



Sept 2026

CEAC NEWSLETTER

Inside this Issue

	Page
<i>President's Message</i>	1
<i>Save the Dates</i>	2
<i>County Public Works Director Changes Around the State</i>	3
Lars Ewing - Lake County Amy Schmidt - Lassen County	
Daymon Qualls - Kings Co.	4
<i>CEAC Regional Director Changes</i> Vanessa Garrett, Bay Area	4
<i>2027 Buffalo Bull Award NOMINATIONS are happening!</i>	5
<i>41st Annual Field Summit formerly known as Bedroll Conf</i>	6
<i>CLODS Annual Dinner & Meeting</i>	15
<i>21st Annual CEAC Policy Conf</i>	16
<i>The Droppings Buddy and CHICS Golden Eagle Awards</i>	22
<i>Sac Motherlode Regional Report</i>	24
<i>Engineer of the Year Award NOMINATIONS due 10-16-2026</i>	32
<i>Surveyor of the Year Award NOMINATIONS due 10-16-2026</i>	32
<i>Memorial Scholarship Program APPLICATIONS due 10-16-2026</i>	33
<i>NACE Report</i>	34
<i>CEAC Board of Directors Draft Minutes - 8-21-2026 Mtg</i>	35
<i>Job Opportunities in Local Gov't As of 9-04-2026</i>	40
<i>Materials Submitted are subject to the "3 R's": Review, Revision, Rejection</i>	

Editor: Pat DeChellis

President's Message

By **Johannes Hoevertsz**
Director, Public Infrastructure
Sonoma County



As I prepare my final President's Message, I want to begin by sincerely thanking everyone who has supported CEAC and helped make this such a successful year.

A special thank you to our CLODS for their continued guidance and commitment to the organization, to Past President Dave Leamon for his leadership and support, and to our Board of Directors, including Blossom, and Chris. Thank you also to Merrin and everyone who has contributed their time and energy throughout the year.

We have had an outstanding year of engagement, with very well-attended conferences, a successful Field Summit, and a strong Policy Conference. It has been especially rewarding to see new faces becoming involved in CEAC and to visit several of our regional groups, both virtually and in person. These opportunities continue to remind me how much we benefit from sharing ideas, challenges, and solutions across county lines.

Our work with NACE and our continued focus on innovation, technology, and public policy are also helping CEAC stay connected to the issues shaping the future of public infrastructure. As our profession evolves, it is important that we remain engaged, continue strengthening our partnerships with the private sector, and bring more engineers and emerging leaders into CEAC.

Most importantly, we must continue encouraging every county to participate and recognize the value of working together. CEAC is at its strongest when we share our experience, learn from one another, and speak with a collective voice on the issues affecting California's infrastructure and the communities we serve.

Serving as your CEAC President has been a tremendous honor. Thank you for your support, your friendship, and the important work you do every day.

I look forward to continuing to work with CEAC in the years ahead, and I especially look forward to seeing everyone again at our Fall CEAC Conference in Chula Vista, San Diego County. It will be a great opportunity to reconnect, continue these important conversations, and celebrate another year of working together.

Thank you for a great year, and I look forward to seeing you in Chula Vista.

With appreciation,

Johannes J. Hoevertsz
2025-26 CEAC President

SAVE the DATES

REGISTER NOW!!!

132nd CSAC Annual Fall Meeting/CEAC Fall Conference

December 1-4, 2026, Gaylord Pacific Resort and Convention Center, 1000 H Street, Chula Vista, CA

- ♦ **2027 CEAC Spring Conference** - March 15-19, 2027, Hyatt Regency, Orange County
In conjunction with the League of California Cities' Public Works Officers Institute
- ♦ **2027 NACE Annual Conference** - April 5-8, 2027, Cleveland, OH (Cuyahoga County)



EARLY SPONSORS



CLODS BBQ

Thursday, December 3, 2026
Starting at noon
DETAILS TO FOLLOW

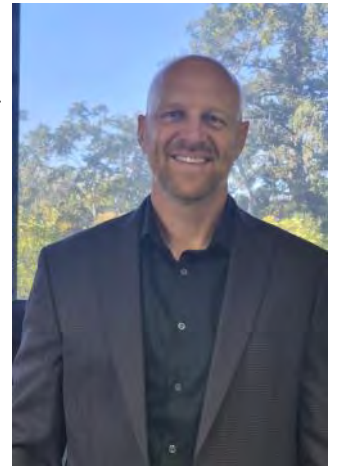
CEAC Golf Tournament

Tuesday, December 1, 2026
First Tee—10:30am
DETAILS TO FOLLOW

COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR CHANGES

Around the State....

Lars Ewing – Lars was appointed by the Lake County Board of Supervisors as Director of Public Works effective April 28, 2026, following the Board's consolidation of the County's Public Works and Public Services departments into a single organization. A Lake County native, Lars is a graduate of the United States Air Force Academy. After serving five years as a civil engineering officer in the U.S. Air Force, followed by several years in private consulting, he began work with the County of Lake in 2010 as Assistant Public Works Director. In 2016 he was appointed Public Services Director and later served concurrently as Interim Public Works Director. Today, after leading the consolidation of the two departments, Lars oversees a department responsible for the County's roads, facilities, parks, airport, and landfill infrastructure, as well as recreation, museum, fleet, integrated waste, and engineering services. He lives in Lakeport with his wife and has five (mostly grown) children.



FUN FACT - Scott DeLeon who retired as the Public Works Director of Lake County in 2024 (see the September 2024 Issue of the Newsletter for details and pictures of Scott's retirement) was Lars' first assistant high school football coach, then his head high school basketball coach, then his boss in the private sector in 2008, then his boss in the public sector at Lake County Public Works from 2010-2016, then a coworker from 2016 until Scott's retirement in 2024.



Picture above - Lars and Scott at last month's Policy Conference in Sacramento. Picture to the left - 2012, when Scott was the Director of Public Works and Lars was the Assistant.

Amy Schmidt - Amy was introduced during the June 16 meeting of the Lassen County Board of Supervisors, where she shared that she recently relocated from Colusa County and brings a background in public works as well as experience as a general contractor.

Amy said her family had been looking for an opportunity to move to the area, and when the position became available, it felt like the right fit.

"The opportunity presented itself, and here I am," Amy told the Board. "I'm looking forward to meeting everyone and getting to talk with you about your individual districts and needs."

The June 16 meeting marked Amy's second day on the job.

Board Chairman Gary Bridges welcomed Schmidt to the county, saying, "It's a great place."

The Public Works Director position had been vacant for approximately eight months following the retirement of former Director Randy Pyle in the fall of 2025. During the vacancy, the department's day-to-day operations were overseen by interim leadership while Lassen County conducted a recruitment to fill the role. Amy's appointment marks the first permanent hire to lead the department since Randy's departure.

Lassen County Public Works Department oversees roads, bridges, county facilities, and other public infrastructure throughout the County.



COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR CHANGES

Around the State.... (continues)

Daymon Qualls - Kings County has appointed Daymon Qualls as its new public works director, effective July 27, 2026.

Daymon brings more than 20 years of leadership experience in public works, infrastructure operations, and municipal government, including 14 years as a public works director and recent executive service as a city manager. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration.

Prior to joining Kings County, Daymon served as city manager for the cities of Lindsay and Farmersville, where he oversaw municipal operations, strategic planning, organizational development, financial management and capital improvement programs. Before his city manager roles, he spent nearly two decades with the City of Exeter, beginning as assistant director of public works in 2005 before being promoted to public works director in 2010.

Throughout his career, Daymon has led major operational areas including transportation infrastructure, water distribution, wastewater collection and treatment, storm drainage, engineering, fleet services, facilities maintenance, parks, capital improvement projects, emergency operations and regulatory compliance.

"We are excited to fill this crucial role and welcome Daymon as our new Public Works Director," said Kyria Martinez, county executive officer.

"Public Works plays a vital role in keeping nearly 950 miles of roads and over 100 bridges safe and well-maintained, in addition to maintaining the County's parks and grounds, operating fleet services, and providing building maintenance to County facilities. Additionally, the Public Works Department is also responsible for all engineering and surveyor functions. The Public Works Department is a foundational piece in maintaining the essential systems our residents rely on every day. We are confident Daymon's leadership will strengthen these essential systems and support our mission of delivering dependable, high-quality services to Kings County," Martinez said.



Vanessa Garrett is the new **CEAC Regional Director for the Bay Area**.

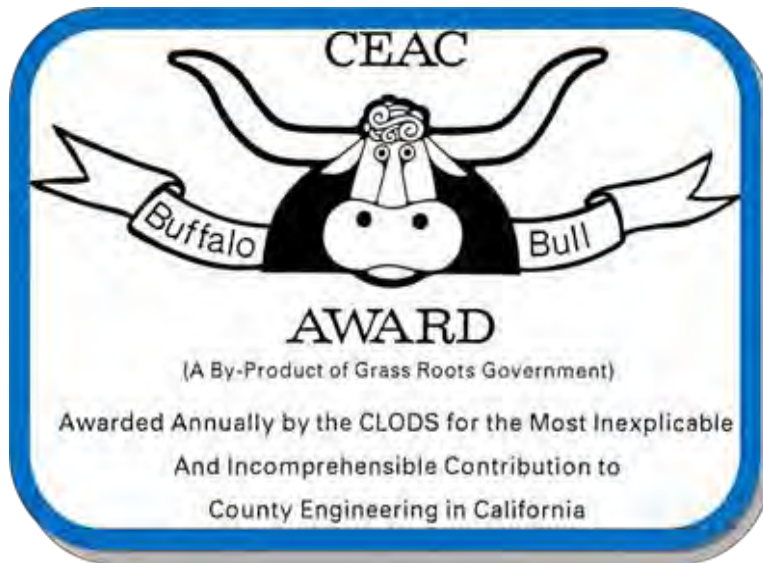
Vanessa started work for Sonoma County Public Infrastructure in November 2025 as the Deputy Director of Engineering and Maintenance. She leads the County's engineering and maintenance programs within the Department of Public Infrastructure. She oversees road operations, capital project delivery, and engineering services that support safe, sustainable, and resilient public infrastructure across Sonoma County.

Prior to working for Sonoma County, Vanessa was the Director of Public Works for the City of Rohnert Park from June 2021 to November 2025. She worked her way up in the City, starting as a Senior Engineering Technician in November 2015. She has 5 years experience in the private sector before working at the City.

Vanessa has a Bachelor of Science Degree from San Diego State and a MPA from Long Beach State.



2027 BUFFALO BULL AWARD



It is that time again - the **CLODS' Tres Pinos Committee** will be meeting soon to determine who the recipient will be for the 2027 Buffalo Bull Award to be presented to a most deserving "sole" (buffoon) at the President's Banquet during the 2027 Spring Conference.

Remember Rule #1: **A good defense is a better offense... Get your nominations in because YOU may have already been nominated by one of your adjacent County Engineers.**

All nominations should be sent directly to the CEAC Newsletter Editor at CEACNewsletterEditor@gmail.com who will forward to an unknown P.O. Box in Tres Pinos, CA.



For those who might have forgotten, **Howard Dashiell**, CEAC President 201-22 and the Public Works Director for Mendocino County, was the **2026 Recipient of the Buffalo Bull Award**.

A resident group drafted a petition and delivered it to the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors regarding the very poor condition of Little River Airport Road. They also sent 63 postcards to Howard complaining about the road.

Howard with the Award in his Office along with the 63 postcards sent by residents.

41st ANNUAL CEAC FIELD SUMMIT

SAVE THE DATE!

July 27, 2026 through July 29, 2026

41ST ANNUAL CEAC FIELD SUMMIT

MT. LASSEN TAHEMA COUNTY, CA



Please join us at beautiful Camp Tehama for the 41st annual CEAC Field Summit scheduled for Wednesday evening, July 27th through Friday July 29, 2026 conveniently located in Tehama County near Mt. Lassen National Park. The weather at Camp Tehama is pleasant, you can expect daytime high temperatures to be around 82 F and nighttime low temperatures to be around 43 F during the event.

CEAC FIELD SUMMIT

THE CONFERENCE FORMERLY KNOWN AS BEDROLL



41st ANNUAL CEAC FIELD SUMMIT



COUNTY ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA 2026 FIELD SUMMIT

Camp Tehama

near Mineral CA

AGENDA

WEDNESDAY – JULY 29, 2026

- 2:00 pm** **Check-in begins.** All vehicles need to park below the gate by the caretaker's house. *Note, RVs cannot be accommodated.* Check-in is located at the dining hall.
- 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm** **Social networking.** Connect with peers and consultants, build relationships, and find mentors.
- 7:00 pm - 8:00pm** **Dinner.** BBQ salmon or chicken served with all the fixings. Please indicate any dietary restrictions during registration.
- 8:00 pm - 8:15 pm** **Awards Presentation**
- 8:15 pm - 8:45 pm** **Project Presentation.** Scott DeLeon (NCE) Butte County 5-Mile Basin project & Martin McLroy (MGE) Crocker Road historic ped bridge in Sonoma County

THURSDAY – JULY 30, 2026

- 7:00 am - 8:00 am** **Breakfast.** Pancakes, fruit platter, sausage, bacon, eggs and more.
- 8:00 am - 8:15 am** **Welcome and CEAC Update.** CEAC's 2026 president will kick off the morning with his welcome address. *Speaker: Johannes J. Hoevertsz - Director Sonoma County Public Infrastructure, 2026 CEAC President*
- 8:15 am - 8:45 am** **CSAC LEGISLATIVE UPDATE.** Hear the latest information regarding pending legislation that affects County Public Works operations. *Speaker: Mark Neuburger, CSAC Legislative Representatives & Agriculture, Environment, and Natural Resources (AENR) lobbyist*
- 8:45 am - 9:30 am** **Pavement Preservation.** Learn about the latest research in pavement preservation from one of the leading subject matter experts in California. *Speaker: DingXin Cheng, Ph.D., P.E., Director, California Pavement Preservation Center, California State University, Chico*
- 9:30 am - 10:15 am** **CCPIC (connected to LTAP) John Harvey, UC Davis**
- 10:15 am - 10:30 am** **Break.**
- 10:30 am - 11:00 am** **Caltrans Local Assistance Panel.** Discussion from a panel of Caltrans District Local Assistance Engineers on project funding and delivery challenges. *Moderated by: TBD*



41st ANNUAL CEAC FIELD SUMMIT

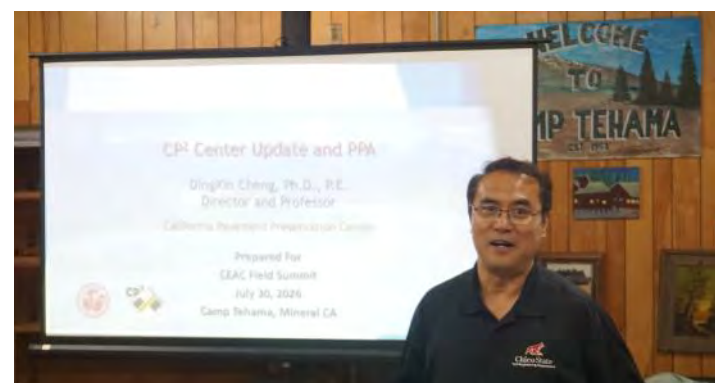
- 11:00 am – 11:30 am** **Self-Help Road Tax Panel.** Discussion from a panel of Counties where the voters have approved a tax to fund road maintenance. *Moderated by: TBD*
- 11:30 am – 11:45 am** **AI generated photo simulations for new roadway striping.** See examples of how AI can assist in quickly creating photo simulations for new roadway striping. *Speaker: Bob Bronkall, LS, PE-Civil, PE-Traffic, THE Humboldt County Surveyor*
- 11:45 am – 12:00 pm** **CA-MUTCD update.** Overview of the January 2026 California MUTCD revisions and implications for agencies. *Speaker: Bob Bronkall, LS, PE-Civil, PE-Traffic, THE Humboldt County Surveyor*
- 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm** **Lunch.** Hot and cold sandwich options provided with all the fixings.
- 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm** **Peer Exchange.** Hear from a panel of Public Works Directors covering a wide range of current issues faced by public works agencies; including topics brought up attendees. *Moderator: TBD*
- 3:00 pm – 3:15 pm** **Break.**
- 3:15 pm – 4:45 pm** **Consultant Panel Roundtable Discussion.** Hear insights from a panel of consultants on improving county-consultant collaboration, project delivery, and expectations. *Moderator: TBD*
- 4:45 am – 5:15 pm** **Survey Monument Preservation Toolkit.** Guidance on compliance with state monument preservation laws and avoiding significant enforcement penalties (\$10K). *Speaker: Bob Bronkall, LS, PE-Civil, PE-Traffic, THE Humboldt County Surveyor*
- 5:15 pm – 7:00 pm** **Social networking.** Connect with peers and consultants, build relationships, and find mentors.
- 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm** **Dinner.** Join us for a BBQ steak or chicken with all the fixings. Please identify any dietary restriction that you have when registering.

FRIDAY – JULY 31, 2026

- 7:00 am to 9:00 am** **Breakfast.** Pancakes, fruit platter, sausage, bacon, eggs and more.
- 8:45 am to 9:00 am** **2027 Field Summit.** Nomination and selection of the Conference Coordinator and Program Coordinator for next year's conference.
- 9:00 am** **Conference adjourns.**
- 10:00 am – 12:00 pm** **Camp Cleanup by CEAC Affiliates.** All CEAC affiliate members are required to assist.
- Noon** **Check-out deadline**

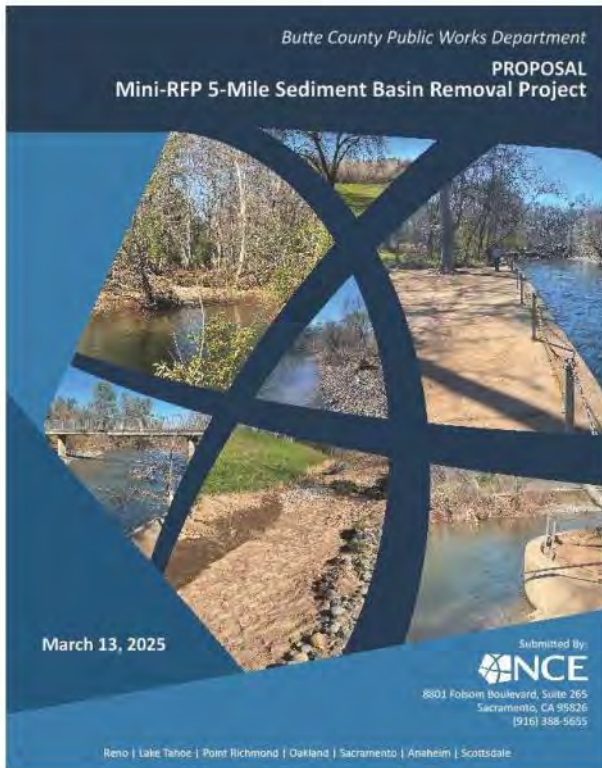
Notes:

- All times are subject to minor adjustments.
- Please respect camp rules and facilities.
- Dress is casual and appropriate for outdoor conditions.



41st ANNUAL CEAC FIELD SUMMIT

Presented by **Scott DeLeon**
Principal Engineer with NCE Engineering



Butte County 5-Mile Basin Presentation – History of the Basin



Butte County 5-Mile Basin Project Presentation Project Timeline

April 28, 2025 - Notice to Proceed for Task 1 (Update Topographic Survey and begin coordination with Regulatory Agencies)

June 16, 2025 – Notice to Proceed for Task 2 (Project Design and Regulatory Agency Permitting)

July 9, 2025 - Received Updated Topo which allowed for modeling and design

August 20, 2025 – Corps announces it will not permit the project as an emergency

September 4, 2025 – Pre-construction meeting with Contractor

September 5, 2025 – Corps changes position. Plans revised to eliminate fill in WOTUS

September 12, 2025 – CDFW issues permit. Corps issues No Permit Required Letter

September 15, 2025 – Begin Construction with verbal approval from the Water Board and Central Valley Flood Protection Board. Permits were issued during construction

September 19, 2025 – Complete Construction



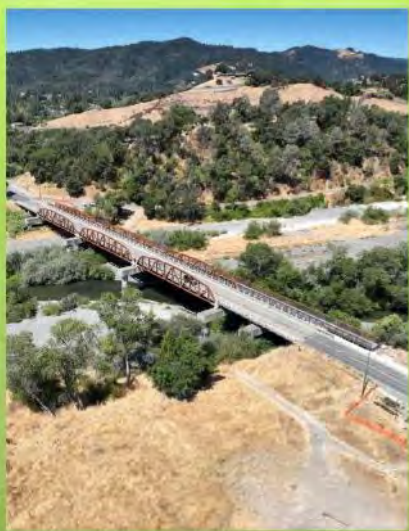
The waters of the Big Chico Creek threatened their banks, flooding paths of Old Mill and 5 Mile Recreation Area overnight as well as surrounding businesses around through Robert Park.

February 4, 2025 storm event with flows of 30,500 cfs. Big Chico Creek Diversion is at far left (just outside of picture). Note large woody debris pile in center of the picture

noe.net.com



41st ANNUAL CEAC FIELD SUMMIT



Crocker Road Pedestrian Bridge

Presented by:

MGE ENGINEERING, INC.



Presented by **Wes Sennett**
Senior Engineer
with MGE Engineering

Bridge Specifics

- **Location:** ~0.20 miles east of SR-101, spanning the Russian River near Cloverdale
- **Original Construction (1938):** Seven-span structure, approximately 520 feet long
- **Structure Type:** Steel girder approach spans (40 ft each) and three 120-foot steel pony truss main spans
- **Deck & Width:** Reinforced concrete deck with ~23 feet of clear roadway width
- **Substructure:** Reinforced concrete seat-type abutments supported on steel piles



MGE ENGINEERING, INC.

Background

- **2005 Seismic Retrofit:** Replaced pier wall bents with 7-ft CIDH piles and concrete caps, retrofitted abutments with 4-ft CIDH piles, and added shear keys.
- **2009 & 2015 Studies:** Evaluated feasibility of adding a bike/ped crossing on the existing structure.
- **2015 Findings:** Confirmed the bridge can support a 10-ft-wide steel truss bike/ped facility without additional foundation support.



MGE ENGINEERING, INC.

Design Considerations

- **Alignment & Profile:** Bridge located ~22 ft north of existing, matching profile and tying into existing roads
- **Approaches:** West connects to park entrance; east ties into roadway with safe crossing; both include retaining walls and HMA paving
- **User Features:** Centerline striping and signage with enhanced east-end crosswalk for safety
- **Utilities & Construction:** Existing Comcast line remains; end spans placed using launching method
- **Design & Layout:** AASHTO/Caltrans standards; 10-ft-wide facility with multi-span truss and 54-in railing



MGE ENGINEERING, INC.

Motivation to Advance the Project

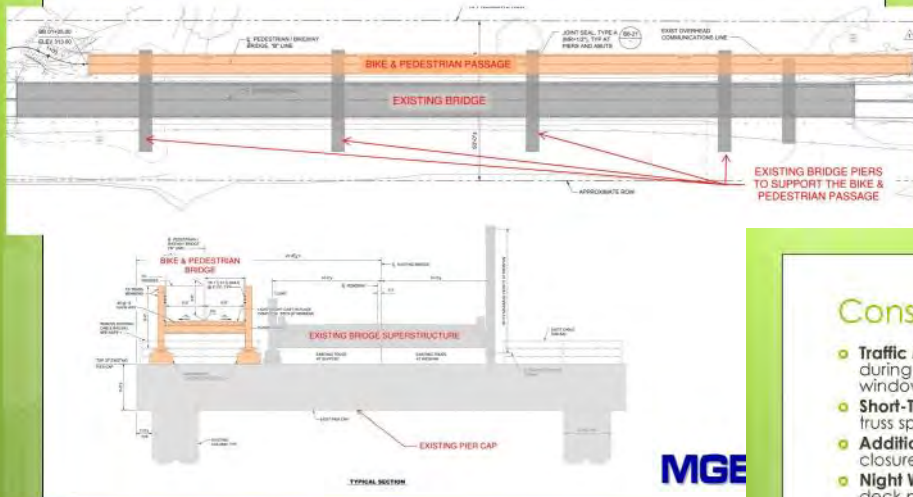
- Vulnerability of pedestrians
- Tragic accident in 2015 resulting in death of a 16-year-old girl
- Need for safe, separated pathway for people crossing the bridge
- Goal: Improve safety, protecting the public



MGE ENGINEERING, INC.

41st ANNUAL CEAC FIELD SUMMIT

Design Considerations



Construction

- **Traffic Maintenance:** Road remains open during construction with limited closure windows
- **Short-Term Closures:** Required to set bridge truss spans via crane from existing deck
- **Additional Closure:** ~6-hour nighttime closure for concrete placement
- **Night Work:** Feasible for truss installation and deck placement
- **Detour Route:** US-101 → Geysers Rd → River Rd (~9 miles, ~15 minutes)
- **Access:** Detour accommodates emergency vehicles and public traffic
- **Limited Staging:** Few areas available near the existing bridge
- **Contractor:** Bridgeway Constructors



MGE ENGINEERING, INC.

Environmental Considerations

- **Cliff swallows present:** Active nests on both sides; birds abundant and sensitive to disturbance.
- **Survey required:** Must check for nests within 7 days before work; expect active nests at start.
- **Mitigation options:**
 - Buffers (typically ~50 ft; possibly smaller with monitoring)
 - Seasonal avoidance (best after Sept 1, but timing is tight)
 - Exclusion (deterrence, netting/curtains, or removing new nests)
- **Bats – survey needed:** Multi-biologist surveys using night vision/acoustics.
- **If no bats:** Proceed without exclusion (may need repeat surveys).
- **If bats present:**
 - No exclusion until after maternity season (Sept)
 - Focus on limiting disturbance or excluding only key roost areas due to many potential habitats.



MGE

Current Project



- FHWA-approved and funded Class I bicycle and pedestrian facility on existing bridge
- Adds dedicated crossing for pedestrians and bicyclists, improving safety on a bridge with ADT ~2,400 and shared travel lanes
- Includes supplemental bike lane signing and striping

MGE ENGINEERING, INC.

41st ANNUAL CEAC FIELD SUMMIT



THE CHEFS

from l-r: **Scott DeLeon** (NCE);
Martin McIlroy (MGE);
Jason Jurrens (Conzor);
Mike Leacox (NCE); and
Speero Tannous (Tehama)

A close up look at the food that they prepared.



41st ANNUAL CEAC FIELD SUMMIT



John Quincy presenting the awards for the golf tournament which preceded the beginning of the Summit



NEW BEST BUDS

Speero Tannous, the master chef at the Summit, and **Matt Randall** (Placer), the 2027 CEAC Field Summit Co-Coordinator with **Colt Esenwein** (Butte).



41st ANNUAL CEAC FIELD SUMMIT

Those who worked tirelessly behind the scenes to make the 41st Annual Summit a success:

- **Jason Jurrens**, Consor – hospitality coordinator
- **John Quincy**, Consor – golf coordinator
- **Mike Leacox**, NCE – head of the kitchen crew
- **Scott DeLeon**, NCE – Mike's trusty sidekick

Others helped pitch in during the conference such as **Peter Rei** (CLOD) and **Martin McElroy** (MGE Engineering)

Special thanks also go to Tehama County for their continued support of the conference - to **Speero Tannous**, Tehama County, for his excellent cooking skills and the new Public Works Director, **Dan Newton**.

Special thanks also go to **Howard Dashiell** who has helped keep the conference going for countless years. He is planning on retiring in 2027 and has passed the reins off to **Colt Esenwein**. Hopefully, Colt can live up to the legacy of Howard. Otherwise, folks will just need to "set their expectations a bit lower" so they won't be disappointed in 2027.

Colt and **Matt Randall** have already started planning 2027. You should expect to receive a "save the date" email in early February 2027.

Last, but not least, Special Thanks goes out to **Bob Bronkall**, Howard's right hand and the person behind the scenes.



First time in memory the current Executive Members of the CEAC Board of Directors attended the Summit:

from l-r: **Chris Sneddon**, CEAC Secretary (Santa Barbara); **Blossom Scott-Heim**, Vice President (Tuolumne); **Johannes Hoevertsz**, President (Sonoma); and **David Leamon**, Immediate Past President (Stanislaus)

Picture below: **combined Exec Board Members and CLODS**



THE MOST NUMBER OF CLODS ATTENDED THIS SUMMIT

from l-r: **David Leamon**, CEAC President 2024-25; **Panos Kokkas** (2023-24); **Howard Dashiell** (2021-22); **Tom Mattson** (2012-13); **Peter Rei** (2008-09) and myself, the **CEAC Newsletter Editor** (2009-10) - 6 total.

Picture below: **Female Attendees**

from l-r: **Denise Zitnik** (Tuolumne), **Elizabeth Raynal** (Ghirardelli Assoc); **Jessica Pecha** (UNICO Eng); **Alicia Winokur** (Mendocino); and **Blossom Scott-Heim** (Tuolumne).



CLODS ANNUAL DINNER & MEETING - Aug 19-20, 2026



Annual Meeting of CEAC Past Presidents and CLODS

From left to back, right back to front - **George Johnson**, Riverside, 2007-08; Luann, George's wife; **Julie Bueren**, Contra Costa, 2010-11; **Mehdi Sadjadi**, Marin, 1998-99; Yanna, Panos' wife; **Panos Kokkas**, Trinity, 2023-24; **Tom Mattson**, Humboldt, 2012-13; **Rick Tippett**, Trinity, 2019-20; **Matt Machado**, Santa Cruz, 2015-16; **Howard Dashiell**, Mendocino, 2021-22; **Dave Gravenkamp**, Siskiyou, 1991-92; Andrea, Dave's daughter; Sue Tippett, Rick's wife; **Mike Crump**, Butte, 2006-07; **Scott McGolpin**, Santa Barbara, 2013-14; **Max Bridges**, San Benito, 1997-98; **Mike Penrose**, Sacramento, 2014-15; **Jim Porter**, San Mateo, 2018-19, 2020-21; **John Presleigh**, Santa Cruz, 2016-17; **David Leamon** (Junior CLOD), Stanislaus, 2024-25; and **Pattie McNamee**, Honorary CLOD;

From right to back, left back to front

Dave Gravenkamp, 1991-92;
Andrea, Dave's daughter;
Sue Tippett, Rick's wife;
Mike Crump, 2006-07;
Scott McGolpin, 2013-14;
Max Bridges, 1997-98;
Mike Penrose, 2014-15;
Jim Porter, 2018-19, 2020-21;
John Presleigh, 2016-17;
David Leamon, (Junior CLOD 2024-25);
Pattie McNamee, Honorary CLOD;
George Johnson, 2007-08;
Luann, George's wife;
Julie Bueren, 2010-11;
Mehdi Sadjadi, 1998-99;
Yanna, Panos' wife;
Panos Kokkas, 2023-24;
Tom Mattson, 2012-13;
Rick Tippett, 2019-20;
Matt Machado, 2015-16; and
Howard Dashiell, 2021-22.





Preliminary Program and is subject to change.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 20, 2026

**** NOTE: ALL MEETINGS WILL BE HELD AT THE CAPITOL EVENT CENTER
1020 11TH STREET, 2ND FLOOR, SACRAMENTO UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED ****

9:30 am - 4:00 pm: Registration

8:30 am - 10:30 am

CLOUDS Meeting and Breakfast *(Invitation Only)*
1020 11th Street, 3rd Floor, Sacramento

10:30 am - 11:45 am

Resource Recovery and Waste Management Policy Committee Meeting
Tobie Mitchell, Ventura County - Chair

10:45 am - 12:00 pm

Surveyor Policy Committee Meeting
1020 11th Street, 3rd Floor, Sacramento
Robert Pachinger, Calaveras County - Chair

12:15 pm - 1:15 pm

CEAC Networking Luncheon

1:30 pm - 2:45 pm

CEAC Administrative Committee Meeting
Joan Araujo, Ventura County - Chair

3:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Transportation Policy Committee Meeting
Alicia Winokur, Mendocino County - Chair

5:30 pm - 8:30 pm

CEAC County Hospitality Night - Capitol Event Center. You're Invited! Join your CEAC county colleague and affiliates for a fun evening including the 3rd Annual Cornhole Tournament, buffet dinner, and drinks.



2026 CEAC POLICY CONFERENCE (continued)

FRIDAY, AUGUST 21, 2026

8:00 am - 9:15 am

CEAC Breakfast and Roundtable Discussion

Johannes Hoevertsz, Sonoma County - President

9:15 am - 10:45 am

Infrastructure and Development Policy Committee Meeting

Matt Randall, Placer County - Chair

11:00 am - 12:15 pm

Flood Control & Water Resources Policy Committee Meeting

Jason Uhley, Riverside County - Chair

12:30 pm - 2:00 pm

CEAC Board of Directors Meeting (*working lunch*)

Johannes Hoevertsz, Sonoma County - President

2:00 pm – Adjourn

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **132nd CSAC Annual Meeting/Fall Conference**, Gaylord Pacific, Chula Vista, November 30-December 4, 2026
- **2027 CEAC Spring Conference** (in conjunction with the League of California Cities' Public Works Officers Institute) - Hyatt Regency Orange County, March 15-19, 2027
- **2027 NACE Annual Conference**
Cleveland, Ohio, April 5-8, 2027





**A TIME TO LEARN
AND
A TIME TO NETWORK WITH
OLD AND NEW FRIENDS
AND
BUSINESS ASSOCIATES**



Resource Recovery and Waste Management
Policy Committee



21st ANNUAL CEAC POLICY CONFERENCE (continued)

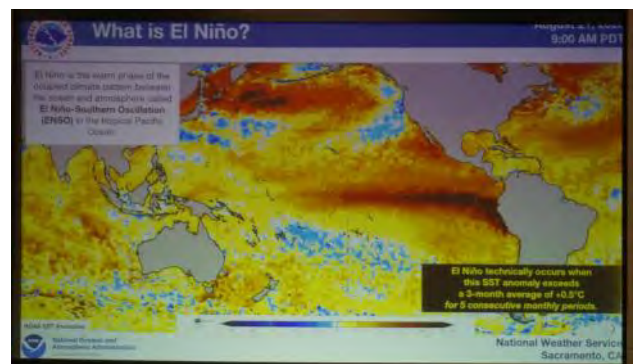


CEAC Administrative Committee

Transportation Committee



**Infrastructure and Development
Policy Committee**



**Flood Control
&
Water Resources
Policy Committee**



21st ANNUAL CEAC POLICY CONFERENCE (continued)



Marques and Jenny Davison

The owners of the family-owned Capital Event Center
1020 11th Street, Sacramento 95814



Julian Garcia and **Mary Reyes**, Los Angeles County, and
Marissa Barrie, San Diego County



Jen Akin, Executive Assistant to David Leamon, assisting **Merrin** with the duties necessary to run a very successful conference



picture above: **Mark Neuburger**, CSAC Legislative Advocate, and **Merrin**

picture below: **Scott McGolpin**, CEAC Historian, and **Merrin**



21st ANNUAL CEAC POLICY CONF - Cornhole Challenge



Team CLODS (David Leamon/George Johnson) vs **Team Hagland/Machado** (Dennis Hagland/Matt Machado) for the Championship.



County Engineers enjoying the contest



Of course, the CLODS won defeating one half of last year's champions, Matt Machado.



By **Scott McGolpin**
CEAC Historian

Buddy and CHICS Golden Eagle Awards The History

As I start this newsletter article, I find myself on a tour bus in Japan heading to the side of Mt. Fuji. I was thinking what an absolute inspirational place to get started. *They say in Japan "if you see Mt. Fuji, then Japan wants you to come back!"*

In my last article I detailed an ambitious list of projects and articles I would like to explore for future newsletters with all of you. My hope is as we take this historic CEAC journey together it will be an inspiration to all of us to continue working and building our organization in the future. When I started prioritizing the list, my thought was to look at some of CEAC's traditions that are now part of the fabric of our association.

This article explores two awards that are presented at the Fall Conference: the Buddy and CHICS Golden Eagle Awards.

Buddy Award

The inaugural Buddy Award was given to R.J. Massman from San Diego County in 1983. The Buddy Award is presented to the spouse/partner of a county engineer for his/her dedication, support, and love for their spouse/partner. Going through the CEAC chairs is not without its challenges and is arguably the best unpaid public service job in the state! However, a tremendous amount of support is required when it is your turn to be the fearless leader. I reached out to the 2008 Buddy Award Recipient, Luann Johnson, wife of George Johnson, 2007-08 CEAC President to share what the award meant to her. Luann stated, "I think the way I understood it, the Buddy Award went to someone that was new to the group that was friendly and helpful to new members and guests. Spouses sometimes didn't attend so in those years it didn't follow the normal protocol of going to the spouse. It is an honor to receive this award!"

My history with CEAC began in 1997 and I remember the same thing Luann mentioned regarding who was considered for the Buddy Award. Throughout my career, I have spent time in various professional organizations, and I cannot remember any other organization that honors families this way. I checked with Luann, and she stated, "I have not heard of other professional organizations that recognize the spouses/partners like CEAC does."

Luann added, "I liked (receiving) the recognition at the (CEAC) President's inauguration as all attendees come to the (Friday) breakfast. Then CEAC members get to meet the spouses and family members of CEAC Presidents in attendance." Luann concluded our interview by stating, "Definitely an award that we should continue into the future so all members of CEAC can meet the spouse/partner of those leading the organization."

I couldn't agree more with Luann's thoughts! At the end of Luann's term as the Buddy Award Recipient, she presented the award to Delores Sadjadi, wife of Mehdi Sadjadi, 1999 CEAC President, for being so supportive to her during George's presidency. Delores was a very special lady, and the list of honorees below shows it. Delores was awarded the Buddy Award three times!

Past Buddy Award Recipients

2025 Sandra Hoevertsz, Sonoma County (Johannes)
2024 Deanna Leamon, Stanislaus County (Dave)
2023 Linda Dashiell, Mendocino County (Howard)
2022 Nicole Balbas, Contra Costa County (Brian)
2021 Delores Sadjadi, Marin County (Mehdi)
2020 No Award Given
2019 Sue Tippet, Trinity County (Rick)
2018 Lourdes Pratt, Ventura County (Jeff)
2017 Maren Presleigh, Santa Cruz County (John)
2016 No Award Given
2015 Rose Penrose, Sacramento County (Mike)
2014 No Award Given
2013 Ari DeChellis, Los Angeles County (Patrick)
2012 Ralph Chappell, Contra Costa County (Julie Beuren)
2011 Pam Hospers, Butte County (Mike Crump)
2010 Marlene Demery, Sonoma County (Phil)
2009 Delores Sadjadi, Marin County (Mehdi)
2008 Luann Johnson, Riverside County (George)
2007 Paula Zicker, Placer County (Wes)
2006 Esther Shiu, Contra Costa County (Maurice)
2005 Dee Dee Bridges, San Benito County (Max)
2004 Karen Hackworth, Placer County (Tim)
2003 Nancy Brogan, Fresno County (Richard)
2002 Sharon LaBelle, Alameda County (Don)
2001 Sandy Miller, San Bernardino County (Ken)
2000 Delores Sadjadi, Marin County (Mehdi)
1999 Dawn Davis, Merced County (Verne)
1998 Barbara Hunter, Plumas County (Tom)
1997 Jill Shaul, Lake County (Gerry)
1996 Carol Welton, Fresno County (Richard)
1995 Willa Coleman, Tehama County (Larry)
1994 Dawn Davis, Merced County (Verne)
1993 Linda Wilson, Tulare County (Doug)
1992 Carol Callahan, Stanislaus County (Harold)
1991 Ginny Pierson, Imperial County (David)
1990 Alice Hirata, San Joaquin County (Henry)
1989 Pam Walford, Contra Costa County (Mike)
1988 Jane Head, Sonoma County (Don)
1987 Claire Sans, San Mateo County (Bob)
1986 Dixie McIntosh, Lassen County (Bill)
1985 Bev Protopapas, San Luis Obispo County (George)
1984 Liz Hanna, San Diego County (Ed)
1983 R.J Massman, San Diego County

DROPPINGS (continued)

CHICS Golden Eagle Award

The CHICS or California's Honorable Intrepid County Sisters, was created with a mission to increase diversity within the CEAC membership, and to provide a forum for networking, support, and camaraderie.

Subsequently, the CHICS Golden Egg Award was created in 2007 to honor a person at CEAC that promotes diversity at CEAC and/or their own agency. It honors an individual that has exhibited outstanding and extraordinary efforts or initiative in fostering professional growth and opportunities for women and minorities in the public works field and has contributed to promoting diversity and cultural awareness within CEAC or their own organization.

I remember when the CHICS Golden Eagle Award was created, I also remember a group of CEAC members and staff who took on the leadership role to develop the award. Julie Bueren, Contra Costa County, and 2010-11 CEAC President, was front and center of this process, so I contacted her to learn more about the inspiration and development of this award.

Julie stated, "I came to CEAC as a Division Manager early in my career. Mike Walford, my director at the time, believed in CEAC and its mission and wanted his leadership team to experience it. As I was experiencing all that CEAC had to offer to its members, I realized there were opportunities for improvement in certain areas. So, we went to work in creating change in gender equity and diversity to make CEAC more inclusive. That was the impetus for creating the CHICS, California's Honorable Intrepid County Sisters. The CHICS Golden Egg Award came about because we wanted to recognize people within CEAC who promoted inclusion and diversity in CEAC and in their own organization."

I was curious as to how the CHICS developed criteria to determine annual award winners. Julie mentioned that "We created an informal process to develop eligible candidates each year. We would talk with diverse players on the ground around counties across the State. The focus being on their department's hiring practices, etc. We would monitor who was being hired in management and executive management positions in public works departments. It is harder these days as a retired Public Works Official to see what is going on at the ground level because we just aren't as involved as we were when we were working." Julie added that one of the key factors for being considered for the CHIC Award is a leader who promotes diversity in CEAC and their agency. Julie referred to Mike Walford, her former director, as being "blind" to everything the candidate brought to the table, except their capabilities.

When we spoke about this award, Julie's pride in the award and all the recipients over the years came through loud and clear! Julie closed our interview by saying "Every person who has won this award has gone above and beyond in making diversity a priority in their hiring practices and within CEAC."



A few of the CHICS, circa 2007

Back row, from left to right: **Mrs. Nacho Ochoa** (wife Nacho Ochoa, Orange County), **Julie Bueren** (Contra Costa County), **Shari Afshari** (Los Angeles County), **Jill Shaul** (wife of Gerry Shaul, Lake County), **Kiana Valentine (Buss)** (CSAC), **Pattie McNamee** (Contra Costa County), **Katrina Lynch (Thompson)** (CSAC).

Front row, from left to right: unknown, **Cheryl Creson** (Sacramento County), **Heather Ballenger** (Contra Costa County)
(Picture Courtesy of Julie Bueren)

Looking around California, and specifically at undergraduate civil engineering programs across the college system, on average, the male-to-female ratio is around 3:1 to 4:1 (roughly 70-80% male, 20-30% female), although it varies by school. I graduated college in 1986, and I can attest that today's ratio of males to females studying civil engineering has significantly improved. CEAC's active members are roughly 59% male and 41% female.

I think a big thank you is in order to the founders of the CHICS Golden Eagle Award. They saw a need to increase CEAC's awareness of diversity issues and they acted! The numbers certainly show that CEAC is improving today and will continue to improve if we continue to make this a priority. I noticed in my career that if the boss was concerned about something, then everyone in the organization was too. So, shine a light on this back at your departments and watch how amazing your organization will become!

Past CHICS Golden Eagle Award Recipients

2025 Matt Machado	2024 Deanna Leamon
2023 Fritz Buchman	2022 Brian Balbas
2021 George Johnson	2020 Rick Tippet
2019 Johannes Hoevertsz	2018 Melody DeLeon and Kiana Valentine
2017 Julie Beuren	2016 Karen Keene
2015 Pat DeChellis	2014 Ken Miller
2013 George Bradley & Doug Wilson	2012 DeAnn Baker
2011 Pattie McNamee	2010 Phil Demery
2009 Peter Rei	2008 Mike Walford
2007 Mort August	

Sac Motherlode Regional Report

By Matt Randall, Regional Director,
Deputy Director, Placer County

BUTTE COUNTY



Dogtown Road Rehabilitation — Storm drain improvements, full-depth reclamation with cement, paving and striping. Construction cost: \$773,000. Anticipated completion: September 2026. Contractor: Franklin Construction.



South Oroville Safe Routes to School Project — New storm drain and pedestrian facilities, driver feedback signs, full-depth reclamation with cement, paving and striping. Construction cost: \$5.15 million. Anticipated completion: February 2027. Contractor: Knife River Construction.



Concow Road Rehabilitation — Storm drain improvements, full-depth reclamation with cement, paving and striping. Construction cost: \$4.9 million. Anticipated completion: November 2026. Contractor: All American Construction.

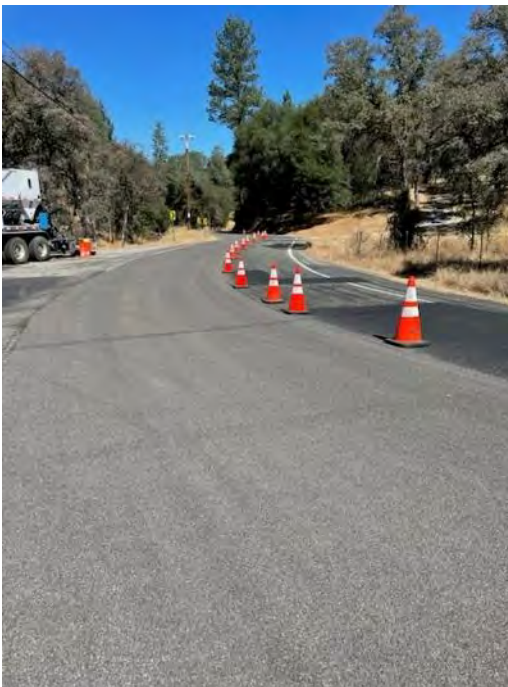
Sac Motherlode Regional Report (continued)

EL DORADO COUNTY

Mosquito Road Bridge Replacement Project —

Construction of the new bridge continued through early 2026, with balanced-cantilever superstructure segments advancing from Piers 2 and 3 across the canyon. March work continued segment construction, with end-span and main-span closures planned for spring 2026.

pic below - 2026 Road Rehabilitation Project — \$2.3 million. Anticipated completion: September 2026. The project includes roadway patching, approximately 2.3 million square feet of microsurfacing and more than 1 million square feet of chip seal throughout the county.



Truckee River Bridge Replacement Project — \$10 million. Anticipated completion: October 2026. The project replaces a structurally deficient bridge built in 1926 with a single-lane post-tensioned concrete bridge.

picture to the left - Hirschdale Road / Union Pacific Railroad Overcrossing Bridge Rehabilitation — \$3.5 million. Anticipated completion: November 2026. Work includes reducing deck dead load, repairing spalled concrete, constructing infill walls for seismic stability and carbon-fiber wrapping of column caps.



Sac Motherlode Regional Report (continued)

NEVADA COUNTY

Dog Bar Road Bridge — Completed August 2026. \$10 million. The new two-lane bridge spans the Bear River between Placer and Nevada counties and replaces the former single-lane bridge built in 1932.



YOLO COUNTY

County Road 41 Bridge over Cache Creek Replacement Project (Rumsey Bridge) —

Bridge replacement project on County Road 41 over Cache Creek in Yolo County.

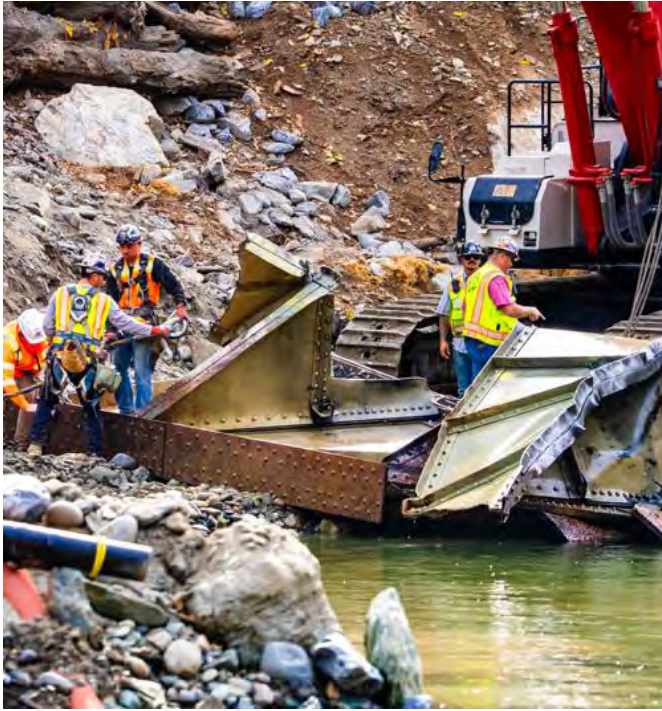
2026 Pavement Preservation Project —

Type III microsurfacing on County Road 88A in Yolo County.



Sac Motherlode Regional Report (continued)

PLACER COUNTY



American River Bridge Debris Removal Project — Placer County completed removal of remaining steel and concrete debris from the former State Route 49 bridge in the North Fork American River, followed by site restoration.



Yankee Jims Bridge Replacement Project — The historic one-lane bridge, built in the 1930s, has a 3-ton load limit and is structurally deficient. Placer County is constructing a new two-lane arch suspension bridge just downstream while preserving the historic bridge in place. Construction began in May 2025 and is planned through February 2028.

Sac Motherlode Regional Report (continued)

PLACER COUNTY



Placer Parkway Project - Phase 1 — The Board awarded the \$61.65 million construction contract in April 2026. Phase 1 completes the Whitney Ranch/SR 65 interchange, constructs a new bridge over the railroad tracks and Industrial Avenue, connects to Foothills Boulevard North and includes a new PCWA waterline. Construction is planned for 2026-2028.



Fanny Bridge Replacement Project — The \$10.6 million replacement of the more than 90-year-old Tahoe City landmark was completed and reopened to traffic in February 2026. The new single-span bridge preserves the historic appearance while removing piers from the Truckee River and adding sidewalks and dedicated bike lanes on both sides, improving safety, accessibility and environmental conditions.

Sac Motherlode Regional Report (continued)

Placer County - Road Maintenance & Operations



picture to the left:

Roadside Vegetation

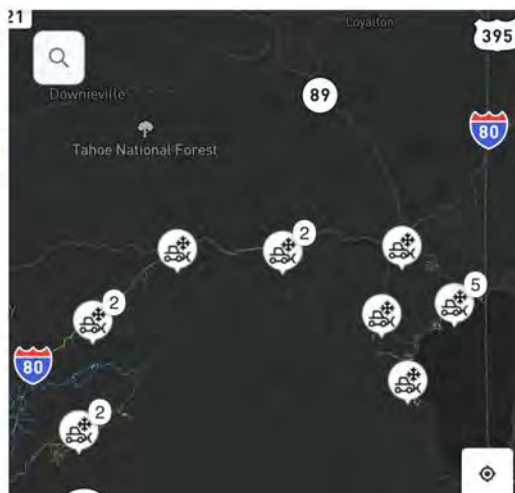
Management

Road crews performing roadside vegetation removal.

picture to the right:

Paving Operations

Paving operation on Alta Bonnynook Road in Alta.



Where's My Plow???

Placer County launched the 'Where's My Plow' snow-plow tracking application, providing a map-based view of county snow-removal activity.



Annual Public Works ROADeo

Placer County's annual Public Works ROADeo gives equipment operators an opportunity to demonstrate their skills in a friendly competition. One Placer County operator advanced to compete at the national APWA competition.

Sac Motherlode Regional Report (continued)

SACRAMENTO COUNTY



Arden Way Complete Street Project - Phase 1 —

New Class IV bikeway separated from the sidewalk by raised trapezoidal delineators. Construction cost: \$9 million. Anticipated completion: September 2026.



Meister Way Improvement Project —

Backbone wet utility construction beneath future Meister Way at Metro Air Park. Construction cost: \$8.4 million. Anticipated completion: November 2026.



Florin Road Bicycle and Pedestrian Improvements: Franklin to Power Inn —

Roadway overlay and bicycle/pedestrian improvements. Construction cost: \$12.7 million. Completion: July 2026.

Sac Motherlode Regional Report (continued)

SACRAMENTO COUNTY



Franklin Boulevard Bridge at Lost Slough — In-water work and topside bridge work completed as the project neared completion. Construction cost: \$10.3 million. Completion: April 2026.



South Watt Avenue Improvement Project: Florin to Jackson — Girder placement for the South Watt Avenue Bridge at Morrison Creek. Construction cost: \$59.5 million. Anticipated completion: July 2027.

ENGINEER of THE YEAR (Ed Hanna Award)

How to Nominate and Submit:

Active members that have made outstanding contributions to the County engineering profession and to CEAC are eligible for this award. Award recipients are recognized annually at CEAC's Fall Conference/CSAC Annual Meeting.

If you wish to nominate a person for the Engineer of the Year award, please complete the Nomination and Narrative forms listed below and return to:

Alicia Winokur, Chair

CEAC Memorial Fund and Scholarship Committee

Mendocino County

340 Lake Mendocino Drive

Ukiah, CA 95482-9432

[EOY Guidelines 2026](#)

[EOY Narrative Form](#)

[EOY Nomination Form 2026](#)

Email: Submit via email to Alicia Winokur at winokura@mendocinocounty.gov

Phone: (707) 234-2804

Deadline: October 16, 2026

Questions?

Email: winokura@mendocinocounty.gov or **Call** (707) 234-2804

SURVEYOR of THE YEAR

How to Nominate and Submit:

Active members that have made outstanding contributions to the County Surveying profession and to CEAC are eligible for this award. Award recipients are recognized annually at CEAC's Fall Conference/CSAC Annual Meeting.

If you wish to nominate a person for the Surveyor of the Year award, please complete the Nomination form which includes a Supplemental form and return to:

Robert W. Bronkall, LS, PE-Civil, PE-Traffic

County Surveyor

[Public Works Department – Land Use Division](#)

3015 H Street, Suite 124, Eureka, CA 95501

Ph. 707.445.7205

Email: Bbronkall@co.humboldt.ca.us

Phone: 707.445.7205

Deadline: October 16, 2026

[Guidelines for selecting surveyor of the year 2026](#)

[Nomination Form Surveyor of the Year 2026](#)

Questions?

Email: Bbronkall@co.humboldt.ca.us or **Call** 707.445.7205

MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

County Engineers Association of California Memorial Scholarship Program

The County Engineers Association of California (CEAC) will grant TWO (2) \$3,000 cash scholarships to qualified engineering or land surveying students for study leading to a bachelor's degree in civil engineering or land surveying. Each student must be enrolled in upper division course work leading to a civil engineering or land surveying Degree, with a high-grade point average, have demonstrated a need for the scholarship, and have participated in related outside activities such as a Student Chapter ASCE, Student Member CLSA or American Public Works Association. These various factors, including outside activities, will be considered in awarding the scholarship.

2026 CEAC Memorial Fund and Scholarship Committee

Chair	Alicia Winokur	Mendocino County
Vice Chair	Kristi Rhea	San Joaquin County
Vice Chair	David Grim	San Luis Obispo County

Applications due October 16, 2026

In addition, in order to be eligible for the above scholarship, an applicant must complete an application form and write a professional and educational goals letter. This letter will have considerable weight in grading the merits of the applicant, as well as the student's grade point average and the need of the applicant. You may submit your applications electronically or in hard copy.

Electronic applications: must be emailed no later than October 16, 2026 to:

Alicia Winokur at winokura@mendocinocounty.gov. Please include "CEAC Scholarship Application 2026" in the email subject line.

Hard copy applications: must be postmarked and submitted no later than October 16, 2026 to:

Alicia Winokur, Chair

CEAC Memorial Fund and Scholarship Committee
Mendocino County
Public Works Department
340 Lake Mendocino Drive
Ukiah, CA 95482

Questions?

Email: winokura@mendocinocounty.gov
Phone: (707) 234-2804

[2026 CEAC Scholarship Announcement](#)
[2026 CEAC Scholarship Application Form](#)





NACE REPORT

By
Howard Dashiell
CEAC Rep to NACE



Greetings to my fellow CEAC members and affiliates



The National Association of County Engineers (NACE) Fall Executive Committee and Board meetings have co-located with Short Span Steel Bridge Alliance (SSSBA). NACE members are invited to attend the next SSSBA Semi-Annual meeting in Omaha, Nebraska on October 12-14 to discuss the latest research, technical advancements and educational initiatives in steel bridge design and construction. This meeting will be co-located with the NACE Executive Committee and Board meetings being held Tuesday, October 13, 2026.

CEAC members who by extension are also members of NACE enjoy exclusive online access—register for events at a discounted rate, and can search for members by name, city or type of business. The NACE Job Board is only available to member counties. Members also receive special “members-only access” to webinars. NACE Committee pages are also members only. Members also receive monthly NACE News as well as regulatory and legislative updates.

CEAC has designated yours truly as representative to NACE and obligated to attend the Spring NACE Board Meeting co-located with the NACE Spring Annual Conference AND a fall NACE Board of Directors (BOD) meeting in September or October of each year. Since the Fall of 2023, I have enjoyed serving as your California representative to NACE – or pursuant to the NACE By-Laws - California’s Director at Large to represent California as a full voting member on the NACE BOD with no term limit if CEAC confirms their slate of officers each fall. NACE Directors at Large can designate a proxy to attend and vote at NACE meetings and this October 12 -15 in Omaha, Nebraska to represent California.

One of the biggest challenges during my time was NACE Budget sustainability which was largely dealt with by a dues increase in 2024-25 which based on current projections has stabilized the NACE “Fund Balance” in a positive range with the necessary buffer to offer the Annual Conference at a “break even” or modest revenue which does not require past revenue levels in order to sustain the organization. Bottom line - at last report we are in good shape financially.

NACE’s new Strategic Priority #1 is ADVOCACY at the federal level, often in partnership with the National Association of Counties (NACo) - to that end much effort has been placed on FEMA reforms which raise thresholds for federal declarations BUT streamline funding. The current proposal was shared with the membership, and I strongly encourage that you review the current proposal at:

https://www.naco.org/news/fema-review-council-releases-final-report-recommending-sweeping-changes#msdynmkt_trackingcontext=5c1339ed-e400-4dbf-acec-4cd82d040100

Each April, county road and transportation officials from across the country gather for the NACE Annual Conference, featuring a unique opportunity for networking with industry peers, outstanding technical sessions and renowned speakers.

Future NACE Conferences:

2027, Cleveland, Ohio - April 5-8, 2027

2028, Michigan, location and dates - TBD

2029, Iowa/Nebraska, location and dates - TBD



CEAC Board of Directors

MEETING MINUTES - DRAFT Page 1

20th Annual CEAC Policy Conference
Capitol Event Center
1020 11th Street, 2nd Floor, Sacramento, CA
Friday, August 21, 2026 | 12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

12:40 p.m. Call to Order (Hoevertsz)

1. Approval of Minutes (Sneddon)

a) February 27, 2026 - Attachment One - Action Item

- **Motion to approve: Randall, 2nd DeChellis. Approved, 1 dissent (Madjd-Sadjadi)**

2. Correspondence (Hoevertsz)

3. CLODS Report (CLODS)

- The newsletter is good
- Good turnout for CLODS dinner.
- CLODS came up with the slate of officers for next year to be presented at Chula Vista for the membership for vote.
- The board added one more member to our board of directors, Mr. Machado. The position is NACE executive Committee member.
- The CLODS barbecue location is yet to be finalized.

4. NACE Report (Dashiell)

- June NACE report highlights (report attached)
- Budget stable following 2025 dues increase; possible 3% increase in 2027 but expected to be absorbable.
- Fall board meeting in Omaha, Nebraska, in conjunction with Short Span Steel Bridge Alliance and CASE Open to any member who wants to attend
- Next NACE conference: Cleveland, Ohio, April 5–8
- FEMA Review Council released final draft report recommending FEMA reforms
 - ◇ Hyperlink shared via Matt Machado's newsletter; board encouraged to read it
- Bylaw change vote needs to be re-initiated for the fall general membership meeting
 - ◇ Item was sent to last year's president but may not have been followed through

5. CSAC Report (Gerety)

- CSAC building (1100 K Street) is under full renovation: gutting interior, adding rooftop conference center
 - ◇ Historical building: exterior must be maintained; seismic upgrades required
 - ◇ Potential to host CEAC meetings there in future, though unlikely to be ready by August next year
- Temporarily housed at 980 9th Street (near library)
 - ◇ Conference rooms available; one larger than current meeting space
- Deb Kurtti no longer with CSAC; Porsche Green returning on contract to assist with annual meeting
- Annual meeting at Gaylord Pacific, Chula Vista (brand new property)
 - ◇ Registration open; rooms available now
 - ◇ Valet and self-parking expensive; Uber/Lyft from airport rec - about 20 min.
 - ◇ Hospitality suite confirmed; all supplies must be brought in (same as San Jose)

MEETING MINUTES - DRAFT

Friday, August 21, 2026 | 12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

6. Regional Directors Reports

- A) Bay Area (Vanessa Garrett): 3 virtual meetings since February; October meeting potentially in person at Sonoma County
- Recurring topics: environmental permitting, licensed engineer recruitment, highway bridge program
- B) Central Coast (David Grim): quarterly meetings with 20–30 attendees across 4 of 5 counties
- Monterey County consistently participating
 - Challenge: finding in-person event formats that draw broad attendance
 - Enterprise software replacement a major topic; Santa Cruz leading, others watching
 - FEMA mediation (vs. appeals) working better for some in the region
- C) Northern California (Colt Esenwein): Field Summit/Bedroll Conference increased attendance (65), significantly up from prior year
- ◇ 94% satisfaction; food standout thanks to Tehama County staff
 - ◇ Consultant roundtable and public works director peer session was well received
 - ◇ Survey results sent to president; planning broader program for next year's summit (Matt Randall & Colt Esenwein)
 - Next quarterly meeting: October 22, 2026 in Redding (reclamation updates from Tyler, Rob Lawrence, Shannon)
 - Northern Region director remaining in role despite moving to Butte County (Sacramento Motherlode), with regional blessing
- D) Sacramento Mother Lode (Matt Randall): one virtual meeting; good attendance from Placer, El Dorado, Tuolumne, Calaveras
- Strong overlap and shared issues with Northern Region; collaboration continuing
- E) San Joaquin Valley (Najee Zarif): 3 meetings since February; Stanislaus, Merced, and Madera Counties hosted
- Public Works Administrative Professionals Seminar or PWAPS (hosted by Fresno/Stanislaus in June): ~50 registrants, strong feedback
 - Next PWAPS: Sonoma; then Tuolumne; then Santa Barbara (TBD)
- F) Southern California (Merrin Gerety for Tom Koutroulis): Working with LA, San Bernardino, and Riverside Counties, on the South Coast AQMD and rule 1302.

There was a rule update that now includes composting as an essential public service with the use of Covered Aerated Static Piles (CASP) systems. Prior to the rule amendment, entities would have to pay out potentially millions of dollars in Emissions Reduction Credits (ERCs). Simultaneously, we are also working on standards for the use of drones for methane emissions monitoring and reporting under the new CARB rule for Landfill Methane Regulations (LMR) with the goal of submitting it prior to the end of the year for consideration.

MEETING MINUTES - DRAFT

Friday, August 21, 2026 | 12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

7. Treasurer's Report (Johnson) - *Attachment Two - Action Item*

- 54 of 58 counties have paid dues; Mariposa now confirmed paid
- Outstanding: Alpine, Kings, San Francisco, Sierra
 - ◊ San Francisco historically difficult; personal outreach via son-in-law (mayor's office, budget team) offered
 - ◊ Sierra: contact made through fellowship; situation appears in hand
 - ◊ Kings: new assistant director previously at Kings for 15 years; outreach underway
 - ◊ Alpine: Motherlode region; prior outreach attempted; will follow up again
- Budget includes funds for CEAC website update
 - ◊ Black Dog Marketing has sent a draft; needs content and design review
 - ◊ Input requested from board members in next few weeks; goal to complete before annual meeting.
 - ◊ Scott McGolpin volunteered to assist as historian, flagging outdated content.
 - ◊ Discussion on restoring full county roster (directors, assistants, division heads) to web-site
 - ◊ Proposal: editable form or members-only page to keep contacts current; automation option raised
- **Motion to approve: Dashiell, 2nd Machado. Approved with one dissenting vote**

8. Committee Reports:

- Administrative (Joan Araujo)
 - Issues span transportation, flood control, and other areas; too broad for transportation committee alone
 - Data collection and legislative guardrails identified as key workstreams
 - Joint and several liability flagged as a specific legislative target (Low-water crossing and flood detour liability cited as concrete examples)
- Flood Control and Water Resources (Jason Uhley)
 - Working to get an executive order to facilitate maintenance ahead of El Niño. Typically, they don't issue the executive orders streamlining the maintenance work until after disasters happen, but it's a lot better if an EO could be issued before.
- Infrastructure and Development
- Resource Recovery and Waste Management (Toby Mitchell):
 - SB 1383 audits underway at LA and Ventura counties
 - Monitoring SB 54 (plastics recycling) implementation; burden on local government still a concern
 - Franchise fee litigation: one firm suing multiple jurisdictions; no clear pattern; even 5% fees being challenged
- Surveyor
- Transportation (Alicia Winokur)
 - Met with Caltrans; FHWA rep re-engaged and interested in future meetings
 - Goal to bring Cal OES onto panel
 - Proposal to shift FEMA discussion toward sharing successes and workarounds rather than complaints
 - Steve Burger, LA County is retiring in January; Mary Reyes, LA County is the proposed replacement.

MEETING MINUTES - DRAFT

Friday, August 21, 2026 | 12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

- Fellowship
- Oversight -none
- Scholarship (Alicia Winokur): Application open, deadline October 16, 2026
 - Doing outreach to colleges and universities with civil engineering and land surveying programs
 - Changed schedule last year that drove applications from 0 to 30+; broadening university reach this cycle
 - Full CEAC mailing list email going out next week

9. Unfinished Business

- a) CEAC Affiliate sponsorships (Johnson/Gerety)

10. New Business

- Resubmit bylaw change notice for fall general membership meeting
 - Update the date to 30 days prior and reissue; prior submission to last year's president may not have been acted on.
- Review CEAC website draft and provide input to Merrin
 - Black Dog Marketing draft is ready; input needed within the next couple of weeks, before the annual meeting.
- Initiate tort liability working group
 - Agreed in principle at the meeting; scope covers transportation, flood control, and legislative reform.

11. Life Membership**12. Announcements**

- **Scheduled Conferences**
 - A) 132nd CSAC Annual Meeting/Fall Conference**, South San Diego Chula Vista Gaylord Chula Vista, November 30 - December 4, 2026
 - B) 2027 CEAC Spring Conference** (in conjunction with the League of California Cities' Public Works Officers Institute) - Hyatt Regency Orange County, March 15-19, 2027
 - C) 2026 NACE Annual Conference** – Cleveland, OH, April 5-8, 2027

CEAC Board of Directors Meeting Schedule

- A) 132nd CSAC Annual Meeting/Fall Conference, South San Diego, December 4, 2026
- B) 2027 CEAC Spring Conference - Hyatt Regency Orange County, March 19, 2027

1:41p.m. Adjourn

Dutifully submitted by Chris Sneddon August 31, 2026

CEAC Board of Directors

Friday, August 21, 2026 | 12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Meeting Roster**Voting Board Members: Officers & Regional Directors**

Officer	Office	County/Organization
Johannes Hoevertsz	President	Sonoma
Blossom Scott-Heim	Vice President	Tuolumne
NP Chris Sneddon	Secretary	Santa Barbara
NP David Leamon	Immediate Past President	Stanislaus
George Johnson	Treasurer	Riverside (Retired)
Mehdi Madjd-Sadjadi	Treasurer-Emeritus	Marin (Retired)
Mike Penrose	Parliamentarian	Sacramento (Retired)
Patrick DeChellis	Newsletter Editor	Los Angeles (Retired)
Howard Dashiell	NACE Representative	Mendocino
Matt Machado	NACE Secretary & Treasurer	Santa Cruz
Scott McGolpin	Historian	Santa Barbara (Retired)
Regional Directors	Region	County
Vanessa Garrett	Bay Area	Sonoma
David Grim	Central Coast	San Luis Obispo
Colt Esenwein	Northern California	Butte
Matt Randall	Sacramento Mother Lode	Placer
Najee Zarif	San Joaquin Valley	San Joaquin
NP Tom Koutroulis	Southern California	Orange

Non-Voting Members: Committee Chairs and CSAC Staff

CSAC/CEAC Staff	Title	Policy Area
Mark Neuburger	Legislative Advocate	Housing/Land Use and Transportation (HLT)
NP Jordan Wells	Legislative Advocate	Agriculture, Energy and Natural Resources (AENR)
NP Charles Delgado	Legislative Advocate	AENR
NP Caitlin Loventhal	Legislative Analyst	AENR
Merrin Gerety	CEAC Executive Director	CSAC/CEAC
Alicia Winokur	Transportation Chair	Mendocino
Panos Kokkas	Director of Transportation	Trinity
Jason Uhley	Flood Control Chair	Riverside
Dan Newton	Public Works Director	Tehama
Tobie Mitchell	Resource Recovery Chair	Ventura
Joan Araujo	Administrative Chair	Ventura
Martin McIlroy	Fellowship Committee	MGE Engineering

NP – Not Present

Job Opportunities in Local Government

CEAC provides an opportunity for California county and city public works agencies to post job openings on our site. New positions are posted on a regular basis.

JOB LISTING as of September 4, 2026

Organization	Position	Date Posted	Closing Date/First Review
City of Gardena	Director of Public Works/City Engineer	8/25/2026	9/25/2026
Butte County	Senior Heavy Equipment Mechanic	8/25/2026	9/10/2026
San Luis Obispo County	Public Works Division Manager – Transportation	8/19/2026	9/7/2026
Contra Costa County	Supervising Capital Facilities Project Manager	8/19/2026	9/8/2026
Contra Costa County	Senior Traffic Engineer	8/10/2026	9/3/2026 (extended)
City of Vallejo	Traffic Engineer	8/14/2026	8/31/2026
Ventura County	Director – Public Works Agency, Watershed Protection (Flood Control)	8/12/2026	Continuous Until Filled
City of Rialto	Senior Civil Engineer	8/11/2026	9/14/2026
City of Irvine	Director of Public Works & Sustainability	8/11/2026	9/8/2026
Lassen County	Associate Engineer	8/11/2026	Continuous Until Filled
City of Los Banos	Assistant Public Works Director	8/10/2026	Continuous Until Filled
City of Paso Robles	Deputy Community Development Director/City Engineer	7/23/2026	8/24/2026
Colusa County	Director of Public Works/Airport Operations (Licensed & Unlicensed)	7/23/2026	Continuous Until Filled

....if you're seeking a job.

For public sector job seekers, the CEAC Website can be an invaluable job-hunting resource. This page allows direct access to job listings posted by public-sector employers. ***We urge you to check this site often, since new jobs are posted regularly.***

...if you're a Public Sector Employer. To recruit candidates, you may email a position announcement/description or direct link to the position to Merrin Gerety at mgerety@counties.org

There is a submittal fee for each job opportunity listing. For CEAC members (county public works and CEAC affiliate members), the cost is \$130 per listing; for non-members, \$208 per listing. Each opening runs for six weeks or until the posted application deadline.

Payment in advance is not necessary; an invoice will be sent to you. We accept credit cards via PayPal, or checks. If paying by check, please make check payable to CEAC and send to:

When submitting an ad, please include an email address where the invoice should be sent.

George Johnson
CEAC Treasurer
11068 Shiloh Ct
Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91737-7810