



April 28, 2025

“CONSTRUCTING A WAY FOR A BETTER FUTURE”

ECA NEWSLETTER

JOHN’S SOAPBOX



Remember-this is an op-ed piece and I do not speak for the ECA or any of its members in this “Soapbox”. These are just my ramblings that hopefully you find thought provoking.

Pretty Boys Shouldn’t Be Governor

So easy-how can you tell if Newsom is lying? If his lips are moving!!

One of the biggest elements of the transition is Gov. Gavin Newsom’s decree that by 2035 all cars sold in California must be zero-emission vehicles, or ZEVs for short, with an interim goal of 35% this year.

It is painfully obvious that the State of California does not “deliver the goods” on megaprojects very well as we watch Newsom fumble with repatriation meetings/promises/then discard the whole idea. Also, watching the high-speed train to nowhere “not get built” at a snail’s pace, and the water reservoir that has not been built yet, we keep seeing promises made, none kept from Sacramento. Other examples? How about homeowner insurance problems and the meltdown of the state’s worker compensation insurance platform. More? How about the implementing of technology information that “aint happening”?

Given the sorry record of big promises with zip for follow through, why should we believe the state’s plans to completely overhaul California’s economy by eliminating hydrocarbon-based energy will be any more successful?

Over the next 20 years, California wants to replace nearly 30 million gasoline and diesel-powered cars and light trucks with vehicles using batteries or hydrogen. Simultaneously California is supposed to wean itself from natural-gas-fired electric power generation and increase power output, to recharge many millions of car batteries and service houses and commercial buildings that will no longer use gas.

One of the biggest elements of the transition is Gov. Gavin Newsom’s decree that by 2035 all cars sold in California must be zero-emission vehicles, or ZEVs for short, with an interim goal of 35% this year.

[It’s not happening.](#)

We have a power grid that cannot handle the demand now. When it gets anywhere near warm, blackouts and appeals to our CA residents to not plug in their EV’s come out of Sacramento as fast as your Ca State Tax Bill.

“Wisdom is found only in truth.”
– Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

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Of course, if we were really going to eliminate hydrocarbon fueled vehicles, one would be closing refineries and pipelines now, right?

Two refineries are already being closed, raising the specter of fuel shortages that would drive California's gas prices, already among the nation's highest, upward.

[Valero is the latest to announce a shutdown](#), declaring its "current intent to idle, restructure, or cease refining operations" at its Benicia refinery by the end of April 2026. The announcement followed last year's decision by Phillips 66 to close its Southern California refinery, two days after Newsom signed a bill requiring refiners to maintain minimum gasoline supplies.

Asked about Valero's announcement, Newsom replied that the state would address "any anxiety that may be created or any market disruption that may be created by that announcement."

How reassuring. NOT.

Sorry-I cannot understand how voters keep putting guys like Newsom into office. Oh-wait-his replacement will solve everything-Kamala is coming to the rescue.

Dear Lord, help us.

I am convinced that a Governor's effectiveness is in inverse proportion to his hair gel habits.

Pretty Boys Should Not be Governor.

That's all folks,

John

ECA NEW MEMBER

Gordon N. Ball, Inc.

Hal Stober
1777 Oakland Blvd Ste 300
Oakland, CA 94596
Phone: 925-838-5915
Email: hstober@ballconco.com
<https://ballconco.com>




NEWS YOU CAN USE

1. How to Cover Tariff Cost Rise in your contracts-[Your contract can mitigate tariff impacts, if you know where to look | Construction Dive](#)
2. Trump Administration Overhauling Federal Procurement Policy-[Trump Orders Overhaul of Federal Acquisition Regulation | Engineering News-Record](#)
3. High Speed Rail Being Targeted-[Trump has California's high-speed rail in his sights, but so do Democrats - POLITICO](#)
4. SMART Pathway in Petaluma-[Pathway construction continues this week near Petaluma North station - The North Bay Business Journal](#)

Eric Lucan for Assembly Kick-Off

 Thompson Builders, Novato

 May 30 @ 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

 www.ericlucan.com/events

To contribute: [Contribute](#) | [Eric Lucan for State Assembly 2026](#)

State Route 37 Policy Committee

Please see the link below to the agenda packet for the next *State Route 37 Policy Committee*, scheduled as follows:

DATE: Thursday, May 1, 2025

TIME: 9:30 AM - 11:30AM

LOCATION: State Route 37 Policy Committee will be a hybrid meeting, with Policy Committee members meeting in-person.

Members of the public who wish to attend in person may do so at:

Sonoma Marin Area Rail Transit District Office Board Room – 1st Floor

5401 Old Redwood Highway Petaluma, CA 94954

[\(Click here to view the meeting location on Google Maps\)](#)

Or virtually through the following platform:

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86933190537?pwd=jQhpsb6azvXgB38Fouk2tVoTtfzY3w.1>

Meeting ID: 869 3319 0537

Passcode: 254257

Call in: (669) 900-9128

Agenda Packet:

[Click here to view the agenda packet.](#)

Please visit <https://scta.ca.gov/projects/highway37/> for additional information

Mixer at Blue Rock



Wednesday May 28, 2025
From 4 pm–7 pm
7888 Hwy 116, Forestville, CA

Please RSVP to mary@nceca.org or 707-546-5500

Join us for fun, food and drinks!

click [HERE](#) for flyer

Public Officials Night!



Thanks again to our Sponsors for
Public Officials Night!

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Father's Day "Show & Shine" Car Show

Sunday, June 15, 2025

Juilliard Park, Santa Rosa

9 am—4 pm

To Register a Car Click [HERE!](#)

To Sponsor Click [HERE!](#)

Food Vendor Application click [HERE!](#)

Vendor Application click [HERE!](#)



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Friday, July 11, 2025

Windsor Golf Club

1340 19th Hole, Windsor

ENTRY FEE INCLUDES:

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For Golf flyer click [HERE](#)

For Sponsor flyer click [HERE](#)

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COMMITTEE NEWS

- A. **ECA Executive Committee** Recurring Meeting (Dan Giordani President, Kimber Lenning Carpenter Vice-President, Matt Storm Treasurer, Casey Wood Secretary, Mike Gulley Past President)-Every 4th Tuesday of the month from 11:00am-12:00pm from January through October, Place NCBE small conference room 1030 Apollo Way, Santa Rosa, CA - next meeting Tuesday May 27, 2025 from 11:00am to 12:00pm
- B. **ECA Board of Directors** Recurring Meeting – Every 4th Tuesday of the month from 12:00pm -1:30pm from January through October, Place – NCBE Main Board Room 1030 Apollo Way, Santa Rosa, CA – next meeting Tuesday May 27, 2025, from 12:00pm to 1:30pm, with special guests from EBA to inform you about their services
- C. **ECA Government Affairs Committee** Recurring Meeting-Every 4th Tuesday of the month from 1:30pm – 3:00pm from January through October, Place -NCBE small conference room 1030 Apollo Way, Santa Rosa, CA – next Meeting Tuesday May 27, 2025 from **1:30pm to 3:00pm**- (Chair John Bly, Members Ross Liscum, Keith Woods, Joanne Webster, Dale Mahoney, Mark Soiland, Mike Wolff, John Reid, and NEW GAC MEMBER Aimi Dutra!!)-invited guests who will be meeting separately with us are Santa Rosa City Council Member Victoria Fleming and City of Healdsburg Councilmember Ariel Kelley.
- D. **ECA Specification Meeting** Recurring Meeting Every 4th Wednesday of the month from February through October from 3:00pm to 4:30pm, Place-NCBE Main Board Room, 1030 Apollo Way, Santa Rosa, CA – next meeting has been rescheduled from Wednesday May 28, 2025 from 3:00pm to 4:30pm to Tuesday May 27 from 3:00 to 4:30 pm to accommodate the Mixer on May 28 at Blue Rock. (Chairs Dale Smith/Casey Wood, Antonio Mencarini, John Reid, Geoff Coleman, Jason Nutt, and invited guests from Healdsburg Larry Zimmer and CIP Director linked to topics.

From the Desk of Jim Persons

Diesel Exhaust Dangers and Safeguards

On construction sites, mines, and other types of work sites, diesel engines are used frequently. Diesel engines power everything from water pumps to heavy equipment that allows for day-to-day activities to be completed efficiently.

Click [HERE](#) to read more.



Workplace Violence Program

Implemented – July 1, 2024

Senate Bill 553 requires employers to create, implement and maintain a Workplace Violence Program by July 1, 2024. Employers must also train their entire workforce.

The Workplace Violence Program must include a reporting mechanism (how is the employee going to report incidents), detailing who will be responsible for receiving complaints, and who will be responsible for identifying and mitigating workplace hazards.

Jim Persons has developed a Workplace Violence Program and Active Shooter Guidelines that meet the requirements of this new regulation. He can also provide training resources for your employees.

Contact Jim if you are interested in getting his help on a Workplace Violence Program, COVID-19 related issues or other health and safety programs.

email: jimpersons@safetypride.com or phone: 707-889-0881 or sign up for an upcoming class!



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ECA SAFETY & EDUCATION TRAINING

Competent Person Trenching & Excavation

Tuesday, April 29th, 1—3 pm, 1030 Apollo Way, Santa Rosa

The course will cover soil analysis, sloping, shoring and shielding, hazardous situations, excavation standards and more...

Click [HERE](#) for the April flyer.

CPR / First Aid

Wednesday, April 30th, 1-3 pm, 1030 Apollo Way, Santa Rosa

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 the April flyer.

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USEFUL LINKS TO SUPPORT YOUR BUSINESS

- A. Resilient 37 Policy Committee Meetings (open to the public) – Next meeting March 6, 9:30-11:30 am-link [State Route 37 Policy Committee - Sonoma County Transportation Authority](#)
- B. Metropolitan Transportation Commission website-link [Meetings & Events | Metropolitan Transportation Commission](#)
- C. Sonoma County Transportation Authority-link [Sonoma County Transportation Authority | SCTA](#)
- D. Transportation Authority of Marin Website-link [Transportation Authority of Marin](#)
- E. Marin Builders Exchange website-link [Home - Marin Builders Association, CA](#)
- F. North Coast Builders Exchange website-link [North Coast Builders Exchange – NCBE Online](#)



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info@eddclarkandassociates.com

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.

[Flyer](#)



George Petersen Insurance Agency

EMERGENCY RESPONSE MANUAL ~ 2025—2026

In the event of an emergency, we have put together the Emergency Response Manual to help our community receive quick service from our members. The manual 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 2025-2026 manual.

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!






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Northern California Engineering Contractors Association

John Bly, Executive Director
email: john@nceca.org

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

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Postal Address: P.O. Box 8249 Santa Rosa, CA 95407 ~Phone: 707.546.5500



NORTH BAY CONSTRUCTION CORPS

Training The Next Generation of Construction Workers

The North Bay Construction Corps (NBCC) is an after-school, 3-month basic construction training program for seniors in their last semester of high school. Classes are taught by local contractors and construction managers. Participants are introduced to a variety of trades and earn certifications in Personal Protective Equipment and CPR/First Aid.

Each meeting is led by a contractor or tradesperson who presents information about his/her particular trade and then leads students through a hands-on skill-building activity. There is a strong focus on safety awareness at each meeting.

2025 NBCC Schedule: Click [HERE](#)

For additional information, contact: NBCC Sonoma: Mackenzie Smith
[\(707\) 542-9502](tel:7075429502) / mackenzie@ncbeonline.com

Save the Dates for 2025!

Mixer at Blue Rock—Wednesday, May 28th
Father's Day Car Show - Sunday, June 15 at Juilliard Park
ECA Golf Tournament - Friday, July 11 at Windsor Golf Club
Wine & Dozers Auction—Saturday, November 1 at Graton Resort & Casino
ECA Annual General Membership Meeting—Date/Time/Place TBD



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