nonsense or pragmatic path forward?** [New sea-level rise study to focus on Marin transportation system \(marinij.com\)](#)
4. **From the category of “things that make you go hmmm”-Oregon now requires tampons in ALL School restrooms-yep, Boys or Girls**
5. **Biden wants military vehicles to transition to EV's by 2030. LMAO. Green Military? China has to be laughing out loud!**
6. This story might be the best example of the crossroads between ideological insanity and making America less ready on the battlefield. [Biden energy secretary doubles down on electrifying US military's vehicle fleet by 2030: 'We can get there' | Fox News](#)

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### Northern California Engineering Contractors Association

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