



## **FEBRUARY 2024**

February 5, 2024

February 12, 2024

February 20, 2024

February 26, 2024

February 5, 2024



## INDUSTRY NEWS

### **City PLA Fails to Accomplish**

*By Dustin Steiner, Vice President Government & Industry Relations*

On Tuesday, after years of innuendo, closed-door meetings, and \$3 million spent on a misleading ballot measure, the San Diego City Council approved a Project Labor Agreement (PLA) negotiated exclusively and privately with the San Diego County Building Trades, 8-0. The new PLA takes effect on July 1 and governs any projects over \$5 million for the first two years before lowering to \$1 million for the subsequent years. It does not cover emergency work.

The usual suspects were in attendance on the 12th floor of City Hall. International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW), San Diego County Building Trades, Iron Workers, Communications Workers of America (CWA), Laborers' International Union of North America (LIUNA), American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), and a Carpenter all spoke in favor while waving signs in the audience. AGC, National Black Contractors Association (BCA), Western Electrical Contractors Association (WECA), Coalition for Fair Employment in Construction (CFEC), and San Dieguito Engineering (a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE), rightfully concerned about how this will impact their small business), all spoke in opposition.

Interestingly, despite months of telling voters that Measure D was about "safeguarding" taxpayer dollars, that phrase was not used from the dais. Instead, several councilmembers noted that Measure D ended the ban on PLAs and opened the door for this moment. We at AGC tried to have a debate on PLAs throughout the campaign to counteract the bogus "safeguard" tactic that polled well but was not the heart of the issue.

In my testimony, I pointed out a recent SANDAG award that was a whopping 42 percent over the engineer's estimate with one responsive bid. In SANDAG's justification for this escalation, they note (among other factors) that this is the "first SANDAG project to have a Community Benefits Agreement," or CBA. A CBA by any other name is, of course, a PLA. This, I commented, is the promise of a PLA: fewer bidders, and higher prices.

On the dais and as reported by the *San Diego Union-Tribune*:

“The city’s independent budget analyst also raised concerns about the new deal, which IBA policy analyst Erin Noel called a “significant policy shift.”

While Noel said PLAs can have benefits, she said the comprehensive requirements could repel some contractors.

“We could see fewer bids if firms are not able to or choose not to participate, which could potentially increase project costs,” she said.

The PLA will also require the city to create a new bureaucracy to ensure compliance with its rules. Noel suggested the city would likely need five to eight workers, including one highly-paid program manager.

To read the full story in the UT, click here: [San Diego OKs citywide project labor agreement - The San Diego Union-Tribune \(sandiegouniontribune.com\)](http://sandiegouniontribune.com)

To read our letter, [click here](#):

To read the full PLA, [click here](#):

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## **No Sand in San Diego?**

*By Mike McManus, Director of Engineering Construction & Industry Relations*

Construction aggregates are often taken for granted but will soon be in short supply in San Diego if no action is taken. This fact is well documented in studies by the California Geological Survey (CGS). The last thing most people would expect is a sand shortage in a beach city like San Diego, but that is a fact.

Construction aggregate production in San Diego County was about 11.5 million tons in 2000. Starting in that timeframe, production fell due to mine closures that were not replaced by new permitted operations. The low point in recent years was during the Great Recession when production fell to about four million tons in 2008. It has steadily climbed since then to about eight million tons of local production.

The most critical shortage is with sand. San Diego County used to have an immense amount of permitted sand mining operations in the last half of the 20th century. However, those were largely depleted during the last 15 years. San Diego has been importing sand ever since. According to a market analysis done by Crystal Howard Consulting (CWC), the San Diego region is importing two million tons of sand a year for use in the manufacturing of aggregate-based products for construction.

The most recent report by the CGS, largely ignored in San Diego, says that the San Diego region is going to run out of aggregates in the very near future. The report states that the region has only 35 percent of permitted reserves compared to the expected 50-year demand. Local aggregate sources are expected to be completely depleted in nine to 18 years. What that means is, that starting as soon as 2033, we will have to import most or all

of the region's construction aggregates from Riverside County or Mexico in addition to the sand we are importing now.

San Diego County currently has 13 active production sites, two idle operations, and one newly permitted sand mining site, the East County Sand Mine (ECSM). Outside of the ECSM, only one new quarry of significant size has been permitted in the last 30 years: Rosemary's Mountain. This site was in the permitting process for 18 years before finally gaining approval in 2003. The ECSM was approved in 2018 with an estimated reserve of 1 million tons.

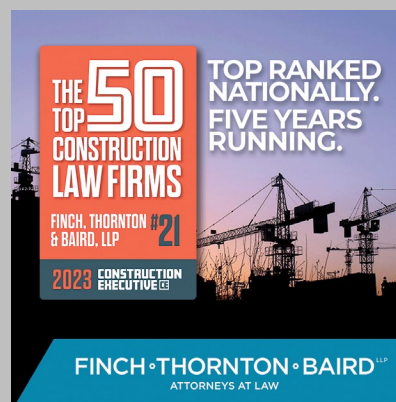
According to a report produced by CWC, there are three proposed aggregate projects in the permitting process: Otay Hills in South County, El Monte Sand Mine, and the Cottonwood Sand Mine. Hester's Granite Quarry is an existing quarry that has applied to the county to permit additional expanded mining of reserves at the site.

Getting these four sites permitted is important because there are significant costs and environmental impacts associated with trucking in aggregates from distant sources. The cost of the haul can add up to \$10 per ton for the finished product. The haul distances for the existing sand imports daily vary from 150 to 200 miles round trip. The approximately 100,000 truck trips per year equate to many greenhouse gas emissions that can be avoided if local sources were permitted.

The aggregate production is still below the production in the region in 2006. But it has recovered from the Great Recession and is projected to continue to rise into the foreseeable future. With the passage of SB1 and several federal infrastructure funding bills, the public sector construction market looks bright into at least the near future.

We need local leaders to act on securing aggregate production sites if we want to maintain the strong economy in San Diego and reduce our impact on air pollution in this region.

For now, there is no sand in San Diego.





## SDSU Student Teams Compete This Week at ASC Region 6 & 7 Student Competition

This week, 39 San Diego State University (SDSU) students and four SDSU faculty, along with industry sponsors/coaches will attend the Associated Schools of Construction (ASC) Region 6 & 7 Student Competition in Reno, Nevada.

The field is set with 233 teams from 55 universities, representing 22 states!

This two-day competition puts teams of six students through a real-world construction problem based on each competition category. SDSU is sending five teams this year in Commercial, Electrical, Heavy Civil, Preconstruction, and Visual Design and Construction (VDC). [Click here to watch a video of last year's competition.](#)

The SDSU students have been preparing for months with the help of AGC San Diego Construction Leadership Council (CLC), team sponsors, SDSU faculty advisors, and industry coaches. **Thank you to our team sponsors:**

- Commercial - **Clark Construction**
- Electrical - **Bergelectric Corporation**



- Heavy Civil - **Filanc**
- Preconstruction - **Swinerton**
- Visual Design and Construction (VDC) – **Balfour Beatty**

Thank you to the AGC members and coaches who attended the mock problem practice session in January to help prepare the teams for the competition!



## 2024

- March 19-22, 2024 - [AGC Convention](#) - San Diego - *Marriott Marquis Marina*
- April 11, 2024 - **AGC Seaside Mixer** - Tom Ham's Lighthouse
- April TBD - *Specialty Contractors Council event*- AGC HQ Lakeside
- June 6, 2024 - **Baseball Bash** - Padres vs. Diamondbacks - *Petco Park*
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- October 17, 2024 - **CLC Car Show & Mixer** - *AGC HQ Lakeside*
- December 14, 2024 - **Holiday Dinner Dance** - *Hotel Del Coronado*



## FEBRUARY MEETINGS

- February 7 - **Safety Committee** @ 7:00 a.m. - Lakeside
- February 21 - **Build & Serve Committee** @ 7:30 a.m. - Virtual
- February 29 - **HR Practices Committee** @ 11:30 a.m. - Lakeside

[Committee Meeting  
Calendar](#)

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## EDUCATION / SAFETY TRAINING

*Classes are held at our **Ferris Square** location in Sorrento Valley, our **AGC Headquarters** in Lakeside, or **online virtual training**.*

### **FEBRUARY CLASSES**

#### **6212 Ferris Square San Diego 92121**

February 12 Fall Protection CPT Refresher Training  
February 12 - 14 Trench & Excavation 24-Hour CPT  
February 19-21 Fall Protection 24-Hour CPT for EM 381-1-1

#### **Technology/Software Training**

February 7 Microsoft EXCEL Beginner  
February 5 Microsoft ACCESS Beginner  
February 6 Beginning QUICKBOOKS (Desktop Version)  
February 8 Microsoft WORD Beginner  
February 13 Intermediate / Advanced QUICKBOOKS (Desktop Version)  
February 14 Microsoft EXCEL Intermediate  
February 15 Microsoft WORD Intermediate  
February 20 Beginning QUICKBOOKS (Online Version)  
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February 27 Intermediate / Advanced QUICKBOOKS (Online Version)  
February 28 Computer Basics (4-hour Training)  
February 28 Microsoft OUTLOOK Beginner (4-hour Training)  
February 29 Microsoft POWERPOINT Beginner / Intermediate

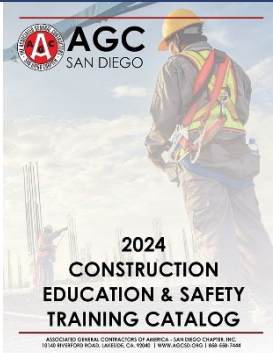
#### **AGCSD Lakeside Headquarters**

##### **10140 Riverford Road, Lakeside 92040**

February 6 Business Writing for Construction  
February 8 Project Engineer Bootcamp  
February 13 AGC San Diego Construction Project Management Certificate Program (8 seats open)  
February 14 Foreman & Superintendent Bootcamp  
February 15, 22, 29 Effective Project Engineer Certificate Program  
February 20 CL Advanced Construction Contract Negotiations  
February 20 Traffic Control Technician & ATSSA Flagger Certification  
February 20 CPR First Aid Training  
February 20 Trench & Excavation 8-hour CPT  
February 21 Qualified Rigger & Signal Person  
February 26-Mar 1 Leadership and Management Seminar for Construction  
February 27 Introduction to the 2022 Construction General Permit

#### **Online Virtual Training**

February 6 Stormwater Seminar – Alex Tardy with NOAA/National Weather Service  
February 6 MS Project Introduction  
February 6 - 29 BIM Education Program  
February 7 & 8 USACE CQM-C Certification  
February 9 California Prevailing Wage, Certified Payroll and Compliance Training  
February 21 MS Project Intermediate / Advanced  
February 21 & 22 USACE CQM-C Certification



## 2024 Training Calendar and Class Registration

### 2024 Education & Safety Training Catalog

*If you do not see a class your team needs, please contact the AGC San Diego Education Department to check the upcoming schedule, or schedule a group training session.*

[Becca Schaffer](mailto:Becca.Schaffer@agcsd.org) 619-592-4533

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 Lakeside, CA 92040  
 (858) 558-7444  
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**AGC Government Affairs Office & Fall Protection Training Campus**  
 6212 Ferris Square  
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 2nd floor  
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**About Monday Morning Quarterback**

AGC San Diego Chapter's Monday Morning Quarterback is a "hot off the press" and to the point Monday morning briefing on the important issues facing San Diego's construction industry. It is prepared by AGC Chief Executive Officer, Eddie Sprecco, and Vice President Government & Industry Relations, Dustin Steiner.

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Please contact [Eddie Sprecco](#) or [Dustin Steiner](#) with your comments, or with information that should be conveyed to the industry through this service. Well over 3,000 individuals employed by AGC member firms are part of this system.

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10140 Riverford Road, Lakeside, CA 92040

February 12, 2024



## INDUSTRY NEWS

### **AGC Fundraiser for Kevin Faulconer for Supervisor February 27**

*By Dustin Steiner, Vice President Government & Industry Relations*

Please join AGC San Diego and event co-hosts **Doug Barnhart, Thomas L. Brown, Randy Finch, and Mike Furby** on February 27 for a fundraising reception in support of former San Diego Mayor Kevin Faulconer as he seeks a seat on the County Board of Supervisors. This is the biggest race in town this cycle, so don't miss your chance to meet and hear Kevin's vision for our County.

In accepting AGC's endorsement last year, Faulconer said, *"It is a privilege to receive the endorsement of the Associated General Contractors of San Diego. As Mayor, I worked with our local communities and small businesses to tear down red tape and overregulation that made it impossible for our local businesses to flourish. As Supervisor, you can count on me to continue championing reforms that make our small businesses easier, not harder, to operate. Small businesses keep our economy moving and we will do whatever possible to help them, not hinder them."*

Please view the invitation [here](#). As a reminder, County law permits only personal donations and limits contributions to \$1000 per individual, per election.

If you cannot attend the reception, please make an online donation [here](#). If you have any questions or would like to get more involved with AGC San Diego's Political Action Committee (PAC), please e-mail Dustin [here](#).

Hope to see you there!

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### **A Solution in Search of a Problem**

*By Mike McManus, Director of Engineering Construction & Industry Relations*

We have heard for years that “wage theft” is a big problem in the construction industry. It is a narrative that has been peddled by a few elected officials in this region as a justification for making certain policy choices, such as requiring prevailing wages to be paid for traffic control on San Diego city streets on private developer projects. A report just issued by the City of San Diego Office of Labor Standards Enforcement (OLSE) does not support the rampant “wage theft” narrative.

The Prevailing Wage Ordinance was passed by the San Diego City Council in 2013 and requires all City awarded contracts to comply with State prevailing wage laws for work performed on roads, buildings, and parks. The Ordinance applies to public works projects, specifically construction work over \$25,000 and any alternation, demolition, repair, or maintenance work over \$15,000. The OLSE monitors and enforces prevailing wage labor compliance requirements on all City-awarded public works projects under the Ordinance.

The recently issued report by OLSE covered construction projects underway in the fiscal year ending last July. The findings are surprising given the consistent narrative of “wage theft” on the public record at multiple agencies with no factual basis ever given. Just rumors. Here are the facts.

The report notes that 90 construction projects worth about \$800 million were underway in the 2023 fiscal year. All contractors and subcontractors performing work on public works projects are required to submit certified payroll records (CPRs) to the city. OLSE reviews these reports to ensure proper payments are made to workers based on the appropriate wage determination(s) and the work being performed. OLSE issues delinquency notices to contractors who are late in providing CPRs to the City. Any discrepancies found are addressed in a formal notice to the contractor or subcontractor. Prevailing wage violations not corrected or disputed by a contractor are reported to the Department of Industrial Relations (DIR).

So, how many contractors were given a fine by DIR after all this investigation and review by OLSE? An effort that cost millions of dollars in staff time at the city and by contractors and hundreds of millions of dollars in pay and benefits paid to construction workers? One Orange County contractor was penalized by the DIR with a civil wage and penalty assessment to the tune of \$21,000.

OLSE said in the report that they also identified \$330,928 in prevailing wage underpayments and inconsistencies in CPRs submitted to the city. Staff recovered \$54,669 in worker back wages through voluntary compliance by contractors and verification of payments to workers. Contractor entry errors accounted for \$121,466 of the assessed wage violations. The staff verified that the correct prevailing wage rates were given to workers through the review of source documentation, such as itemized wage statements, training fund contribution payments, and fringe benefit statements.

Based on staff compliance monitoring, 28 violation notifications were issued to the DIR, including \$78,313 in prevailing wage underpayments that contractors failed to remedy after receiving notifications from OLSE. It is important to note that the 28 violation notifications that were reported to the DIR were done so because the contractor disputed the city’s interpretation of prevailing wage laws. Those “violations” are unresolved disputes between the city staff and contractors.

In summary, most of the “violations” are either unresolved disputes, entry errors by contractors determined to comply, or were paid eventually voluntarily by contractors after correcting a paperwork error. It seems like OLSE is mostly a solution in search of a problem.

However, OLSE does provide some safeguards that we support. They continue to enforce prevailing wage requirements on all City-awarded public works projects. This helps to create a fair and level playing field among contractors bidding on City projects by ensuring consistency in the application of State and federal labor laws. They also provide publicly released facts about the extremely high level of compliance with prevailing wage laws by contractors that should eventually blunt the narrative of rampant “wage theft.”

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### **SDSU Student Teams Compete in ASC Region 6 & 7 Competition**

Students on 233 teams from 55 schools descended upon Reno, Nevada, for the largest student construction competition in the nation this past weekend, and in the crowd were 39 students from San Diego State University. The competition included 18 schools from California alone!

Let me set the scene: A buzz of excitement was in the air as a crowd of over 1,700 college students waited to enter the kick-off student dinner of the ASC Region 6 & 7 Competition. While excitement might have turned to stress during the competition, the camaraderie between teams and schools was one of support throughout. This two-day competition puts students in teams of six and provides them with a real-world construction problem to solve based on each competition category. San Diego State University (SDSU) sent teams in

Commercial, Heavy Civil, Preconstruction, Visual Design and Construction (VDC), and Electrical.

The SDSU students prepared for months with the help of AGC San Diego Construction Leadership Council (CLC), team sponsors, SDSU faculty advisors, and industry coaches.

**Thank you to our team sponsors!**

- Electrical - **Bergelectric Corporation**
- Commercial - **Clark Construction**
- Heavy Civil - **Filanc**
- Preconstruction - **Swinerton**
- Visual Design and Construction (VDC) – **Balfour Beatty**

For some teams, the competition started the week prior, when they had to complete pre-competition tasks, but the real work started in Reno early Thursday morning. The students got to work in their “work rooms,” with each student focused as they completed needed tasks for their team and competition problem. The teams were challenged throughout the day with updates to the problem including “change orders” or notification of supply chain issues all to see how the students would adapt to real-world scenarios.

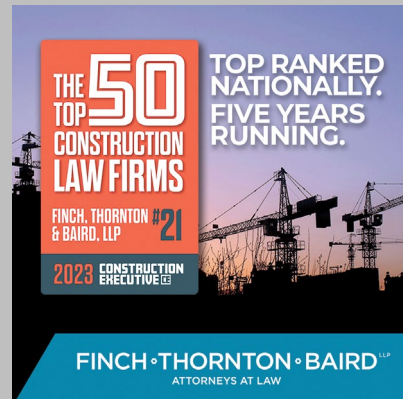
What comes next? The deadline to turn in their proposals. Witnesses were engrossed by the students as they made the mad dash, running the halls to make it in time to turn in their proposals and experience the relief that Day 1 was done. Day 2 was the presentation to the problem sponsor, so some teams continued to practice and perfect their presentations.

It was time to watch the SDSU teams! First up was the Commercial team, followed by the open competition camp, and ending with the Heavy Civil Team in the Region 7 competition. The open competition teams were in the categories of VDC, Preconstruction, and Electrical. The SDSU teams had a mixture of new and returning members this year and learned a lot during the competition. Returning members were eager to take what they learned this year and apply it to next year’s teams.

A big shoutout to SDSU Faculty Advisors **Thais Alves**, **Nensi Lakrori**, and **Reza Akhavian** for attending and supporting the student teams. The SDSU AGC Student Chapter, along with AGC’s support, organized the teams and coordinated the preparations for the competition. This year’s Student Chapter Reno Lead, **Diego Mendoza**, had a big hand in collaborating with all teams and coordinating with AGC for a successful student experience.

Finally, give yourself a pat on the back: If you are reading this, you may have been a team coach or a “Mock Problem” spectator this year who challenged and provided feedback to the teams to prepare them for the competition. Thank you for your involvement and for helping prepare the students who compete in this competition. They will surely graduate from this program and from SDSU to take their place as excellent future leaders in the construction industry.





*Mark Your Calendars*

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

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- March 21, 2024 - Reception Honoring Thomas L. Brown (as part of Convention) - *Marriott Marquis Marina*
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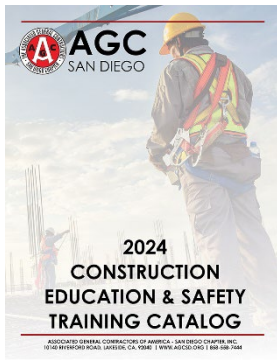
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## INDUSTRY NEWS



### 2024 Reception Honoring Thomas L. Brown, Incoming AGC National President

The happiest hour is HAPPY HOUR at the AGC National Convention. Join us to celebrate the incoming 2024 AGC National President **Thomas L. Brown** of *Sierra Pacific West, Inc.* on **Thursday, March 21** at the **Marriott Marquis**, San Diego Marina - **5-7 P.M.**

As part of the national convention events, AGC San Diego will host a reception honoring Thomas Brown for his continued service to the San Diego construction industry, our Chapter, and the nation's construction opportunities.

The reception will be held in the Marina Ballroom at the south tower of the Marriott Marquis, with hosted cocktails, street tacos, and appetizers. Come and enjoy the beach vibe theme and have a craft beer (or two) on us! It's bound to be a good time! (*You do not need to be registered for the Convention to attend this reception.*)



This event is an opportunity for the industry to hear from President Brown as we celebrate his accomplishments and vision for the future of the AGC.

Thomas L. Brown has served on the national board of AGC of America for over 12 years, becoming a life governor. He served as an AGC President for the Chapter in 2006 and has been a distinguished recipient of the prestigious AGC SIR Award for his dedication to the construction industry and, as the acronym suggests, standing for “*Skill, Integrity, and Responsibility*.” Tom served on the National Political Action Committee and is currently chairman of the San Diego Apprenticeship and Training Trust board.

All AGC members are invited to attend this rare occasion. **Attendance is free, but you will need to [register first](#).** Space is limited to 300 attendees; it’s sure to be a don’t-miss event!

**DATE:** Thursday, March 21, 2024

**LOCATION:** Marriott Marquis - San Diego Marina Ballroom

**TIME:** 5:00 P.M. - 7:00 P.M.

**ATTIRE:** Business Casual

[FLYER](#)

Additionally, if you would like to attend the accompanying Installation luncheon honoring Mr. Thomas L. Brown on Friday, March 23, [RSVP here](#).

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### **AGC's Primary Election Voter Guide...Kind Of**

*By Dustin Steiner, Vice President Government & Industry Relations*

By now you should have received your ballot in the mail for the Presidential Primary on March 5, or perhaps we should say up until March 5 as election laws changed pretty dramatically during the great pandemic of 2020. You may also notice some other significant changes that have taken place in recent years. Wondering where your candidate for Supervisor may be? Or where that ½ cent SANDAG tax measure is that we have been talking so much about? Let’s get into it.

Way back in 2016, frustrated by Republicans winning seats outright in the June primary (50% +1 vote used to claim the seat), Democrats on the San Diego City Council (then a 5-4 majority) placed Measure K on the ballot that would require the top two finishers in the Primary to advance to the General no matter the vote tally. Does anyone remember former Councilman Scott Sherman’s election in 2012? Then-candidate Sherman received 50.17% of the vote to narrowly win the seat outright. In 2016, he was re-elected with 60% of the vote. Under today’s rules, he would have had to run in November, where the outcome likely would have been reversed.

In 2018, then-Assemblyman Todd Gloria carried legislation to change County elections to mirror the City’s policy. (The TL;DR version is that the original legislation required more signatures to put it on the ballot than were collected, so Gloria went back to the Legislature and pushed through a clean-up to change that number retroactively). Measure D (not that one) also passed the electorate.

As for ballot measures? Well, that too changed in 2016 with Measure L, which sent all citizens’ initiatives to the November ballot instead of the *next* election. There was an

exemption in that one allows the City Council to put a measure on the Primary ballot if it chooses. The so-called “**Measure to Fund San Diego County Transportation, Infrastructure, and Safety Projects Through a Half-Cent Sales Tax**” will appear on the November ballot. We have arranged for the campaign team behind this measure to present to our Government Relations Committee on February 26! Please [e-mail Robin Scott](#) to RSVP.

If you live in the City of San Diego, you may also notice several uncontested races. The City and County have alternating elections so that not all seats are up at the same time. In 2024, City seats 1, 3, 5, 7, and 9 are up, while at the County, it's seats 1, 2, and 3. **Councilmembers LaCava** (1), **Von Wilpert** (5), and **Campillo** (7) are all running unopposed but remain on your ballot as they still need to be *elected*. **Councilmember Whitburn** and **Council President Elo Rivera** face multiple opponents but are expected to win re-election. There is also a special election in District 4 to fill the seat vacated by now-**Supervisor Montgomery-Steppe**. At the County, all three incumbents have drawn an opponent, but since each only has one, none appear on the March ballot. For November, it will be **Supervisor Vargas** v. Alejandro Galicia in District 1, **Supervisor Joel Anderson** v. Gina Jacobs in District 2, and Supervisor Lawson-Remer v. former Mayor **Kevin Faulconer** in District 3.

Partisan races appear on the ballot in both the Primary and the General. So, with that, here is who AGC's Board of Directors has endorsed to date:

<b>Assembly District 75:</b>	<b>Andrew Hayes</b>
<b>Assembly District 76:</b>	<b>Kristie Bruce-Lane</b>
<b>Assembly District 80:</b>	<b>David Alvarez</b>
<b>Supervisor District 2:</b>	<b>Joel Anderson</b>
<b>Supervisor District 3:</b>	<b>Kevin Faulconer</b>

Like politics? Want to have a say on whom *your* AGC supports? [Join](#) our Political Action Committee today!

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## **Caltrans Unveils Large Highway Construction Program**

*By Mike McManus, Director of Engineering Construction & Industry Relations*

Last week in Sacramento, the California Transportation Commission (CTC) held a public hearing to review the Caltrans-proposed Draft 2024 State Highway Operations and Protection Plan (SHOPP). The SHOPP is a set of proposed Caltrans projects, namely rehabilitation of highways, re-designing locations with accident concentrations, or operations improvements. Caltrans goes to the CTC in even-numbered years to get the next four years of projects blessed by the CTC. This set of projects is a large portion of the upcoming Caltrans work, so the industry closely watches the process of approving the new SHOPP program.

Since the enactment of SB1 several years ago, the SHOPP program has grown considerably. This year's proposed four-year SHOPP will average \$4 billion of projects annually advertised for bids from contractors. The program covers the fiscal years 2024/2025 to 2027/2028.

Caltrans has proposed 617 projects with a total value over the four years of \$16.1 billion. About half, or \$8.1 billion, will be pavement rehabilitation projects. About 20 percent, or \$3.2 billion, will be bridge rehabilitation projects. The remaining \$4.9 billion is spread as follows:

Culvert Rehabilitation	\$0.6 billion
Traffic Management System	\$0.6 billion
Safety Improvements	\$1.0 billion
Emergency Projects	\$0.4 billion
Miscellaneous	\$2.3 billion

Smaller projects, less than \$10 million in value, account for 41 percent of all the projects in the program, so contractors of all sizes can participate as prime contractors. Forty-five percent of the projects are in the \$10 to \$40 million range. The remaining 14 percent are over \$40 million, with a few larger than \$100 million in size. That accounts for many opportunities.

According to Caltrans, at the CTC public hearing, the SHOPP also represents some significant economic benefits to the state. The projects will create about 270,000 high-paying construction jobs, many of which pay prevailing wages. Over 59,000 of those jobs will be at small or disadvantaged businesses. Forty-five percent of the projects have elements that support pedestrian, bike, or transit modes.

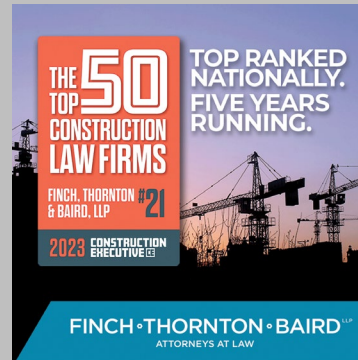
As part of the discussion, Caltrans presented what they hope to achieve with this \$16 billion investment in the State Highway System. Caltrans considers four asset classes as the core assets of the State Highway System: pavements, bridges, traffic management system elements (changeable message signs, ramp meters, signals, etc.), and culverts. The expected accomplishments for Caltrans to measure success were also included in the presentation.

<b>Asset Class</b>	<b>Investment</b>	<b>Expected Accomplishment</b>
Pavement	\$8.1 B	Fix over 6,100 lane miles of pavement
Bridges	\$3.2 B	Work on 4.6 million sq. ft of bridges
TMS Elements	\$0.6 B	Work on 1,400 TMS elements
Culverts	\$0.6 B	Fix over 300,000 LF of culverts

Also important to the governor's administration are transit and pedestrian improvements. Some of the expected accomplishments are 25 miles of crosswalks and 96 transit stop improvements. Some CTC commissioners wondered why more pedestrian and transit improvements were not included in the proposed projects. Caltrans pointed out that many projects are on freeways where pedestrians are not allowed, and many projects have scope not suitable for transit and pedestrian elements, such as underground pipe projects.

The Commission is expected to adopt the SHOPP formally next month. To see the proposed list of SHOPP projects by county [click here](#).

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SAN DIEGO, CA / MARCH 19–22

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[Committee Meeting  
Calendar](#)

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#### AGCSD Lakeside Headquarters

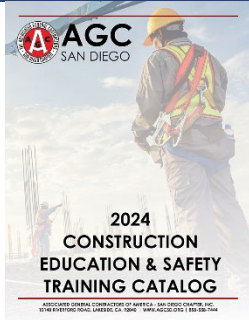
**10140 Riverford Road, Lakeside 92040**

February 21 Qualified Rigger & Signal Person  
February 26-Mar 1 Leadership and Management Seminar for Construction  
February 27 Introduction to the 2022 Construction General Permit

#### Online Virtual Training

February 21 MS Project Intermediate / Advanced  
February 21 & 22 USACE CQM-C Certification





## 2024 Training Calendar and Class Registration

**2024**

### **Education & Safety Training Catalog**

If you do not see a class your team needs, please contact the AGC San Diego Education Department to check the upcoming schedule or schedule a group training session. [Becca Schaffer](#) 619-592-4533

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**AGC Government Affairs Office & Fall Protection Training Campus**  
6212 Ferris Square  
San Diego, CA 92121  
2nd floor  
[DIRECTIONS](#)

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Please contact [Eddie Sprecco](#) or [Dustin Steiner](#) with your comments, or with information that should be conveyed to the industry through this service. Well over 3,000 individuals employed by AGC member firms are part of this system.

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February 26, 2024



## INDUSTRY NEWS

### Two Special Campaign Events This Week

*By Dustin Steiner, Vice President Government & Industry Relations*

Please join us for two special campaign events this week! This afternoon we will have a presentation by the campaign team behind *Let's Go! San Diego* and then tomorrow morning, we are hosting a [fundraising reception](#) in support of former San Diego Mayor **Kevin Faulconer's** campaign for County Supervisor. These are the **two biggest races** in the County this year and you do not want to miss these events!

**Today at 3 PM**, join us in Lakeside to hear about the proposed ½ cent sales tax increase that would generate billions of dollars for transportation infrastructure over the next several decades. According to their website, "This measure is focused on specific transportation improvements that will make commutes easier for all of San Diego County. That includes expanded transit with a rail connection to the Airport, improved service on trolleys and buses, and affordable fares for seniors, students, and the disabled. There's funding for road repairs and safety in every community in the County. And critical safety upgrades to fix aging bridges and rail lines in danger of collapse."

Come hear from campaign consultant **Jared Boigon** of TeamCivX as he walks us through how they qualified the measure and what the next steps are to take their message to the voters. As this is a citizen's initiative, it requires a 50% +1 vote in November.

To read the text of the measure, click here: [Microsoft Word - San Diego County Transportation Measure FINAL.docx \(constantcontact.com\)](#)

To learn more about the measure, here is the *pro* website: [Let's Go! San Diego | Traffic Relief. Transit. Jobs. \(letsgosd.org\)](#)

To read a recent MMQB article on the measure, click here: [News | AGC San Diego Chapter Inc. \(agcsd.org\)](#)

**On Tuesday at 8 AM**, join us at the offices of *Finch, Thornton, & Baird* in support of [Kevin Faulconer for Supervisor](#). If you cannot attend the event in person, please donate at this unique AGC link: <https://secure.anedot.com/faulconer-for-supervisor/faulconereventagc>.

Hope to see you at both of these great events!

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## **AGC Apprenticeship Awarded at East County Chambers' 112th Annual Honors Awards**

AGC Apprenticeship has been awarded the prestigious East County Chamber's 112th Annual Honors Award for Best in Education Services. This accolade celebrates AGC Apprenticeship's dedication to providing outstanding education and training services in San Diego County, distinguishing itself among notable competitors such as Lemon Grove School District and Grand Canyon University.

AGC Apprenticeship, known for its innovative approach to vocational training and education, has been instrumental in bridging the gap between classroom learning and real-world application.

The East County Chambers' Annual Honors Award, now in its 112th year, is a testament to the hard work, innovation, and community engagement that organizations like AGC Apprenticeship embody. Winning this award underscores AGC Apprenticeship's significant impact on education services. It also reflects the broader community's recognition and support for programs that effectively prepare young individuals for the challenges and opportunities of the workforce.

Congratulations to AGC Apprenticeship on this well-deserved recognition. Your dedication to education and community service continues to inspire and make a difference in the lives of many.

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## **Never Let a Good Crisis Go to Waste**

*By Mike McManus, Director of Engineering Construction & Industry Relations*

Stormwater took center stage at the San Diego City Hall last week. The roughly 1,000 people displaced by the recent flooding along Chollas Creek seemed to have finally lit a fire under the elected officials in the city. The Council has been told about the gap in needs versus funding in the Stormwater Department since an audit by the Independent City Auditor in 2018. Two Council Committees attempted to deal with this slow-moving train wreck last Wednesday.

In the morning, the Rules Committee considered moving a parcel tax forward for the ballot this November. In the afternoon, the Active Transportation and Infrastructure Committee

was asked to ratify contracts for another \$29 million in emergency projects funding for emergencies that happened last winter. It was amazing to watch.

Since 2018, the City has knowingly not pursued a way to fund the needed infrastructure needs for stormwater sustainably. The City did pursue and has acquired two federal loans to fund some of the needed infrastructure improvements. But those loans will have to be repaid using bonds that are funded out of the general fund, which is not a sustainable approach. According to the city staff, the city faces a \$1.6 billion stormwater infrastructure deficit that is growing every day. They are also accruing fines, from the Regional Water Quality Control Board, in the thousands of dollars a day at some locations due to unlawful stormwater discharges.

What the Rules Committee considered last week was whether, or not, to move ahead with a process to develop and bring to the City Council a potential parcel tax for the November ballot. The parcel tax would impose a few cents tax per square foot of impermeable land on residences and businesses in the City of San Diego. The tax could be written in a way that low-income folks and seniors could get a credit to reduce their tax rate.

The revenues from this tax would be put into a dedicated fund that would be specified narrowly. Operations and maintenance of the stormwater system, as well as capital construction projects that are being regularly identified, will be eligible for funding. Emergency funding will be eligible along with water quality regulatory compliance.

The Rules Committee voted unanimously to move this to the next steps, which will be for city staff to work with the Independent Budget Analyst to develop the tax measure details. How much money could be generated and how fast the infrastructure gap could be closed?

On Wednesday afternoon at the Active Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, with some of the same council members present, they were asked to move ahead to council to ratify 15 emergency sole source contracts from last year at \$29 million. Of that, about \$18 million was spent on eleven projects to fix failed stormwater infrastructure. The remaining projects were for failures on facilities overseen by the Public Utilities Department. These projects were completed by AGC member contractors who are pre-approved to do emergency work.

These emergency projects have the effect of delaying planned work because there is only so much money available in any given year. Some of the stormwater emergency projects were funded with borrowed money which is usually a bad sign.

After six years of inaction, there is no question we are in a crisis in the maintenance of our city's stormwater infrastructure. Don't let the crisis go to waste.

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JOIN US - 2024 Reception  
Honoring Thomas L. Brown,  
Incoming AGC  
National President

The happiest hour is HAPPY HOUR at the AGC National Convention. Join us to celebrate the incoming 2024 AGC National President **Thomas L. Brown** of *Sierra Pacific West, Inc.* on **Thursday, March 21** at the **Marriott Marquis**, San Diego Marina - **5-7 P.M.**

AGC San Diego will host a reception honoring Thomas Brown for his continued service to the San Diego construction industry, our Chapter, and the nation's construction opportunities.

The reception will be held in the Marina Ballroom at the south tower of the Marriott Marquis, with **hosted cocktails, street tacos, and appetizers**. Come and enjoy the **beach vibe theme** and have a craft beer (or two) on us! It's bound to be a good time! (*You do not need to be registered for the Convention to attend this reception*).

This event is an opportunity for the industry to hear from President Brown as we celebrate his accomplishments and vision for the future of the AGC.

Thomas L. Brown has served on the national board of AGC of America for over 12 years, becoming a life governor. He served as an AGC San Diego President in 2006 and has been a distinguished recipient of the prestigious AGC SIR Award for his dedication to the construction industry and, as the acronym suggests, standing for "*Skill, Integrity, and Responsibility*." Tom served on the National Political Action Committee and is currently chairman of the San Diego Apprenticeship and Training Trust board.

All AGC members are invited to attend this rare occasion. **Attendance is free, but you will need to register first. Space is limited to 300 attendees**; it's sure to be a don't-miss event!

**DATE:** Thursday, March 21, 2024

**LOCATION:** Marriott Marquis - San Diego Marina Ballroom

**TIME:** 5:00 P.M. - 7:00 P.M.

**ATTIRE:** Business Casual

[FLYER](#)



Additionally, if you would like to attend the accompanying Installation luncheon honoring Mr. Thomas L. Brown on Friday, March 22, [RSVP here](#).



## Boy Scouts Lunch-O-Ree - Sponsorship Opportunities

Join us on **May 16** at **Paradise Point Resort** as we honor one of our very own for the 17th Annual Construction and Building Industry Lunch-O-Ree, hosted by the San Diego-Imperial Council Boy Scouts of America! This year's honoree is none other than

**Mike Furby**, the **Good Scout of the Year**, and President of **Marathon Construction Corporation** and **Lakeside Land Company**. This event continues to raise money for Boy Scouts of America to build facilities.

### Even if you cannot attend, there are still opportunities to support the Boys Scouts.

Donations for this event can help them achieve their goal. Besides the different levels of sponsorship to choose from, there is also the option of just running an ad. [Click here](#) to view examples of ads from last year's brochure.

Ads are great opportunities to showcase your company. In doing so, you also play a part in helping create new young leaders through the Boy Scout program, leaders with a good moral compass and strong core values, with the confidence and fortitude to succeed and be of service to others.

Please [click here](#) for details on the event and the different donation options, including advertising. [EVENT FORM](#)

If you can attend, the luncheon honoring Furby, a strong advocate of the Boy Scouts, starts with a reception at 11:30 AM. The program begins at noon and features keynote speaker Keni Thomas. Thomas served as a United States Army Range deployed in Operation Restore Hope in Somalia and the Battle of Mogadishu. He was most notably a survivor in what would be memorialized in the book and film, "*Black Hawk Down*." Keni was recognized by the President of the United States and Congress for his service and was awarded the American Patriot Award for his dedicated work on behalf of veterans and their families. He is now a country music singer-songwriter.

Questions? Contact Joe Garcia at [Joseph.Garcia@scouting.org](mailto:Joseph.Garcia@scouting.org).

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

The AGC Board of Directors and AGC staff welcome the newest members to AGC San Diego Chapter:

[Buckboard Catering](#)

[Competitive Painting, Inc.](#)  
[DeWalt /Stanley Black & Decker, Inc.](#)  
[Foundation Pile](#)  
[Need2Say](#)  
[WEX, Inc.](#)  
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## GIVING BACK



### Volunteers Needed - Saturday, April 20 Senior Smoke Alarm Project - Oceanside

The AGC Build & Serve Charitable Alliance has partnered again with the Burn Institute to install smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors at a senior mobile home park in **Oceanside, Saturday, April 20, from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM.**

We are looking for 8-10 volunteers interested in helping the senior community.

There will be a brief training and light refreshments at 9:30 AM, then installation at 10:00 AM as you work in teams. What a great way to spend a few hours on a Saturday making a difference to seniors, plus feel good about your efforts! This would also make a good community project for a parent to work together with their teenager while instilling the importance of giving back.

### [FLYER](#)

Contact [Marcy Knopman](#) if interested and for more details (619) 592-4527.

## COMMITTEE/COUNCIL MEETINGS



### FEBRUARY MEETINGS

February 29 - **HR Practices Committee** @ 11:30 a.m. - Lakeside  
February 29 - **CLC** @ 4:00 p.m. - Balfour Beatty's office

### MARCH MEETINGS

March 6 - **Safety Committee** @ 7:00 a.m. - Lakeside  
March 13 - **County Liaison Committee** - 1:00 p.m. @ County offices

[Committee Meeting  
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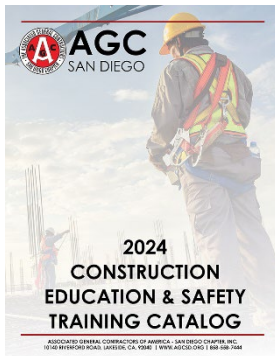
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February 27 Introduction to the 2022 Construction General Permit



[2024 Training Calendar and Class  
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