



2026 CEAC Spring Conference
in conjunction with League of California Cities Public Works Officers Institute
Wednesday-Friday, February 25-27, 2026
Hyatt Regency Monterey, 1 Old Golf Course Road, Monterey, CA 93940

GENERAL INFORMATION

Registration
Wednesday, February 25, 7:30 AM - 5:00 PM
Thursday, February 26, 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Badges - All meeting participants must register and wear badges for admission to sessions, exhibits and social events, and to gain entry to all meal events.

Wi-Fi - Wi-Fi access will be available for our members in our meeting rooms throughout the week.



SAVE THE DATES!

2026 NACE Annual Conference - Live by Loews! Arlington, 1600 E Randol Mill Road, Arlington, TX 76011, April 12-15, 2026

21st CEAC Policy Conference

Sacramento County, August 20-21, 2026

132nd CSAC Annual Meeting/Fall Conference, South San Diego Chula Vista Gaylord 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

Wednesday, February 25, 2026

7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

CEAC Registration

8:15 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

CEAC Surveyor Policy Committee Meeting

Big Sur 1-3

Chair, Steve Hennessee, Los Angeles County

9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

CEAC Concurrent Policy Committee Meetings

CEAC Flood Control & Water Resources Policy Committee Meeting

Cypress 1-3

Chair: Jason Uhley, Riverside County

CEAC Infrastructure and Development Policy Committee Meeting

Big Sur 1-3

Chair: Matt Randall, Placer County

10:00 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Visit with Exhibitors

10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

CEAC Transportation Policy Committee Meeting

Cypress 1-3

Chair: Alicia Winokur, Mendocino County

11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Joint Leadership Mtg

CEAC/Cal Cities (Invitation Only)

LUNCH ON OWN

1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Cal Cities and CEAC Opening Remarks

Rebecca Neves, President, Public Works Officers Department and City Engineer,
Folsom

Johannes Hoevertsz, Director, Transportation and Public Works, Sonoma County

- **APWA Remarks**
- **Local Streets and Roads Awards**
- **Keynote Speaker**

2:45 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

CEAC Resource Recovery & Waste Management Policy Committee Meeting

Oaktree Room

Chair: Tom Koutroulis, Orange County

2:45 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Concurrent Sessions:

Using the data in your PMS to improve cost-effectiveness of maintenance and rehabilitation

Focusing on cracking data collected as part of agencies' pavement management systems (PMS), in addition to PCI, can improve the selection and timing of maintenance and rehabilitation activities on the network. The data has already been collected and paid for. This talk will show what data to focus on, how to use it to improve decision making regarding treatment selection and timing. The talk will include basic concepts and an example. This approach can be used by agencies, or by their consultants. Implementation should reduce the longer-term costs of managing the network. The presentation will be based on the results of recent City and County Pavement Improvement Center workshops.

Upping Your Communications Game

Engaging Your Community with Purpose, Clarity, and Creativity. How many times have you heard: "I never got the notification." "Whose idea was it to eliminate on-street parking for a bike lane?" "How do I contact Public Works about the sprinklers that run nonstop?" With a growing number of communication platforms—and the public's demand for instant information—local agencies, especially Public Works Departments, are under increasing pressure to deliver timely, clear, and accessible messaging. Whether it's educating residents on how to sort their solid waste, hosting a meeting on traffic calming, sharing updates on major road construction, or explaining the details of rate studies—your community wants (and needs) to be in the know. In this session, you'll hear from two Northern California Public Works Directors and a member of their Communications Team who actively support and

execute community engagement strategies. You'll gain insights into what works—from quick, static posts to high-impact engagement videos—and walk away with actionable ideas and communication plan templates that you can adapt to your agency's size and resources. Whether you have a full Communications Team or you "are" the team, this session will help you take your outreach to the next level.

4:15-5:30 p.m.

Concurrent Sessions:

A New Hope for Deferred Maintenance: How Rosemead Used the Force to Tackle an 18-year Backlog

In a galaxy not so far away, the City of Rosemead once faced an epic challenge with nearly two decades of deferred maintenance threatening the stability of civic well-being. Enter a new hope: Public Works Director Samuel Gutierrez, leading a bold mission to restore balance to the City's facilities within his first six months on the job! With the help of Schneider Electric, ranked the world's most sustainable company, Rosemead harnessed the power of California's Government Code 4217 energy performance contracting statute to bundle citywide critical improvements into one self-funded project. This initiative is modernizing outdated mechanical systems, replacing unsafe electrical infrastructure, and upgrading dim lighting at City Hall, community centers, and parks. The plan also includes updating city-owned intersection lights and implementing a citywide street lighting master plan to improve public safety and aesthetics, supported by Schneider Electric's managed service for Capital Asset Planning with proactive workorders, and a strategic push to secure utility incentives and Proposition 4 climate bond funding. Joined by SoCalREN/The Energy Coalition's Mallory Schaefer, this panel will share how the light side of collaboration, funding strategies, and technology can help cities overcome the dark side of deferred maintenance.

Fiber Frenzy – Navigating Fiber Optic Deployments and Local ROW Management Authority

The telecommunications industry is rapidly deploying fiber optic cables and conduit in local streets across the Golden State. Some of these fiber companies have state franchise rights and others do not. Some want to “partner” with the local government on the deployment or use local government assets such as fiber or conduit, others do not. Understanding the scope of the legal, regulatory, and proprietary authority for these projects is critical to protect rights-of-way and leverage fiber assets while supporting the widespread availability of broadband services to local residents and businesses.

Learn about the latest issues and trends with fiber installations, the different types of state franchise rights, the role of the CPUC, and the scope of local ROW management authority including information on recent state and federal actions

impacting local government rights and responsibilities. Topics covered will include recent Federal Communications Commission (FCC) actions as well as recent California laws on Microtrenching and Batch “Broadband” Permit Processing. This session will detail best practices to avoid common pitfalls when permitting fiber deployments, negotiating contracts for use of government-owned assets such as conduits, and strategies for P3 cooperative agreements. Presenters will also provide insights into the Federal Administration’s priorities and what that may mean for local governments in the near term.

Attendees will obtain important nuanced understandings of state and federal telecommunications regulations and leave the session with new confidence when tackling even the most complex fiber projects and related issues.

This includes, but is not limited to:

- Knowledge of current issues and trends for fiber optic cable and conduit installations
- Guidance on actions that localities should take to effectively regulate fiber installations, including best practices for permit application forms and fees, right of way management principles, and pavement management strategies.
- Awareness of the potential legal challenges in the absence of updated or current permitting procedures and requirements
- Insights and strategies for leveraging your fiber optic resources in P3 partnerships with fiber providers

5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Networking Reception

Make new friends and catch up with old ones while enjoying delicious appetizers and tasty beverages during the evening networking reception. It’s the perfect opportunity to form support networks inside your profession.

Thursday, February 26, 2026

8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

CEAC Registration

8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

Networking Breakfast

9:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.

Concurrent Sessions:

Creating New Models for Resilience - Regional Approaches to Securing California's Water Future

California water managers face challenges like declining water supply reliability, aging infrastructure, stricter regulations, and climate-driven “weather whiplash.” This session highlights innovative regional collaboration efforts to tackle these issues, learn about stakeholder-driven processes, decision-support tools, and key lessons.

Decoding Request for Proposal (RFP) Success: Consultants Insights on Mastering the RFP Process for Effective Project Outcomes

The RFP process is a crucial gateway for organizations seeking to engage consultants. The effectiveness of an RFP can significantly impact the success of project delivery. This presentation offers a candid into the RFP process.

Innovative Rubber Pavement Products Come to Rural and Remote California

Stanislaus County in partnership with CalRecycle is constructing a pilot project to evaluate a potential new method of incorporating recycled rubber in asphalt mixes to enhance pavement performance. This session will explore the County’s motivation for adopting this new road technology, potential benefits, and the practical steps of implementation and construction proving its viability for rural and smaller agencies.

10:30 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.

Concurrent Sessions:

An Innovative Approach to Generate Funding and Promote Stormwater Capture and Use: Stormwater Credit Programs

Stormwater Credit Programs provide municipalities with a funding source by selling credits from regional stormwater capture projects to regulated dischargers. These programs support funding, maintenance, and regulatory compliance. Attendees will gain practical strategies for leveraging this approach to sustainable stormwater management.

The California Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP) Workshop: Partnering to Save Lives on California's Public Roads

The SHSP is a collaborative, performance-based effort aimed at reducing fatalities and serious injuries on California roadways. By prioritizing safety through education, improved infrastructure, and law enforcement, the SHSP seeks to create a safer environment for all road users. This session will highlight the development of the 2025-2029 SHSP, focusing on its alignment with the Safe System Approach to address key safety challenges like impaired driving, pedestrian safety, and speeding..

11:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Networking Lunch

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

General Session

Public Works Visibility as First Responders

Public works professionals are often the unsung first responders, arriving first after disasters to clear the way and stay long after the crisis ends. Despite their critical role, they are often overlooked by communities, officials, and even other city departments. This presentation explores strategies to raise the profile of public works departments and emphasize their officially recognized status as first responders under Presidential Policy Directive 8.

2:15 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Concurrent Sessions:

Managing Federal Funding during Disaster and Emergency Events

This session will provide an overview of the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) Emergency Relief Program, offering essential insights into how to work with Caltrans and understand the key differences between FHWA and FEMA funding programs. Attendees will learn the fundamentals of these federal funding options, eligibility requirements, and application processes for managing and documenting disaster-related expenses.

Right-of-Way (ROW) the Right Way

This session provides strategies for setting ROW projects to achieve negotiated settlements, avoiding eminent domain. Speakers will focus on how to clearly define the rights required for the project, understand the property owners' needs, facilitate a smooth path to agreement, streamline ROW delivery, incentive programs, waivers, design expectations, as well as managing third-party ROW rights.

Citywide Street Sweeping Parking Restrictions: Strategies for Effective Implementation and Community Impact

This session explores the joint efforts of the City of Ontario Public Works Agency to Ontario is the largest city in San Bernardino County but lacked a coordinated parking restrictions program for street sweeping. Speakers will share the challenges they faced in addressing resident concerns, the planning process, and how various city departments worked together to launch the program.

3:45 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Concurrent Sessions:

Wireless in the Right of Way: All things Permitting and Leveraging your Assets

Learn about the latest issues and trends with wireless installations in the right of way, including information related to recent Federal Communications Commission (FCC) orders, litigation in the wake of FCC action, California's Batch "Broadband" Permit Processing Bill, and the status of 5G network rollout in context of the growing demand for wireless network capacity.

Demystifying Artificial Intelligence (AI): Practical Applications in Public Works

AI is no longer a concept of the future - it's transforming public works today. This session highlights real-world applications of AI by public and private sector innovators, highlighting how it enhances efficiency, reduces costs, and streamlines decision-making. Gain practical insights into addressing technical and administrative challenges with AI, demystifying the technology, and unlocking its potential for smarter, more effective operations. Discover actionable strategies and examples of AI in local agencies.

Speed Sessions:

3:45 p.m. - 4:20 p.m.

SB1383 100% Procurement Requirement Now in Effect: Are You Ready?

Jurisdictions now need to procure 100% of their SB 1383 CalRecycle procurement target of recovered organic waste products. Learn innovative strategies jurisdictions are using to tackle product procurement challenges.

4:25 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

From Maps to Apps: How the Evolution of GIS Led Us to SUE

The use of GIS data by utilities and public works agencies has evolved, and Subsurface Utility Engineering (SUE) has emerged as a crucial practice in linear construction. We'll look at past practices, how GIS intersects with SUE Quality Levels, and how current solutions can dramatically improve data availability for SUE by presenting use cases for Quality Levels A, B, C, and D that will help public works professionals make the most of the data available and improve data quality over time.

6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

CEAC President's Reception and Banquet

Regency Ballroom 1-3

Please join us for a fun evening hosted by CEAC President, Johannes Hoevertsz, and California's Loyal Order of Dedicated Servants (CLODS)

Friday, February 27, 2026

8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

CEAC Breakfast & Roundtable Discussion

Regency Ballroom 4-6

10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

CEAC Board of Directors Meeting

Big Sur 1-3

President: Johannes Hoevertsz, Sonoma County

2026 CEAC Policy & Advisory Committee Chairs and Vice-Chairs

Flood Control and Water Resources Policy Committee

Jason Uhley, Riverside County (Chair)

Carolyn Burke, Santa Cruz County

Jeff Palmer, Ventura County

Infrastructure & Development Policy Committee

Matt Randall, Placer County (Chair)

Warren Lai, Contra Costa County (Chair)

Blossom Scott-Heim, Tuolumne County

Resource Recovery & Waste Management Policy Committee

Tom Koutroulis, Orange County (Chair)

Emiko Thompson, Los Angeles County

Jared Carter, Madera County

Surveyor Policy Committee

Steve Hennessee, Los Angeles County (Chair)

Robert Pachinger, Calaveras County

Bob Bronkall, Humboldt County

Transportation Policy Committee

Alicia Winokur, Mendocino County (Chair)

Najee Zarif, San Joaquin County

Stephen Kowalewski, Contra Costa County

Transportation Policy Committee (continued)

Steve Burger, Los Angeles County

Chris Sneddon, Santa Barbara County

Other Committees:

Administrative Committee

Joan Araujo, Ventura County (Chair)
Nathan Bray, Merced County
Noel Castillo, San Bernardino County
Sam Chrun, Stanislaus County

Fellowship Committee

Scott DeLeon, Lake County, retired (Chair)
Blossom Scott-Heim, Tuolumne County
Jason Jurens, Consor
Martin McIlroy, MGE Engineering
Mike Leacox, NCE

Scholarship

Alicia Winokur, Mendocino County (Chair)
Steve Hennessee, Los Angeles County
Kristi Rhea, San Joaquin County

**CEAC Officers and
CSAC Staff**

President: Johannes Hoevertsz, Sonoma County
Vice President: Blossom Scott-Heim, Tuolumne County
Secretary: Chris Sneddon, Santa Barbara County
Immediate Past-President: David Leamon, Stanislaus County
Treasurer: George Johnson, Riverside County (retired)
Treasurer-Emeritus: Mehdi Sadjadi, Marin County (retired)
Parliamentarian: Mike Penrose, Sacramento County (retired)
Historian: Scott McGolpin, Santa Barbara County (retired)
Newsletter Editor: Patrick DeChellis, Los Angeles County (retired)
NACE Representative: Howard Dashiell, Mendocino County

CEAC Executive Director: Merrin Gerety

CSAC Legislative Staff:

Mark Neuburger: Legislative Advocate, Housing, Land Use, and
Transportation (HLT)
Jordan Wells: Legislative Advocate, Agriculture, Energy and Natural
Resources (AENR)
Charles Delgado: Legislative Advocate, AENR
Caitlin Lowenthal: Legislative Analyst, AENR