



“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.

Update on City of Santa Rosa Project Labor Agreement Policy

As many of you are aware, the City of Santa Rosa City Council brought to discussion last year, possible establishment of a PLA for the City of Santa Rosa Capital Improvement Projects.

Last week, I was able to coordinate a presentation by Jessica Mullan (assistant City Attorney for the City of Santa Rosa) and Jason Nutt (interim Head of Transportation and Public Works for the City of Santa Rosa) at our Tuesday Board of Director’s meeting 5-16-23. I took the liberty to invite many of the other stakeholders not on our Board of Directors to the meeting as well.

When the original discussion took place in early 2022 with City Council and staff, staff developed the following three objectives that the PLA must address:

- 1) Enhances the City’s highly skilled workforce and increase access to apprenticeship programs to benefit diversity equity, and broader inclusion in the workforce;
- 2) Reduces the City’s carbon footprint by keeping local workforce local; and,
- 3) Creates positive economic impacts by re-investing capital improvement funds through the local workforce.

The City Council asked staff to draft a PLA policy that followed the three objectives, and bring the policy to the Council in October, 2022. Staff did in fact accomplish this and the staff generated PLA generally followed UCONN’s PLA policy which follows the Collective Bargaining Agreements and the Master Labor Agreements already in place. This is important to note because if the Council had followed the staff recommendations in October of 2022, trucking to and from projects sites, trucking to and from quarries and batch plants, and the production of asphalt, concrete, specified rock/sand/gravel/LID bios-wale materials, all would have been excluded from being subject to the PLA.



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The October Council meeting did not accept the staff recommendations to follow CBA's and MLA's, but rather, sent the PLA policy back to staff to draft without excluding trucking, quarries, batch plant work. The staff went back to work, has been negotiating with the trade unions led by Michael Allen, and is now ready to present their PLA policy draft. We got a preview of what staff has in mind last week.

The ECA has not taken any official position either for or against Project Labor Agreements. What the ECA has done is try to keep information current so individual firms can contact their elected representatives with how they feel about their proposed PLA.

Current status is the City Attorney's office is finishing the PLA written policy and will submit a draft to the City Manager, TPW head, and Michael Allen for "redline review" by all three parties. This should happen within days of today. Once the "redline reviews" are done, the marked up PLA goes back to the City Attorney's office to incorporate the corrections, and a final version will be completed and put into place by June 30, 2023. The City Council wants all projects above \$500,000 to be subject to the PLA policy s of July 1, 2023. There is no need to go back to the Council for any further votes.

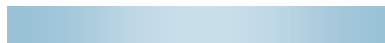
Last week's Board of Directors' presentation was a good opportunity for ECA members to ask questions and answer questions by Ms. Mullans and Mr. Nutt. They heard what was likely to happen should the PLA include, rather than exclude, quarries/batch plants/on and off haul trucking/and production of materials to be used on Capital Projects.

The main issue Ms. Mullans and Mr. Nutt seemingly were concerned with, was whether local workforce would be substituted by out of town workers on the capital projects in case the local workforce is not available to meet the needs and rules of the PLA. If you have a local workforce that could be impacted either positively or negatively by a PLA, you may wish to write the current Mayor, Natalie Rogers (contact info available on our [website](#) and let her know how your local workforce could be impacted. Since the draft is forthcoming in days, I would say any emails to the Mayor should be submitted in hours, rather than in days.

I hope this Soapbox, although not opinionated like my usual ones, provides good information to all of you ECA members.

That's All Folks!

John



COMMITTEE NEWS & INFORMATION

Government Affairs Committee: Led by Chairman Art Deicke, currently has a PAC balance in excess of \$10,000.

Rebecca Hermosillo met with the GAC on 5-18-23 at NCBE small conference room from 3:30 pm to about 4 or 4:15pm. Rebecca is a candidate for Susan Gorin’s Supervisor Seat in the Sonoma Valley area. Rebecca was vetted by the committee and we offered the ECA as a resource to her so she could tap into our knowledge of issues that will face her on the campaign trail, and if she is successful, while she is forming her positions on issues that affect all of us. Many thanks to Art Deicke for setting up the meeting and thanks to Ross Liscum, Dale Mahoney and Mark Soiland for meeting with Art, myself and Rebecca last week.

Community Relations Committee-

Help us end hunger in our community!!! For Team Page Donations click [HERE!](#)

Car Show Committee-led by Chair Walt Turner has met and is in control of the Father’s Day Car Show to be held on Sunday, Father’s Day, June 18 at Julliard Park in Santa Rosa. Entry and sponsor forms can be found here [Registration Flyer](#) to [Sponsor Flyer](#)

The ECA Golf Tournament Committee with Victor McKnight and Dave Weller (along with the ECA Exec Committee), is signing up golfers and will be held at Windsor on Friday, July 21, tee off is at 1:00pm. It is filling up fast so get your reservations in! Sponsorship and signup forms can be found right here [Registration Flyer](#)—[Sponsor Flyer](#)

The ECA Days of Wine and Dozers Auction Committee has been busy and is gearing up for the auction night on Saturday, September 16, 2023. To sponsor click [HERE!](#)

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Click [HERE](#) for more information on the Tractor Pulls!

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!

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 with your spotlight information and send in photos if you have them!

ECA 2023 UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, June 18

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

Free to spectators! Bring your family and see the cars! We will have food trucks, vendors, beer tent, DJ!

Platinum Chevrolet—Showcase Sponsor

Ghilotti Bros Inc.—Raffle Sponsor

Herc Rentals Trench Solutions - Donation

Pacific Sanitation - Donation

Garton Tractor - Donation

RCX Inc. - Awards Sponsor & Donation

Smith Dollar PC - Award Sponsor

[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

Ghilotti Construction—Showcase Sponsor



[Exchange Bank](#) - Lunch Sponsor

[Peterson CAT](#) - Award Sponsor

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

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[Ghilotti Bros. Inc.](#)—Cigar Sponsor

[BoDean Company](#) - Golf Cart Sponsor

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[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

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[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 Dinner & Auction—Graton Rancheria

To sponsor click [HERE!](#)

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 Kincadee 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

The updated 2023-2024 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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From the Desk of Jim Persons

Flagging Traffic

Ever feel that the motoring public is out to get you? Speeding through your work area and if you do not hop out of the way quickly enough, they will run you down?

It is probably because many drivers take the attitude that we should see them and keep out of their path. Just one of the hazards of flagging traffic.

When flagging traffic, we want to do everything we can to prevent an accident. Because when an accident occurs, everyone suffers: the motorist, our Company, and us.

click [HERE](#)



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



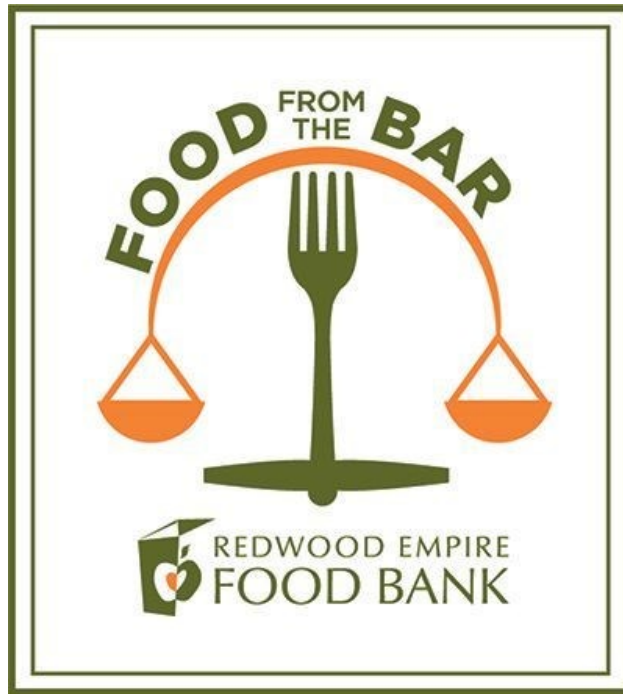
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Throughout the month of May, the local legal community will come together for one purpose: to end hunger in Sonoma, Lake, Mendocino, Humboldt, and Del Norte counties where one in six people is at risk of hunger.

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

CPR / First Aid

Tuesday, June 6

9 am—noon

Training includes bleeding control, strokes, seizures, broken bones and other life-threatening emergencies. Adult/child/infant CPR & airway obstruction management covered. This course is designed as both a course for first-timers and as a refresher.

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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NEWS YOU CAN USE

1. **Jim Huppert is progressing.** As some of you know, Jim has been extremely ill for a few months with intestinal issues that were (are) life threatening. I spoke to Jim via telephone on Wednesday, 5-17-23 and he is out of the hospital and doing his recovery at home. He sounded much better than the last time we had spoken a month ago. Get well Jim!
2. Wednesday the ECA arranged a meeting with Janice Thompson of the Sonoma County Public Infrastructure group (formerly TPW) and BoDean, Argonaut, Ghilotti Construction and Ghilotti Brothers (Team was invited but did not attend). The purpose of the meeting was to have respectful dialogue with the County as to some bid requirements that are causing “risk” money to be included in the bids and make them aware of that fact. We had a good meeting and some of the information that came from the County included why they are bidding work with such tight time lines and heavy liquidated damages. Reasons include:
 - A. County is hiring CM’s to do some of the management of the projects and there is a cost to that, so to lessen their expenses on CMs they are putting the pressure on the contractors. County admits they might be putting too much pressure on contractors on latest bid and will reconsider their approach.
 - B. Safety issues on poorly lighted rural roads-the County wants the GC to get in and out quickly so final striping can take place and possible accidents can be avoided.
3. The GC’s were very positive on the **County meeting with Janice** so much that they asked me to schedule with Marakeeshia Smith (City Manager of Santa Rosa) a similar meeting to discuss capital projects and ways to make those projects run smoother. I met with Marakeeshia on Wednesday, and she loved the idea of meeting. We set up a June 15 meeting at 9am, and the big 4 GC’s as well as BoDean will meet with the head of Transportation and Public Works, the head of Capital Improvement Projects, and the City Manager for Santa Rosa. These meetings are arguably one of the best examples of why the ECA is still delivering ROI for their members.
4. **Governor Newsom wants to make infrastructure work** move forward faster-[Gavin Newsom wants to make it easier to build roads, dams and more. What’s in his plan? \(pressdemocrat.com\)](#)
5. Since my old firm developed **Spring Lake Park**, and I personally used to hang out there as a teenager before it was developed, the Press Democrat article on Spring Lake development was very relevant to me. Hope you enjoy the history-[‘The heart of Santa Rosa’: Spring Lake Regional Park turns 50 \(pressdemocrat.com\)](#)
6. **Highway 37** is going to add a lane in each direction. Dodd’s tolling bill will help pay for those improvements. [Highway 37 toll proposal approved \(pressdemocrat.com\)](#)

Northern California Engineering Contractors Association

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