

### **April 2021 Archives**

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#### The Associated General Contractors of America, San Diego Chapter, Inc.



April 5, 2021

The **VOICE** of Construction

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#### Stay on Target - Keep Infrastructure Bill about Infrastructure

Eddie Sprecco, CEO - AGC San Diego

Joseph R. Biden ran for President on the promise of being a competent leader that can right the ship, and get things done in a bipartisan way. After being narrowly elected, along with historically slim Democratic majorities in the House and Senate, President Biden has claimed a mandate to govern exactly opposite of how he campaigned.

#### **Infrastructure Week**

"Infrastructure Week" became a punchline among the media class during the Trump Presidency, as D.C. lunged from crisis to crisis, real and perceived, and Trump's promised infrastructure measure never got any air-time. It is not just a Trump phenomenon, however - despite overwhelming bipartisan support for infrastructure investments, multiple administrations over the past two decades have failed to deliver on their promises.

The failure usually follows the same pattern: cram through the unpopular priorities during the honeymoon period, and pivot to more popular stuff (i.e. infrastructure) when you've spent most of your political capital, and now have to work with the other party. Unfortunately, by the time the "pivot" to bipartisanship occurs, the scorched earth tactics of the prior legislative battles sink the long overdue federal infrastructure investments. On this front, the Biden Administration is well ahead of schedule...

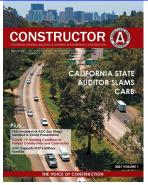
With the so-called "COVID relief" bill jammed through on a party line vote, using parliamentary gimmicks, President Biden set the tone for his Presidency. After only meeting with Senate Republicans once, and ignoring proposals towards a bipartisan



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bill, the Biden Administration used COVID relief as a vehicle to jam through the long-held Democratic wish list too unpopular to pass on its own, including: bailing out states, school districts, and pension funds - not failing because of impacts from COVID, but because of the prior decades of mismanagement.

The "COVID" bill not only diverted resources from the pandemic response, but breeds greater skepticism towards current and future crises the government hopes to address. "Yeah right, another pandemic, they just probably want another \$1.5 trillion to give to their political donors...."

The same applies to infrastructure. Even the State of California, which rarely sees a tax it doesn't like, was wise enough to enact strict measures in Senate Bill 1 (2017) to protect that funding stream from being diverted for other uses. That lesson was hard learned after Proposition 42 gas tax money diverted to fill a state budget shortfall, poisoning for generations the voters confidence that elected officials will deliver on infrastructure promises.

Instead of learning from that lesson, President Biden is doubling down on California's mistake by loading up their so-called "infrastructure" bill with unrelated pork, while layering in the poison pill combination of small business taxes and labor regulations that would wreak havoc in the construction industry, and be self-defeating to the stated goal of national infrastructure investment.

Vulnerable Democratic members of Congress are banking on the current popularity of "COVID Relief" and "Infrastructure" to keep their seats, and slim majorities in each house. While the compliant media has kept the focus on the popular \$1,400 relief checks, that amounted to only 20% of the \$1.9 trillion spent, it doesn't take a genius to a write a political ad for 2022 to say, "your representative stole \$5,600 from your relief check to give to their political cronies..." or, "your representative taxed your commute to work and didn't fix your road, and after hours of traffic, you made it to work and got taxed again."

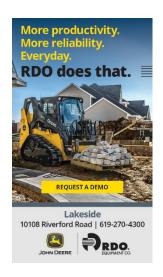
Democratic leadership's answers to their rank and file about the risk of taking these votes seems to be more scorched-earth politics. They believe they can pass unpopular and unconstitutional bills by rigging the rules and calling it reform; eliminate the filibuster, federalize elections, pack the Senate, pack the Supreme Court...

In the unlikely event any of those long-shot proposals are adopted, they would not be enough to overcome the historic backlash from voters, while Congress and the U.S. economy are ground to a halt. In other words, the chaos that President Biden ran against.

#### **Bombs on Target**

Some years back, a Navy commander was speaking in front of a group of contractors and described their mission quite succinctly: "be able to put bombs on target." Their construction projects are not a jobs program, nor an economic development tool. Though the projects often have those ancillary benefits, the Navy can't lose focus that the reason for constructing the facilities necessary to







**ANNUAL REPORT** 

maintain, prepare, arm and deploy equipment and personnel is in support of their primary mission to put bombs on target.

This comment stuck with me, because it reminded me of AGC of America's founding in 1918 at the request of President Woodrow Wilson. After World War I, President Wilson recognized the importance of an organization dedicated to elevating the construction industry to focus on our primary mission of building the nation's infrastructure, so America could focus on its own priorities: defending the nation, economic opportunity, educating the next generation, and building a sustainable future.

While the \$2 trillion price tag on President Biden's infrastructure proposal seems appealing, the damaging aspects of this bill, as proposed, will make it harder to complete our industry's mission of building the nation's infrastructure, with a backlog, currently estimated at \$13 trillion.

President Biden and Congressional leaders need to step back from the brink, come together, and pass a focused, bi-partisan infrastructure bill once and for all.

# A Sure-Fire Way to Kill a Transportation Vision in San Diego

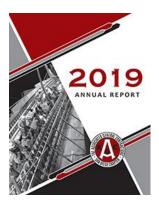
Brad Barnum, Executive Vice President

In 2004, 67% of San Diego County voters supported an extension of a ½ cent sales tax to improve the local streets and roads, highways, and transit. They wanted the revenue from the TransNet tax to be divided equally between these three transportation systems. In 2016, voters were asked to increase that tax by ½ cent, but the vote fell well short of the 66.67% required for passage. After that, SANDAG's financial forecasts were questioned, and the Executive Director abruptly resigned.

Now, with a new union-friendly Executive Director, a progressive Board of Directors, and a \$9.8 billion TransNet shortfall, SANDAG is on track for a 2022 ballot measure that will be primarily focused on transit projects, and the kicker, which will be voted on this Friday, is a Resolution in support of Project Labor Agreements (PLA). This combination is a sure-fire way to kill a sales tax measure that is still 19 months away.

This segment of a Voice of San Diego article highlighted a recent independent performance audit of SANDAG, and it reveals the importance of telling voters what projects from the 2004 measure won't be completed:

The agency, and its auditors, now say they anticipate a \$9.8 billion shortfall, leaving many of the projects that have not yet broken ground in a precarious position.



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Lisa Lovelace
Director of Plan Room Services

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More information click on "Good Faith Advertising" at: http://bit.ly/agcplanroom SANDAG doesn't have an especially clear way of communicating how it's handling that shortfall, auditors said. When projects are delayed, diminished or eliminated, that information isn't always conveyed clearly to the public or the agency's board, making it hard to hold the agency accountable as money from TransNet is collected and spent.

The agency has said it will no longer expand freeways, will build hundreds of miles of new, fast rail lines through the region, and will address congestion with managed lanes and tolls similar to the system on I-15 today. "What we mean by that is, with all the changes in the new vision for the region, SANDAG needs to be clear whether these TransNet projects will be considered in the 2021 (long-term plan), or whether they'll be canceled because they may no longer be the best option for addressing the region's current needs," said Lien Luu, a director at Sjoberg Evashenk Consulting, the firm that conducted the audit.

The agency hasn't done a great job describing those changes in the past, because its online tracking system covers whether a project is completed, in progress or slated for the future, without spelling out delays, significant changes, or whether it's no longer a priority.

But, that problem could get trickier, because the agency no longer plans to lay out its vision by listing new projects. With TransNet, the agency came up with a list of projects and asked voters to give them money to build them.

Taking away the balanced approach that was promised by voters is not going to win many votes in 2022, nor will putting a restrictive PLA on the entire construction program. In 2010, San Diego County voters overwhelmingly supported a "fair and open competition" ordinance, which ensured all contractors and workers, union and non-union, would be able to work on county projects.

The Resolution that will be voted on at SANDAG in part states: "Whereas, PLAs help create career pathways for a skilled and trained workforce, joint labor-management apprenticeships promote labor stability, for a diverse local workforce which helps our local economy...Therefore, be it resolved that SANDAG staff will consider the following when drafting the 2021 Regional Transportation Plan: Local workforce and careers in construction for our region through PLAs."

We understand there is a good track record with SANDAG's current construction program: Most projects have been completed on-time and on-budget; change-orders are well within the budgeted amount; apprentices from all programs are on job sites; local contractors are building the projects; and craft workers are coming from all over San Diego County. Why change a winning formula, to one that will increase costs, bring in out of town

### Interested in advertising in AGC's "Good Faith Report"?

Contact:

#### **Lisa Lovelace**

Director of Plan Room Services

# MEMBERSHIP LISTINGS Online Form

Please notify AGC if your company has relocated, or if there are updates to your company's listing (i.e. contacts, phone/fax, job titles, CSI codes, & certified business listings).

Email Marcy Knopman



#### **DIRECTIONS**

#### **AGC East County Facility**

10140 Riverford Road Lakeside, CA 92040 (858) 558-7444

### AGC Government Affairs Office

6212 Ferris Square San Diego, CA 92121 2nd floor contractors; miss local hiring targets, waste employee health insurance and pension benefits; and shut out hard-working apprentices?

Before voting on a Resolution that could effectively defeat this potential transit-heavy ballot measure, we would hope that the SANDAG leadership would reach out to the construction industry. The success of 2004 can be replicated. If not, the failure of 2016 is likely to repeat itself.

# The Political Season is Underway, and AGC's PAC Stands Ready

Brad Barnum, Executive Vice President; Dustin Steiner, Vice President Government and Industry Relations

It is hard to believe, but there is an election tomorrow. It is a Special Election to fill a vacant State Assembly seat. However, this is just the beginning of at least three elections: Governor's Recall; June 7, 2022 Primary; and November 8, 2022 General. AGC's Political Action Committee (PAC) will be busy over the coming months as it raises funds to pass infrastructure measures, and elect candidates who understand the importance of investing in the region's infrastructure.

As we have reported, the recent appointment of Shirley Weber to the California Secretary of State has left a vacancy in the 79th State Assembly District. Her daughter, Dr. Akilah Weber, is running for the seat, and AGC has endorsed her candidacy. In accepting AGC's endorsement, the current La Mesa City Council Member stated, "COVID-19 has devastated our local economy, and I will be working in the Legislature to bring back jobs fast. I remain committed to supporting our workers and businesses and look forward to working with the 800+ members of the Associated General Contractors to jumpstart shovel-ready projects here in San Diego County. We're ready to get to work and build back better."

The expected Governor's Recall Election is next on the schedule, but other local races should be highlighted. Supervisor Jim Desmond is seeking re-election next year, and San Diego City Council Member Chris Cate is termed-out. We expect a number of infrastructure spending measures, including a multi-billion dollar transportation proposal from SANDAG, a stormwater measure from the City of San Diego, and numerous school bonds.

Ben Franklin famously declared upon signing the Declaration of Independence that "We must all hang together, or, most assuredly, we shall all hang separately." We will need a broad coalition and a significant war chest to help elect pro-infrastructure candidates and oppose efforts to limit competition.

Having a significant war chest is where AGC's PAC comes in. The current 50 PAC members vote on how to raise and spend critical PAC funds, and have good access to government and political leaders, as well as political "insiders". Meetings are held at the AGC, and other locations, such as the University Club in downtown San Diego, or the La Jolla Beach and Tennis Club.

If you would like to join the PAC and be a political voice for the construction industry, please complete this <u>pledge form</u> and return it to AGC's Executive Vice President, Brad Barnum, at <u>bbarnum@agcsd.org</u>., or Dustin Steiner at <u>dsteiner@agcsd.org</u>.

#### AGC Spring Conference - May 13-16, 2021 Rooms 60% Sold

Eddie Sprecco, AGC CEO



It has been nearly two years since AGC San Diego hosted a Spring Conference, and quite a bit has happened since then! (Read the paper...)

The wait is finally over - after a challenging 2020 caused the cancellation of this popular outing, the 51st Annual AGC San Diego Spring Conference will be held in the appropriately named "Carefree" Arizona, May 13 - 16.

The Spring Conference centers around the Annual Board of Directors retreat, where AGC leadership will map out the future of the San Diego construction industry, addressing the many challenges and opportunities on the near horizon. Following the planning retreat, all AGC members are invited to join the Board of Directors for three days of meeting and collaborating - be it in a breakout business session with a captivating guest speaker, on the golf course with industry leaders, or mixing with clients present and future at an evening reception...

For only the 2nd time in our history, we are headed to Arizona for the conference, and this will be the first time at The Boulders Resort, just outside of Scottsdale. Named for the 12-million-yearold rock formations that make it so distinctive, the Boulders Resort and Spa is like no place we've stay before. Tucked into the Sonoran Desert foothills of Scottsdale, Arizona, this resort offers 2 championship golf courses, a 13,000 square-foot spa, several restaurants, and spacious accommodations for an unforgettable stay in the Sonoran Desert

Check out their website at: https://www.theboulders.com/

"The Boulders offers plenty of room to spread out, but still come together as an industry to make the important connections that only come from real-world interactions. Needless, to say, there is a lot of pent-up demand for this type of an event, so sign up early!"

Attendees can register by clicking on the **Spring Conference Event Brochure here.** 

The "Spring Conference Package" includes hotel accommodations for 3 nights, two dinner banquets, a breakfast / business meeting, and hospitality suite.

See also the "optional activities" listed in the same brochure.

We've arranged for some fun opportunities to mix and mingle with all the attendees.

#### The schedule includes:

- Thursday: AGC Opening Night Cocktails & Dinner Reception, including music and line dancing to get the party started! The venue is outdoors offering a relaxed and tranquil setting in the desert evening.
- Thursday: Hospitality Suite
- Friday: Breakfast Business Meeting
- Friday: Golf
- Friday: Pickleball Tournament & Luncheon
- Friday: Hospitality Suite
- Saturday: Golf
- Saturday: Chef Demonstrated Cooking & Mixology Class
- Saturday: Dinner Banquet
- Saturday: Hospitality Suite

The deadline to register is April 22, but we encourage members to register early. Once our discounted group room block is sold, the hotel's **prevailing rates will apply**. With most folks anxious to get out, we expect the rooms to fill quickly.

**Sponsorships** are needed and play a vital role in the success of this event.

Click on the form attached and send to raek@agcsd.org.

Speaking for all of AGC, we look forward to seeing some familiar faces, and not just in the impersonal "Brady Bunch" style virtual meeting. Hope to see you there!





# AGC/EGCC Golf Classic - Sponsor Opportunities Update

From the AGC 2021 Meetings & Events Committee

With the recent loosening of restrictions for outdoor sports in San Diego County, the Maderas Golf Club is allowing us to present more on-course exhibitor setups.

#### Please note the following open sponsorships:

- Tee Prize Sponsor 2 <u>Exclusive</u> sponsorships available to include your company name on a tee prize provided to each golfer. (email <u>raek@agcsd.org</u> for more details).
- Beer & Beverage Station Sponsor 3 left
- On Course Exhibitors 6 spots left
- Hole Sponsor 10 left Your company logo will fill the navigation screen of each golf cart as they approach your sponsored hole.
- Raffle Prize Sponsors: More needed!
- Driving Range Sponsor: Still open!
- Swag Donations provide unique swag gifts with your company logo for the golfers "swag bag."

**CLICK HERE** for the Sponsor Form with more information on all the opportunities.

This tournament raises funds for the EGCA scholarship programs at SDSU and the Diesel Technology Program at Palomar College. In addition, new scholarships are being added to the AGC Apprentice Program and the Miramar Diesel Technology Program this year.

If you have any questions regarding the tournament, please contact Rae Krushensky at the AGC: <a href="mailto:raek@agcsd.org">raek@agcsd.org</a>.



Thank you to the many member companies who donated to AGC's/STEP's Baby Drive. We can always count on our AGC members to "STEP up" when it comes to giving back to the community.

#### **SAVE THE DATE:**

Electronic Recycling/Refurbish Drive

#### May 7-21 to benefit Computers 2 Kids

C2K receives your technology donation and refurbishes the computer systems (with a strong emphasis on data security) to place in the homes of low income families.





#### **APRIL CLASSES**

Apr. 12	CalTrans Approved Traffic Control Technician &
	Flagger Combined Training

Apr.12 CalTrans Approved Flagger Training

Apr.12 - 14 Fall Protection 24 Hour CPT (5 Seats Open)

Apr. 12 - 15 BIM Project Execution Planning Online Training (4 Days / 4pm - 6pm)

Apr. 14 & 15 USACE CQM-C Certification (8 Seats Open)

Apr. 14 & 15 Blueprint Reading (2 Day Class) Apr. 19 - 23 OSHA 30 Hour Construction Outreach Training Apr.19 - 22 BIM adoption, Implementation and ROI Online Training (4 Days / 4pm - 6pm) Apr. 20-30 **LEAN** - online classes Scaffold 8-Hour CPT (8 Seats Open) Apr. 21 Apr 21, 28 & Effective Project Engineer Certificate Program -May 5 Online Apr. 23 **CPR First Aid Training (Spanish Speaking)** Apr. 26 **Fall Protection CPT Refresher Training** Apr. 26 - 30 EM 385-1-1 40 Hour Bluebeam REVU Basics Online Training (2 Day Apr. 27 & Session) **Construction Law Webinar:** Construction Contract Apr. 27 Issues in Post-COVID World Apr. 28 **CPR First Aid Training** Apr. 28 **Fall Protection CPT 8-hr** Apr. 28 & **USACE CQM-C Certification** 

#### Coming up in May:

**NEW Training!** Trench and Excavation Awareness 4-Hour Training (Spanish Speaking)

For more information on classes, contact: <u>Becca Schaffer</u> 619-592-4533

**CLICK HERE EDUCATION TRAINING CLASSES** 

**CLICK HERE SAFETY TRAINING CLASSES** 

**CLICK HERE MILITARY TRAINING CLASSES** 

**CLICK HERE** FOR NAVFAC/SW FACILITIES TRAINING



#### **APRIL MEETINGS**

Apr. 7 - Safety Committee - 7:00 a.m. via GoToMeeting

Apr. 9 - Technology Committee - Noon via Zoom

Apr. 14 - Public Building - 8:00 a.m. via GoToMeeting

Apr. 15 - Meetings & Events Committee - Noon @ Lakeside office

Apr. 22 - City of San Diego Liaison- 1:00 p.m. via GoToMeeting

Apr. 22 - CLC Meeting - 4:00 p.m. @ Lakeside office

Apr 27 - Specialty Contractors Council - 11:30 a.m. @ Lakeside office

Apr. 28 - Airport Liaison - 10:00 a.m. via GoToMeeting

**JOIN A COMMITTEE** 

**CALENDAR COUNCIL/COMMITTEE MEETINGS** 

#### **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 Executive Vice President, Brad Barnum.

Please contact <u>Eddie Sprecco</u> or <u>Brad Barnum</u> 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.

#### **ARCHIVE**

The Associated General Contractors of America - San Diego Chapter, Inc.

East County Headquarters: 10140 Riverford Road, Lakeside, CA 92040 Government Affairs Office: 6212 Ferris Square, San Diego, CA 92121

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April 12, 2021

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PLA Watch: SANDAG

Dustin Steiner, VP Government & Industry Relations

On Friday, the SANDAG Board of Directors discussed the guiding principles of the Regional Plan (Plan) 2021. According to SANDAG, the Plan is a blueprint for how our region will grow through 2050, and contains the so-called "5 Big Moves," which are *Enabling Technology, Completing Corridors, Fast and Flexible Transit, Mobility Hubs*, and *Flexible Fleets*. At issue, was a proposal by La Mesa City Councilman Jack Shu to add PLA language. AGC staff engaged Board Members early last week and spoke at the meeting about previous ballot measures, being inclusionary, and our own collective bargaining agreements.

The Black Contractors Association (BCA) held a press conference in association with Reverend Shane Harris on Thursday, and also spoke at the meeting about discrimination in PLAs. Several Board Members were concerned about the timing and process by which this proposal was agendized, and asked SANDAG staff to pause and get input from BCA and others stakeholders. In the end, the Board amended the PLA language to include the BCA, but not other open shop apprenticeship programs. Including BCA in the resolution is progress that we are happy to see.

There is a lot more work to do to make sure SANDAG lives up to its commitment to being inclusive, while making sure workers on SANDAG projects receive their full pay. We look forward to working with SANDAG and the BCA on this important regional

### WELCOME NEW AGC MEMBERS

The Board of Directors and AGC staff would like to welcome the following new members:

AGC Schommer & Sons, Inc.

Autobahn Construction, Inc.

BEI Construction, Inc.

Cats Excavating, Inc.

GAMA Contracting Services Inc.

S.C. Coatings Corporation

Sierra West Finish, Inc.

Tenna

#### AGC's Motto:

"It's Good Business to do Business with an AGC Member."



#### **CALL FOR ENTRIES**

DEADLINE: AUGUST 31 by noon

plan, and will continue to engage with stakeholders during this process.

### Biden Unveils \$2 Trillion INVEST Act for Infrastructure

Mike McManus, Director of Engineering Construction & Industry Relations

President Joe Biden has released a <u>fact sheet</u> outlining in broad terms his \$2 trillion "physical infrastructure" plan. With these investments, he is attaching a wide variety of labor policies of concern to the construction industry. Also, to finance the new investments, Biden's plan, would increase the corporate tax rate from 21% to 28% which could limit the ability of many businesses to invest in capital improvements. But the plan also prioritizes workforce investments, which has long been a priority of the construction industry, and promises to attach "Buy America" requirements that would mandate purchase of domestic goods and materials for incorporation into construction projects.

The initial read of Biden's fact sheet is that about \$1.35 trillion of his plan will affect the construction markets across the country. It is also important to note that, at this point, it is not clear how the funds would be allocated, one-time, or over multiple years. It is not clear where all the funds will come from as some investments in the plan are explicit dedicated Federal funding while others are tax credits. It is also not clear how much the Federal share will be for individual projects (for example 90% federal, 10% state or local is one scenario).

The Biden plan has three broad areas of investment that if enacted could affect construction markets related to infrastructure:

Transportation Construction \$621 billion
Utility Infrastructure Construction \$310 billion
Building Construction \$418 billion

Total \$1.35 trillion

#### **Transportation**

Surprisingly, the plan only provides for \$115 billion in funding for roads and bridges. It is explicitly not providing funding eligibility for expanding road capacity in congested urban areas. It uses the terms "fix," "reconstruct," or "modernize," 20,000 miles of highways, roads, and main streets. It also talks of fixing or reconstructing the most economically important large bridges,





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while also providing funding for repairing the 10,000 worst bridges in the country.

Over 28% of the funding, \$174 billion would go towards electric vehicle manufacturing (not construction). However, part of this program would also go towards grant and incentive programs to build out 500,000 electric charging stations by 2030.

The biggest winners will be transit and various social equity and climate change investments. \$165 billion will go towards public transit and to address Amtrak's repair backlog. Expanding public transit is explicitly part of this plan. \$117 billion will go towards various social equity programs and climate change efforts. \$50 billion is set aside for airport terminal renovations and megaprojects with tangible national economic benefits.

#### **Utility Infrastructure**

This part of the plan is broken into three areas of investment. The first is \$110 billion into water, wastewater, and storm water systems replacements. It also includes the replacement of 100% of the nation's lead pipes.

The second piece is \$100 billion investment into broadband. This funding is intended to provide 100% coverage nationwide, and to reduce the cost of internet service. No details at this point to inform how these funds would be allocated.

The final piece would be \$100 billion in energy sector investments. This part is a smorgasbord of everything from tax credits for buildout of power transmission lines and clean energy projects, to plugging gas and oil wells and remediating "brownfields."

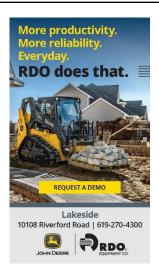
#### **Buildings**

About half of this part of the plan, \$213 billion would go towards affordable and "sustainable" housing. Besides targeting investment in public housing, it also would provide incentives to spur investment in retrofitting existing housing, commercial, and municipal buildings.

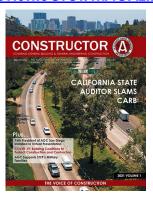
Schools and community colleges would have \$100 billion in funding. Some of that by direct funding, and some by leveraging bond funding. The remaining funds are divvyed up for childcare facilities and various federal buildings including VA Hospitals.

AGC will provide further updates as more details and/or legislation are revealed.

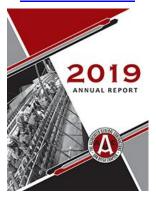
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- Saturday: Dinner Banquet
- Saturday: Hospitality Suite

The deadline to register is April 22, but we encourage members to register early. Once our discounted group room block is sold, the hotel's **prevailing rates will apply**. With most folks anxious to get out, we expect the rooms to fill quickly.

**Sponsorships** are needed and play a vital role in the success of this event.

Click on the form attached and send to <a href="mailto:raek@agcsd.org">raek@agcsd.org</a>.

Hope to see you there!

BROCHURE



# AGC/EGCC Golf Classic - Sponsor Opportunities Update

From the AGC 2021 Meetings & Events Committee

Please notify AGC if your company has relocated, or if there are updates to your company's listing (i.e. contacts, phone/fax, job titles, CSI codes, & certified business listings).

**Email Marcy Knopman** 



#### **DIRECTIONS**

#### **AGC East County Facility**

10140 Riverford Road Lakeside, CA 92040 (858) 558-7444

### AGC Government Affairs Office

6212 Ferris Square San Diego, CA 92121 2nd floor With the recent loosening of restrictions for outdoor sports in San Diego County, the Maderas Golf Club is allowing us to present more on-course exhibitor setups.

#### Please note the following open sponsorships:

- Tee Prize Sponsor 2 Exclusive sponsorships available to include your company name on a tee prize provided to each golfer. (email <a href="mailto:raek@agcsd.org">raek@agcsd.org</a> for more details).
- Beer & Beverage Station Sponsor 3 left
- On Course Exhibitors 6 spots left
- Hole Sponsor 10 left Your company logo will fill the navigation screen of each golf cart as they approach your sponsored hole.
- Raffle Prize Sponsors: More needed!
- Driving Range Sponsor: Still open!
- **Swag Donations** provide unique swag gifts with your company logo for the golfers "swag bag."

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This tournament raises funds for the EGCA scholarship programs at SDSU and the Diesel Technology Program at Palomar College. In addition, new scholarships are being added to the AGC Apprentice Program and the Miramar Diesel Technology Program this year.

If you have any questions regarding the tournament, please contact Rae Krushensky at the AGC: raek@agcsd.org.





#### **APRIL CLASSES**

Apr. 14 & 15 USACE CQM-C Certification

Apr. 14 & 15 Blueprint Reading (2 Day Class)

Apr. 19 - 23 OSHA 30 Hour Construction Outreach Training

Apr.19 - 22 BIM adoption, Implementation and ROI Online

Training (4 Days / 4pm - 6pm)

Apr. 20-30 **LEAN** - online classes

Apr. 21	Scaffold 8-Ho	ur CPT
---------	---------------	--------

Apr 21, 28 & Effective Project Engineer Certificate Program -

May 5 Online

Apr. 23 CPR First Aid Training (Spanish Speaking)

Apr. 26 Fall Protection CPT Refresher Training

Apr. 26 - 30 EM 385-1-1 40 Hour

Apr. 27 & Bluebeam REVU Basics Online Training (2 Day

30 Session)

Apr. 27 Construction Law Webinar: Construction Contract

Issues in Post-COVID World

Apr. 28 CPR First Aid Training
Apr. 28 Fall Protection CPT 8-hr

Apr. 28 & USACE CQM-C Certification

29

#### Coming up in May:

**NEW Training!** Trench and Excavation Awareness 4-Hour Training (Spanish Speaking)

For more information on classes, contact: <u>Becca Schaffer</u> 619-592-4533

**CLICK HERE EDUCATION TRAINING CLASSES** 

**CLICK HERE SAFETY TRAINING CLASSES** 

**CLICK HERE MILITARY TRAINING CLASSES** 

**CLICK HERE FOR NAVFAC/SW FACILITIES TRAINING** 



#### **APRIL MEETINGS**

Apr. 14 - Public Building - 8:00 a.m. via GoToMeeting

Apr. 15 - Meetings & Events Committee - Noon @ Lakeside office

Apr. 22 - City of San Diego Liaison- 1:00 p.m. via GoToMeeting

Apr. 22 - CLC Meeting - 4:00 p.m. @ Lakeside

Apr. 27 - Specialty Contractors Council - 11:30 a.m. @

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The VOICE of Construction

#### The Associated General Contractors of America, San Diego Chapter, Inc.



April 19, 2021

The **VOICE** of Construction

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**Get Social With Us:** 









More about AGC San Diego

www.agcsd.org

**JOIN OUR EMAIL LIST** 

#### Vaccines Up, Cases Down

Vince Hundley, AGC Safety Director, SMART Safety Group

Our safety efforts are paying off! The 7-day average for COVID-19 cases in the State of California is the lowest it has been in months, but we must remain vigilant.

April 19-23 is Vaccine Awareness Week in Construction, a campaign to raise awareness of the safety, effectiveness, and benefits of COVID-19 vaccination among workers in the industry. The AGC recommends that all employers promote that their workers get vaccinated as soon as eligible.

To simplify things, your message to your teams should be concise and consistent.

- Vaccines work with your body's natural defenses, so you are able to fight the virus if you are exposed (immunity).
- It is important to understand that you CANNOT get COVID-19 from the vaccines and that vaccines are safe.
- All COVID-19 vaccines approved for use have passed vigorous safety tests and meet the same standards as any other vaccines.
- By getting the vaccine, you are not only protecting yourself
   you are playing a critical role in protecting others and stopping the spread of COVID-19!

To participate in COVID-19 Vaccine Awareness Week, we encourage you to take time to share information about the benefits of vaccination with your staff, trade contractors, partners, and



#### **CALL FOR ENTRIES**

DEADLINE: AUGUST 31 by noon





subcontractors and encourage them to register to get the COVID-19 vaccine. In California, all adults age 16 and over are now eligible!

Additional resources available at:
COVID-19 Vaccine Awareness Week in Construction

## Cell Phone and Work Zone Safety are Highlighted in April

Mike McManus, Director of Engineering Construction & Industry Relations



Put down that cell phone and pay attention! There are two important highway and worker safety awareness events in April. First, the month of April is National Distracted Driving Awareness Month. Secondly, the week of April 26 - April 30 is Highway Work Zone Awareness week.

According to a recent survey, almost 100% of teens agree that texting and driving is dangerous, but half admitted to doing it anyway. It may take only a matter of seconds to glance at your phone, but, if you are driving at 60 miles an hour, your eyes are blind to the road while you drive the length of a football field. We all know better that we should not text and drive.

Distracted Driving Awareness Month began in large part due to the story of Shelley Forney. On November 25, 2008, a driver made the mistake of looking at their cell phone while in control of an SUV. Shelley's nine-year-old daughter Erica was riding her bike home when she was struck by the SUV head-on.

At the time, distracted driving was hardly covered in any media, let alone described as a pandemic. Stories like Shelley's are far too common and entirely avoidable in today's society. In 2018, 4,637 people died in car crashes due to cell phone and electronic device use. This month is our collective effort to shrink that number significantly, you could be saving a life by putting your phone away while you drive.

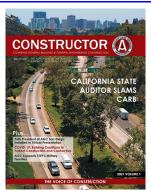
National Work Zone Awareness Week (NWZAW) is an annual spring campaign held at the start of construction season and, encourages safe driving through highway work zones. The key message is for drivers to use extra caution in work zones.

The first official NWZAW kick-off event was held in 2000 in Springfield, Virginia. The site where the kick-off event is held now alternates each year from being hosted in the Washington, D.C., area, to different locations across the United States. State





#### **CONSTRUCTOR MAGAZINE**



**ANNUAL REPORT** 

transportation departments can submit applications to host the event on those alternate years.

National Go Orange Day, designated to help raise work zone safety awareness, celebrates its sixth year on Wednesday, April 28, 2021. The event has become a staple of NWZAW and is a time for individuals and organizations across the country to express their support for work zone safety by wearing orange. This nationwide effort was first introduced by the FHWA as a new component of NWZAW in 2016, in an effort to stop work zone crashes.

To protect field workers and all road users, follow these tips for traveling safely through work zones:

**Know Before You Go.** Before heading out, check for the latest traffic conditions along your route. With information on active work zones, you can change your trip, possibly avoiding work zones altogether.

**Stay Alert and Obey the Roadway**. Be aware of all activity occurring around you, including paying attention to other drivers and road users. Work zones change daily; pay attention so you can anticipate new traffic patterns. Remember, signs, cones, barrels, and flaggers are there to help maneuver you safely through the work zone.

**Watch for Workers.** In 2019, 135 workers were killed in highway work zones.

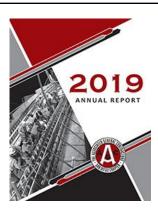
**Watch for Sudden Stops**. Work zone activity often leads to congestion, delays, and traffic queues. Be alert and watch for sudden stops. In 2019, nearly one quarter of all fatal work zone crashes involved rear-end collisions.

**Slow Down.** Speeding can lead to crashes with other vehicles and with field workers. Make sure to obey posted work zone speed limits and keep a safe distance from the vehicle ahead of you.

In 2019, 842 people lost their lives driving through highway work zones. Pay attention, put your phone down and **Keep Everyone Safe.** 



AGC/EGCC Golf Classic - Sponsor Opportunities Update



#### **PLAN ROOM**



### ONLINE PLAN ROOM FREE TRIAL

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Director of Plan Room
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### AGC Construction Education & Safety Training



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Online

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Apr. 26 - 30 **EM 385-1-1 40 Hour** 

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**Lisa Lovelace** 

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April 26, 2021

The **VOICE** of Construction

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**JOIN OUR EMAIL LIST** 

## COVID-19 Update: Tax Credits Available to Small Businesses Providing Leave for Vaccines

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP) allows small and midsize employers, and certain governmental employers, to claim refundable tax credits that reimburse them for the cost of providing paid sick and family leave to their employees due to COVID-19, including leave taken by employees to receive or recover from COVID-19 vaccinations. The ARP tax credits are available to eligible employers that pay sick and family leave for leave from April 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021.

Businesses and tax-exempt organizations with fewer than 500 employees can receive this tax credit. The Internal Revenue Service gave the following example, "if an eligible employer offers employees a paid day off in order to get vaccinated, the employer can receive a tax credit equal to the wages paid to employees for that day (up to certain limits)."

<u>Click here</u> for some basic facts about the employers eligible for the tax credits and how these employers may claim the credit for leave paid to employees who take leave to receive or recover from COVID-19 vaccinations.



#### **CALL FOR ENTRIES**

DEADLINE: AUGUST 31 by noon





# The PRO Act: The Greatest Threat to Union & Open-Shop Construction - Webinar May 4

Dustin Steiner, Vice President Government & Industry Relations

The so-called PRO (Protect the Right to Organize) Act is arguably the most sweeping labor legislative proposal in the last 50 years. The PRO Act passed the US House of Representatives in February and appeared stalled in the US Senate due to the 50-50 split in votes. However, President Biden has made this a priority and has included the PRO Act language in its entirety in his \$2 trillion dollar infrastructure package that is currently making its way through the legislative branch. With Speaker Pelosi's promise of a July 4 vote in the House, time is running out to voice your opinion.

So, how does the PRO Act affect you? Both union and open shop firms should join AGC of America CEO Steve Sandherr for this informative webinar on May 4.

Please click the following link to register:

The PRO Act: The Greatest Threat to Union & Open-Shop Construction

"See" you there!

#### California Roads Face Financial Trouble

Mike McManus, Director of Engineering Construction & Industry Relations

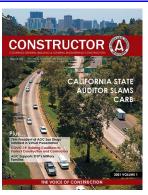
Caltrans officials recently released a draft report "The 2021 State Highway System Management Plan." The report details strategies for planning and implementing improvements and maintaining the system of state highways over the next ten years. The report was surprising in that it outlined a projected shortfall in funds needed to maintain the state's highways in the coming decade.

Four years ago, California adopted the highest fuel tax in the nation to fund a plan to maintain state highways and local roads. The higher taxes were part of a 2017 transportation plan we know as Senate Bill 1, and was intended to raise an additional \$5.4 billion annually to maintain highways, bridges, transit and local roads. The additional funds have been welcomed by the construction industry, Caltrans, and local agencies as these funds have certainly expedited repairs. However, the long range picture is that there is no quick fix for all the state's road problems.





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**ANNUAL REPORT** 

A large portion of the projects needed to keep the state highway system functioning and in a good state of repair are included in the State Highway Operation and Protection Program (SHOPP). The report stated that available funding for the SHOPP "will address about 45% of the total identified needs" over the next ten years. The unconstrained need to keep highways in a good state of repair, according to Caltrans officials is \$110 billion. The available funding is projected to be \$49.3 billion. The percent of needs in the SHOPP that are funded is about 45%. The annual shortfall in funding versus needs is, according to the State Department of Finance, \$6.1 billion.

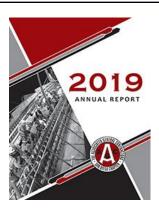
The condition of the State Highway System's "primary asset classes" were listed in the report as:

Class	Good	Fair	Poor
Pavement	57%	42%	1%
Bridges/Tunnels	54%	42%	4%
Drainage	74%	17%	9%
Signals etc.	71%	n/a	29%

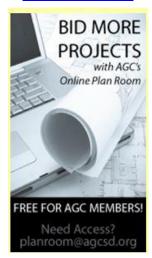
While the report concluded an average shortfall of \$6.1 billion based on what we know today, it is not clear at what rate the highway system is deteriorating. Some additional factors were cited by officials as potentially compounding the situation; those would be climate change and coastal sea level rise which may add to the rate of deterioration of roads and bridges. The report is consistent with an analysis by the American Society of Civil Engineers which estimates California needs an additional \$130 billion to bring its roads into a state of good repair.

Caltrans officials have expressed some concern about the State's inventory of bridges, many of which are at their theoretical service life as many of them were built 40 to 50 years ago. At this point, Caltrans spends about 10% of available SHOPP funds on bridges. At some point in time, that will need to increase as these bridges continue to age. The present condition report indicates the percent of bridges in poor condition is less than 4%. Caltrans officials have indicated that their goal is to reduce that figure to about 1.5 % in the future.

Not mentioned much in the report is the poor condition of some other parts of the highway infrastructure. For example, pumping plants, which are designed to keep the low spots of highways open during heavy rains or high tides, and are critical to mobility and public safety are in surprisingly poor condition. Over 50% of them are in poor condition. Highway lighting and maintenance stations



#### PLAN ROOM



ONLINE PLAN ROOM FREE TRIAL

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Services

were also cited in the report as about 50% of the inventory is currently in poor condition.

California's transportation revenues, like most other states, have been hurt by a reduction in traffic volume during the COVID pandemic. The Federal Highway Administration reported that vehicle miles travelled on California roads in January was down 15.2% from a year earlier. The December volume was down 12.9%. The state gas tax, which is tied to inflation, went up 3.2 cents in July 2020 to 50.5 cents per gallon. When added to the 18.3 cents in federal gas tax, Californians pay the highest gas tax in the nation according to the American Petroleum Institute.

With the highest gas tax in the nation, along with a plan to ban the sale of gas powered cars by 2035, and a projected annual shortfall \$6.1 billion, how does this situation get fixed?

#### AGC's Virtual Legislative Day - May 25

Brad Barnum, Executive Vice President

It's been almost two years since AGC San Diego members trekked up to Sacramento to attend the Annual AGC San Diego and AGC California Legislative Day. We were hoping to head up there again this year, but due to COVID-19, the all-important in-person meetings are difficult to accomplish.

However, we do have good news to report...we will be having a shortened virtual version of Legislative Day on **Tuesday, May 25 from 10:00 to 11:30 AM**. The program will include several guest speakers, along with breakout rooms where AGC members will engage in Q&A sessions with State Legislators. It's about the halfway point in the first year of a two-year session, and this will be a good opportunity to get the inside scoop of what is happening in our State Capitol.

This virtual event will be held free of charge for AGC members. Simply <u>click here</u> to register.

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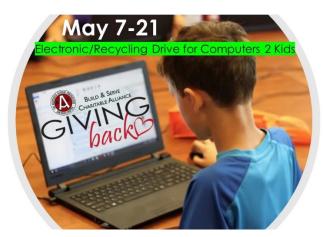
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# Computers 2 Kids Electronic/Recycling Drive - May 7- 21

AGC's Build & Serve Charitable Alliance is partnering, again, with Computers 2 Kids San Diego (C2K). C2K believes all children and their families, regardless of their economic status, need to be computer literate and have equal access to technology. C2K recycles and refurbishes used computers for families in need, and provides education, training and technical support to help students achieve success. 28% of families in San Diego County do not have a computer in their home.

Each year, <u>Computers 2 Kids</u> San Diego places between 10,000 - 26,000 computers in the homes of low-income families and works with Cox Communications to provide discounted Internet services.

Join us in collecting electronic items such as:

- Computers, laptops, gaming systems
- Monitors (any size)
- Keyboards, Mice
- Fax Machines
- Scanners
- Routers, Switches, Network Components
- VCR's, DVR's, Recorders
- Cell Phones, Land Phones
- Cords
- Software, Hardware
- Ink and Toner Cartridges (new)
- Tablets
- Radio, Stereo Equipment, Speakers

Drop off items at one of these three locations:

- 1. Erickson-Hall Construction Co. Escondido
- 2. AGC Lakeside

(858) 558-7444

### AGC Government Affairs Office

6212 Ferris Square San Diego, CA 92121 2nd floor

#### 3. Computer 2 Kids Headquarters - Miramar

FLYER with details.

Questions? Contact Marcy Knopman at AGC (858) 558-7444.



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**CLICK HERE SAFETY TRAINING CLASSES** 

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