



May 4, 2026

ECA Newsletter

-CONSTRUCTING A WAY FOR A BETTER FUTURE-

What a Night!!

Our 49th Annual ECA Public Officials Night is “in the books”. If you were one of the 226 attendees on Thursday night, I am pretty sure you are happy you attended.

The Bridge Award Video is available on YouTube as of today-search for “ECA Bridge Award” or follow this link to the organization’s YouTube page: [\(18\) NC ECA - YouHereTube](#)

The ECA showed up and supported in a big way the Public Officials that we work with each and every day on Thursday night. Some of the highlights:

- A. SEARED Restaurant-Joe O’Donnell and his crew (including Jimmie coming out of retirement for one night to make sure the ECA event went well for SEARED’s 1st catering job for us) kicked ass Thursday night. Steaks were on time, plentiful portions, seasoned just right and cooked perfectly! There was no waiting for the food as SEARED kept it coming and we had everyone plated and eating within 20 minutes of starting!!
- B. ECA’s Board of Directors-wearing their aprons and big smiles on their faces, the Directors nailed serving the crowd. I love this tradition and the Directors I spoke with also enjoyed it as they get to put faces to names of all the attendees!
- C. McKenzie’s preparation. Look, McKenzie is new, but she is a quick learner and hard worker-she holds high standards for herself and the ECA. After we had a few “hiccups” at our 1st event of the year, McKenzie wanted everyone to really enjoy this event. She prepared well and managed even better on Thursday night. McKenzie did a great job!
- D. McKenzie’s volunteers-when one of the bartenders got into traffic issues and wasn’t there, Corrinna jumped in and kept things moving at the bar. I cannot say enough about Jeanine Clary, Kristi Pruet, Corrinna Fernandez, Janis Tremari, and Jewell Soiland. They got folks checked in, sold raffle and drink tix, and got nametags out to everyone quickly and efficiently.

John’s Soapbox

Remember my disclaimer -this Soapbox is my own opinion and does not necessarily reflect any official ECA position, nor any opinion of any ECA member firm. This is my stuff only and is intended to be thought-provoking as well as educational.




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- E. Sound Ideas video-ok, it was a little bit long, but there were a lot of folks that wanted to participate in the interviews and tell the story of this project. I thought Alejandro did a great job in editing, and we had none of the problems that showed up at the Installation Dinner event. The video should be available on YouTube today. Just search for ECA Bridge Award video and enjoy!! This is why I still think sponsoring the video is the best “bang for your buck” of being an event sponsor for PO Night. Hundreds, if not thousands, of viewers would see your company logo and name if you choose to sponsor the video. Maybe next year??
- F. Dalton and the facility itself-The Backdrop is fast becoming my favorite venue for casual events. Their audio video facilities are perfect for what we need, and the kitchen is great for caterers. I would say we will be doing more events at the Backdrop in the future.
- G. The Attendees-yes, we owe a debt of gratitude to all the sponsors and sustaining members for sure. But the crowd that showed up as the audience was respectful, interested, and kind of made the evening for me.
- H. If you have any ideas or suggestions as to how we can make this event better (yes-I know, faster line at the bar is one thing to improve on!), please let us know. We want constructive criticism and want to make it better!

That’s All Folks-
John

Connect with the ECA on social media!

[Instagram](#)



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[Facebook](#)



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ECA COMMITTEE NEWS

1. ECA Executive Committee (Officers) Meetings are recurring every month and are held every Last Tuesday from 11:00-12:00pm, in the small NCBE conference room. Next meeting will be May 26, 2026, from 11am to 12pm.
2. ECA Board of Directors meetings are recurring every month and are held every last Tuesday from 12:00-1:30pm, in the main conference boardroom at NCBE. Next meeting will be May 26, 2026, from 12:00 noon to 1:30 pm.
3. ECA Government Affairs Committee (GAC) meetings are recurring every month and are held every last Tuesday from 2:00pm-3:30pm in the main conference boardroom at NCBE. Next meeting will be May 26, 2026, from 2:00-3:30pm
4. ECA Specifications Committee are recurring every month and are held every last Wednesday from 3:00-4:30pm in the main conference board room at NCBE. Next meeting will be Wednesday, May 27, 2026, from 3:00 pm to 4:30pm.

ECA Endorsed Candidates as of 4-28-2026:

Sonoma County District 2 Supervisor-Sylvia Lemus

Sonoma County District 4 Supervisor-Tom Schwedhelm

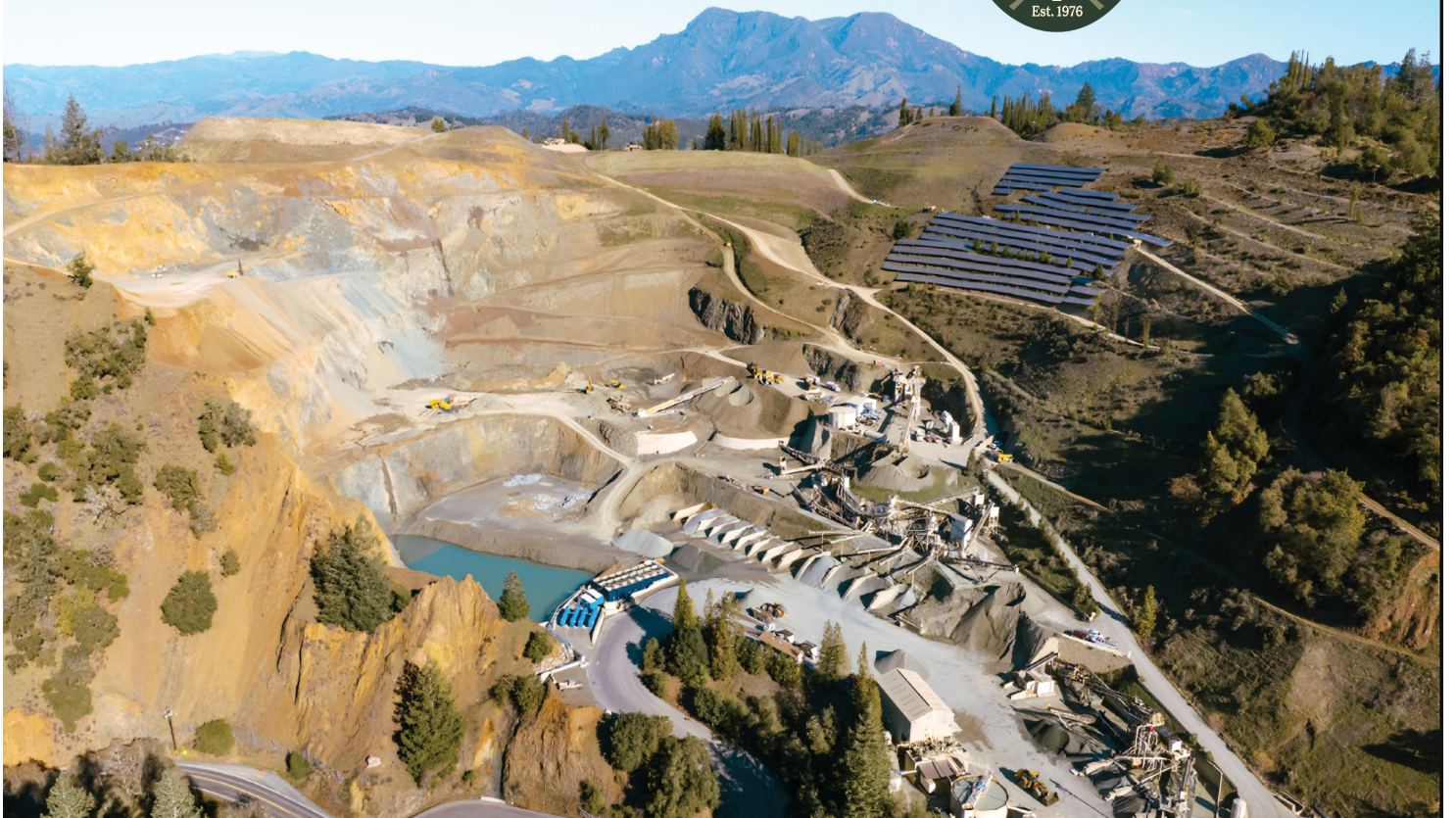
Windsor Mayor-Tanya Potter

ECA EVENTS

1. Mixer-May 27 Hosted by BoDean (a CRH Company) and Sponsored by NCBE and ECA
2. June 21, 2026-ECA Show and Shine Car Show will be held at Julliard Park at 227 Santa Rosa, Ave. in Santa Rosa from 9:00am-3:30pm
3. July 10, 2026-The ECA Golf Tournament will be held at the Windsor Golf Course at 1340 19th Hole Drive in Windsor, CA from 11:00am-7:00p
4. November 7, 2026-The ECA Annual Days of Wine and Dozers Dinner and Auction at the Hyatt in Santa Rosa.

Join Us for an Industry Mixer at Mark West Quarry

Hosted by



WHEN

Wednesday
May 27, 2026
4:00pm-7:00pm



WHERE

Mark West Quarry
4611 Porter Creek Road
Santa Rosa, CA 95404



RSVP by May 22

to Aimi Dutra
at aimi.dutra@na.crh.com
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Lorne Chase | Construction Superintendent (Sonoma/Napa) | Cell: (707) 272-1294 | Lorne.Chase@gcinc.com
Gary Huddle | Construction Superintendent (Lake/Mendocino) | Cell: (707) 272-0136 | Gary.Huddle@gcinc.com

ECA & NCBE SAFETY & EDUCATION TRAINING

ECA MEMBERS PAY THE NCBE PRICE

MAY

Thursday 5/7: [Fall Protection “Competent Person” - English](#) 9 am - 11 am

Wednesday 5/13: [Confined Space “Competent Person” - English](#) 1 pm - 3 pm

Thursday 5/14: [Key legal Concepts for Public Works for Subcontractor](#) 9 am - 11 am

Thursday 5/14: [Worker’s Comp Office Hours](#) 1 pm - 4 pm

Thursday 5/14: [CPR + First Aid May - English and Spanish](#) 1 pm - 3 pm

Wednesday 5/20: [Scaffolding Training “Qualified Person” - English and Spanish](#) 1 pm - 3 pm

Thursday 5/21: [Latinos in the Workplace - Leading through Uncertainty](#) 7:30 am - 11:30 am

Thursday 5/28: [Trenching/Excavation “Competent Person”- English and Spanish](#) 9 am - 11 am

JUNE

Monday 6/8: [Fall Protection “Competent Person” - English](#) and Spanish 9 am - 11 am

Tuesday 6/9: [CPR + First Aid May - English and Spanish](#) 9 am - 11 am

From the Desk of Jim Persons

Seven-Tenths of a Second

Look at your watch and see how long one second really is. If you have a stopwatch, try to stop the stopwatch at seven-tenths of a second. Now that you know how long that is, consider what happens in the first seven tenths of a second when a truck or auto traveling 55 mph hits a solid object and the driver is not wearing his/hers seat belt and shoulder belt.

To read more:

[Click HERE](#)



NEWS YOU CAN USE

1. Pretty Cool, I must say--[What to expect at Sonoma County's newly expanded Graton Resort and Casino, now with rooftop dining, 2,000 more slot machines](#)
2. I normally hate increases in fees, but I must admit Solano County raise in development fees looks like it could do 883 million good things for our construction/engineering market-[Solano supervisors raise fees as county plans \\$883 million in projects – The Press Democrat](#)
3. Did Mitch do a “no-no”? - [Solano supervisor accused of slow-walking county projects, other ethics violations – The Press Democrat](#)
4. Which new “Governor” would be best for housing development? [California governor candidates race to claim pro-housing mantle](#)
5. California “High Speed Rail Project” continues to suck and flush our money down the drain-[California high-speed rail faces scrutiny over costs and oversight](#)

6. Where does Steve Hilton, Candidate for Governor, stand on the high-speed rail project?

Steve Hilton does **not** support high-speed rail, and he has been openly critical of California’s high-speed rail project. According to his policy position, Hilton **disagrees with providing government subsidies for high-speed rail networks**, aligning with the Republican Party’s general stance of reducing government spending and favoring private-sector solutions over large-scale public infrastructure. This reflects a broader ideological preference for smaller government and skepticism toward expensive, long-term infrastructure projects. Hilton’s opposition is also evident in his public commentary. In April 2026, he appeared on Fox Across America to call California’s high-speed rail project a “**financial disaster**” and questioned whether it will ever be realized, saying, “Just amazing they’re still pretending this thing will be real”. His remarks underscore his view that the project is costly, poorly managed, and unlikely to deliver on its promises. In sum, Hilton’s position is that high-speed rail is not a priority for public funding, and he has actively criticized the California project as a waste of taxpayer money.

7. Where do the other candidates for Governor stand on high-speed rail? - [California High-Speed Rail: Where Candidates for Governor Stand - Newsweek](#)

USEFUL LINKS TO SUPPORT YOUR BUSINESS

- A. Resilient 37 Policy Committee Meetings (open to the public) --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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JOB LISTINGS



Date posted: April 15, 2026

Salary: \$95,000 to \$135,000 depending on experience

Job description: Project Manager

Position Summary

The project manager is responsible for planning, coordinating and executing construction projects from inception through completion. This role ensures that all work meets contractual obligations, schedule requirements, quality standards, budget and safety protocols. Acting as the central liaison between owners, engineers, field teams, subcontractors and stakeholders. The project manager drives the project success through disciplined leadership, strategic planning and clear communication

Application Question(s):

- Do you have a degree in Construction Management?
- Do you have any contracting experience with grading, paving and underground utility construction?

To Reply, Email: jerry@engelkeconstruction.com



Landesign Construction & Maintenance is growing and looking for a hands-on Construction Project Manager / Designer to lead high-quality landscape projects in Sonoma County. Must have 3–5+ years in landscape construction, strong estimating skills, and the drive to protect margin and deliver results. Salary \$90K–\$120K plus incentives and full benefits package. To apply, please send your resume to Kelley Lazzareschi at kelley.l@landesign-inc.com or call 415-412-6332.

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.



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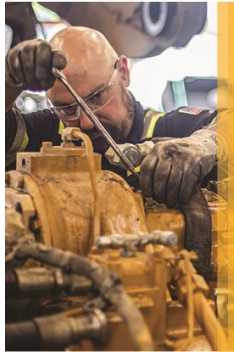
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