

CALIFORNIA CONSTRUCTOR

INSPIRING PROGRAM:
OPPORTUNITY BUILD

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INSPIRING INDIVIDUAL:
ANTHONY FAGAN

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INSPIRING PROJECT:
BDFP, SAN FRANCISCO

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PEOPLE,
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NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2023



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Helping Drive Change and Transformation in Our Industry

BY PETER TATEISHI, CEO

In every industry across the country, we are seeing a generational shift as Baby Boomers continue to retire and both Gen X and Millennials ascend into leadership roles. This is happening in the construction industry as well. From technology, to new construction methods and materials, to our people, we are seeing our industry change and transform right in front of us.

That is why AGC of California continues to focus on how we develop not just our future pipeline, but also our existing teams. Leadership at all levels matters. Investing in our teams and our future leaders is paramount to meeting the challenges of change and transformation. Business as usual is not “the usual” anymore.

At AGC of California, some of the many ways we are working to meet workforce needs and invest in our future are through our Construction Education Foundation programs such as Emerging Leaders, Project Engage, and AGC Student Chapters. These programs allow us to identify leaders, invest and develop them, and position them for leadership roles within your company and our industry.

We are also supporting culture and leadership development through our DE&I programs such as the Inclusive Leaders Institute, our DE&I Assessment Tool, and the SUB Forum, to name a few. These programs are designed to support you, our members, through this change and transformation.

And when it comes to helping drive transformative change in the construc-

tion industry and in local communities throughout California, there are plenty of noteworthy people, programs and projects that stand out for creating a lasting impact. In this edition of *California Constructor* magazine, we highlight a few particularly inspiring people, programs and projects that serve as a model for others.

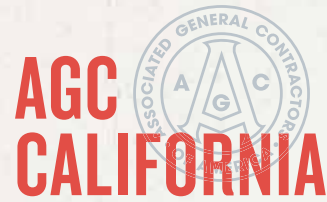
Look inside for spotlights on Anthony Fagan, superintendent for PCL Construction on the iconic Destination Crenshaw project in South Los Angeles; on Opportunity Build, a pre-apprenticeship program that is helping underserved individuals in the Bay Area get into the trades; and on the \$2.7 billion Biosolids Digester Facility Project in San Francisco, where the joint venture contractor is raising the bar with its local hiring goals to ensure that residents share in the success of this major infrastructure project being built in their own back yard.

We hope you will be inspired by these stories as we were, and that you'll continue to engage with AGC of California's many programs and services in order to be part of the change and transformation that is taking place. We continue to believe that construction is vital to the success of California, which means that your success with your current and future leaders and business practices are paramount to the future of our state. ☘



Peter Tateishi

Kindest Regards,
Peter Tateishi, CEO



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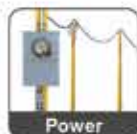
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With the goal to increase AGC of California's presence in the political arena, the AGC of California PAC aims to raise \$1 million in political funds during the 2023-24 legislative cycle to support leaders and ballot measures that promote infrastructure and the construction industry.

On the Road to \$1 Million for the AGC of California PAC

BY FELIPE FUENTES

Jesse Unruh, speaker of the California Assembly from 1961-1968, coined the phrase, "Money is the mother's milk of politics." For better or worse, political giving feeds campaigns by which our servant leaders are elected to political office.

Additionally, ballot measures have become the preferred mechanism by which to pass politically difficult policy measures – both of which necessitate those interested in the outcome of these elections to participate financially and politically. So, it remains that money is indeed the sustenance that serves politics and policy in our democracy.

AGC of California's Political Action Committee has consistently been the top in industry association political giving, with an average of over \$300,000 a year during the past 10 years. Primarily composed of contractor member contributions, the PAC has been effective in creating and sustaining political relationships with state officeholders.

However, the campaign game changed with the passage of Proposition 28 in 2012. This measure changed legislative term limits to allow those elected after June 5, 2012 to serve a maximum of 12 years in either the Assembly or Senate. As

a result, the cohort of legislators elected in November of 2012 are on the verge of terming out of office, and those replacing them may be eligible to serve in the legislature until 2036!

With the unexpected exodus of legislators in 2022, a full third of the legislature will be new by the conclusion of the 2024 election cycle.

Increasing Our Presence in Political Arena

Therefore, the AGC of California Board of Directors and PAC committee have set out to increase AGC of California's presence in the political arena. The goal has been set to raise \$1 million in political funds during the 2023-24 legislative cycle to support leaders and ballot measures that promote infrastructure and the construction industry.

To date, the AGC of California PAC increased fundraising efforts have raised over \$500,000 dollars this year and is expected to be on track to reach the \$1 million goal by the end of the 2024 election cycle. That is a 66% increase in available PAC funds!

These funds will continue to support and sustain legislative candidates with

campaign contributions. These funds will also allow AGC of California to participate in political committees – be it a ballot measure or independent expenditure – to better shape the outcome of elections.

Working with the business and employer community, AGC of California's PAC will have a seat at the table where campaigns can make a difference in prioritizing leaders and initiatives that favor good public policy over politics.

Ballot Measures to Watch

In addition to a slew of new legislators, the 2024 election promises to offer voters many state and local ballot measures to decide upon. While it is not clear the entirety of all citizen-led initiatives that may qualify, there are a couple ballot measures that have been placed on the 2024 November ballot by the Legislature.

The simplest of these would lower the vote threshold from 66.67% to 55% to pass local special taxes to fund housing projects and public infrastructure. If passed, self-help local tax measures would be much easier to pass in areas where campaigns have gotten close but missed clearing the two-thirds threshold.

Another legislatively referred constitutional amendment would require initiatives that change vote thresholds to supermajority votes to pass by the same vote requirement as is being proposed, as well as authorizing local government to place advisory questions on the local ballots. This measure, supported by public sector unions, is intended to thwart an already qualified citizen-initiated ballot measure that would amend the state constitution to:

- 1) define all state and local levies, charges, and fees as taxes;
- 2) require new state taxes proposed by the state legislature to be enacted by a two-thirds legislative vote and voter approval; and
- 3) require new local taxes to be enacted via two-thirds vote of the electorate.

While it remains to be seen if this tax ballot fight can be resolved before

the November general election, it will have consequences for the construction industry.

Citizen-Led Initiative to Upend Upland Decision

The proponents of the citizen-led initiative are looking to upend the California Supreme Court decision in *California Cannabis Coal. v. City of Upland*. The *Upland* decision opened a door for legal interpretation – and eventually several efforts followed – that local special and general taxes could be passed with a majority vote if proposed by voter initiative.

Consisting of various business interests, proponents are concerned that local jurisdictions and union allies will pursue additional tax revenues from industry to augment local government coffers. As can be seen, this is a politically complex policy fight taking shape at the ballot box. For AGC

of California, increasing local government support for infrastructure projects is a positive outcome. However, raising taxes to fund local government budgets that don't make investments is also of concern.

AGC of California leadership and the PAC committee will continue to monitor these ballot measures as well as decide on contributions to candidates. And thanks to the membership's efforts, it will do so in the 2024 election cycle with more resources than ever before.

Thank you to all of those who have helped and participated in these fundraising efforts to ensure that AGC of California remains the voice of the industry! ☺



Felipe Fuentes



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INSPIRING PROGRAM

Opportunity Build Offers Pathways to Rewarding Careers

BY CAROL EATON

This September, a cohort of 37 students including 15 women graduated from an inspiring Bay Area construction career pathways program known as Opportunity Build. Representing the largest class since the Oakland-based nonprofit Rising Sun Center for Opportunity launched the pre-apprenticeship training program nearly a decade ago, many of those students had already secured well-paying construction trades apprenticeship jobs before they even graduated.

Opportunity Build has established a strong track record over the years. Rising Sun created its precursor program, Green Energy Training Services, in 2009, and it became a multi-craft core curriculum (MC3) program in 2014. In total, the program has trained over 1,000 participants since its inception including over

570 individuals since 2014.

Opportunity Build is focused on helping women, people of color and individuals in reentry explore and attain lucrative and fulfilling employment in the union construction trades. Students receive a mix of hands-on construction training along with life skills training and support services – all designed to break down barriers and help them build not just a sustainable career but a better life for themselves and their families.

Bringing Women into the Trades

Approximately half of the program's graduates are women, who help fill critical roles in the traditionally male dominated skilled trades market sector. Women are increasingly discovering the life-changing benefits associated with

working in a well-paying and rewarding field in which equitable pay rates are fixed by experience level – regardless of race, gender, or background.

The program offers three 10- to 12-week sessions each year, including one of the nation's only all-female sessions dubbed "Women Building the Bay," which kicks off each February. Students earn their first aid MC3 and OSHA 10 certificates while also learning essential life skills such as financial capability, communication, job-seeking skills, interview practice, resume writing, and networking.

Job fairs and various outreach efforts with unions and contractors who support Opportunity Build have helped place students as apprentices in up to 28 different union construction trades affiliated with the program.



'Wrap-Around' Services are Differentiator

Mental health services, drug counseling, mentorship and job placement and retention support are available for an entire year after students graduate. This includes financial support, with money set aside to help students overcome hurdles such as transportation to their jobs, childcare, and other issues.

"We've provided gas cards, Clipper cards, and actually bought tires for students to help them get to work," commented Juanita Douglas, senior manager of construction & labor relations for Opportunity Build. The program also provides each student with their first uniform of boots, pants, and safety shirts as well as tool bags with tools at graduation.

Douglas said the program's comprehensive, holistic approach is a key

differentiator that has made the program highly effective.

"Opportunity Build has a whole year wrap around service (for students) after they graduate," she commented. "We have a full-time case manager, a career service manager, a program manager, and a director of programs. There are two mental health clinicians available for a full year after they graduate. That support is the reason I think this has evolved into such a successful program. They don't want to let us down, and we don't want to let them down."

Firsthand Perspective: Juanita Douglas

A passionate workforce development advocate with over 30 years of experience as a carpenter and a surveyor, Douglas joined Rising Sun as lead instructor for



Opportunity Build five years ago prior to moving into her current position as senior manager of construction & labor relations. She played a pivotal role reshaping the hands-on curriculum and helping boost job placement and retention for students, drawing upon her own deep history and relationships with the local trade unions.

Douglas brings a unique firsthand

Apprentice Rikki Rivera Thrives in Career in HVAC/R

BY CAROL EATON

Arika “Rikki” Rivera never imagined just how much her life would change when she heard Rising Sun’s Marlin Jeffreys give a presentation at the Family Justice Center in Oakland about the opportunities for women in the construction trades that would be explored in the new Opportunity Build cohort, “Women Building the Bay.”

That was four years ago, when Rivera was at a “very vulnerable and pivotal” point of her life coming out of an unhealthy 29-year relationship and being a single mother responsible for six young children at the time. (She had become legal guardian to three of them after her sister was killed in a still-unsolved case.) Finding a well-paying career to sustain herself and her children was her top priority.

Her decision to participate in that Opportunity Build cohort was by far one of the best decisions she ever made, according to Rivera, leading her to pursue a career in the heating, ventilation, air conditioning and refrigeration (HVAC/R) industry.

“I am very appreciative of the Opportunity Build program,” she said. “It enables individuals like me with no experience in construction to learn about 28 different trades, and you have the opportunity to make your own executive decision about which one is right for you.”

The program also provided her with an array of supportive services and resources that were invaluable. “It enabled me to say, ‘Hey I’m here and able to learn,’ without the added stress of getting steel toe boots or a power tool that cost money that I didn’t have.”

During the program, participants have the chance to explore the many different construction trades. It was on a visit to the Plumbers & Steamfitters Local Union 342, which represents journeymen and apprentices in the plumbing, pipefitting, and HVAC/R industry, that Rivera’s interest was piqued.

“I had zero experience in the trades, but my mindset was that if they asked, ‘Do you know how to do this?’ I refused to say no. I just would say I am willing and able to learn. I knew it was an opportunity that was going to enable me to provide for my children and myself.”

Shortly after she completed the Opportunity Build program in April 2019, Rivera joined Local 342 and was hired at Climate Pros, Inc. as an HVAC/R apprentice. She continues there today and expects to reach journeyman status in approximately two-



and-a-half to three years.

So how has the new career changed her life? In a word, “dramatically,” according to Rivera. Born and raised in the Bay Area herself, she is proud to be able to afford that same opportunity for her own kids. She is able to provide her own transportation now rather than relying on public transportation as she used to, which “changed my life a lot,” she said. The job has also given her the chance to travel extensively for work to places like Hawaii, Chicago, and Spokane, WA, to name a few.

“I’m so thankful to have a sustainable career and to be able to provide for my family and myself,” Rivera concluded. “People say I inspire them. I’m thankful for that recognition, for my two girls to be able to say that their mom does what many consider only men do, and they are proud of it. I’m thankful that I can be a testament to my own children so they can see that as an individual, you can do it too.”



“Opportunity Build has a whole year wrap around service (for students) after they graduate. That support is the reason I think this has evolved into such a successful program. They don’t want to let us down, and we don’t want to let them down.”

– Juanita Douglas, Opportunity Build

perspective to her role mentoring and instructing students, approximately half of whom are women looking for a better life just like she was when she initially joined the carpenters union in the early 1980s. As a single mother looking to support her young son, she was looking for a sustainable, well-paying job when she responded to a flyer advertising the benefits of working as a union carpenter.

Despite facing initial pushback as a Black woman in a male-dominated field, Douglas was hired to work on a federally funded project in Petaluma, CA. She completed her apprenticeship while working for Concrete Form Constructors over eight years, and then decided to become a surveyor. She worked for two companies over about 15 years in that role, helping build key infrastructure projects in San Francisco including Mission Bay, the Third Street Light Rail project, Transbay Terminal, and others.

Douglas is proud to point out she never needed to work out of the union hall again after securing her first job and that she was able to help put her son through college, with no loans, thanks to her well-paying career in the trades.

“I totally loved what I did the entire time,” Douglas reflected. “I love the physical part

of being able to see the product after it is done, and the money was phenomenal.”

After retiring as a surveyor a few years ago, Douglas was persuaded to return to work as an instructor for the Operating Engineers Local 3 in affiliation with City Build, when they needed a well-qualified instructor to teach journeymen a new GPS system that was being deployed on the Chase Center project in San Francisco. Rising Sun subsequently asked her to join their nonprofit as an instructor for Opportunity Build, and she decided to accept the challenge.

Leveraging Industry Relationships

Douglas worked alongside Opportunity Build Director Marlin Jeffreys and others to revamp the program’s curriculum, shifting from having students build tool boxes and bird cages to teaching them skills they could use on jobsites, such as basic framing, concrete form work and metal stud work. She leveraged her strong relationships with the local trade unions to bolster apprenticeship opportunities for students.

Two to three years ago, Douglas was introduced to AGC of California’s Build California. The resulting partnership has greatly increased the program’s visibility

among and access to local contractors and construction industry employers, helping them achieve the goal of increasing student job placement.

In April 2023, over 100 union representatives as well as AGC of California member contractors including McCarthy, Turner, Swinerton and others, turned out for Opportunity Build’s outreach fair, connecting students with real job opportunities in the industry.

Making Lasting Connections

As part of her role at the program, Douglas has helped recruit participants by visiting job fairs, women’s shelters, and state prisons as well as working with partner organizations like the West Oakland Job Resource Center, Rubicon and others.

She views the students as her extended family, pointing out that the relationships built between staff and students has played a critical role in the program’s success.

“The students realize that we really care, and this is not just a program to get them through,” she said. “We are going to be there for them for a whole year after they graduate with support services, and some come back to talk to the follow-on classes to share their experiences working in the trades.” ☘

A full-page photograph of a man, Anthony Fagan, standing outdoors with his arms crossed. He is wearing a dark baseball cap with a white 'TA' logo, an orange polo shirt, and a high-visibility yellow and orange safety vest. He is smiling slightly at the camera. The background consists of several tall palm trees against a clear blue sky.

INSPIRING INDIVIDUAL

Rising Construction Professional and Community Advocate Anthony Fagan

BY CAROL EATON

Advocate for the underserved. Community changemaker. Rising construction industry professional. Role model.

Those are just a few of the descriptions that could be applied to Anthony Fagan, an assistant superintendent for PCL Construction who is playing a key role on Destination Crenshaw, a transformational community project under construction in South Los Angeles.

The project celebrates the Black experience in the same neighborhood in which Fagan grew up. Billed as the largest Black public art project in the United States (and possibly, the world) with more than 100 public artworks, Destination Crenshaw is creating a pipeline of work and jobs not only for Black artists in the Los An-

geles region, but also for the community members who are helping build it. The project has an unprecedented 70% local hire goal to create new jobs for local Black construction workers.

Catalyst for Growth

PCL is serving as general contractor on the cultural infrastructure project that runs for 1.3 miles along Crenshaw Boulevard. It is designed to be a catalyst for economic development and growth, supporting entrepreneurship and local businesses on this iconic Black business corridor.

Fagan is excited to be part of the team that is delivering a historic project that brings major employment and new career opportunities for area residents while infusing substantial capital into the local economy.

“It has been the greatest experience to be able to work in a community where I was once part of the problem, and now I am part of the solution,” he commented. “To work on this project is everything.” The project was championed by his good friend Nipsey Hussle, the late rapper, activist, and Crenshaw native.

Raised by his grandmother in the very neighborhood where he now works, Fagan overcame serious roadblocks and bad choices early in his life to get to where he is today, employed by one of the nation’s largest general contractors on a project of monumental importance to the region.

His journey was one that is all too common in urban South Los Angeles. “Most kids grew up having superheroes.



Destination Crenshaw rendering

My superheroes were the neighborhood guys that I saw on the street every day, and the things they did let's just say weren't the best," he said. Following that path led him to spend seven years in prison.

A Second Chance Through 2nd Call
Fagan realized he wanted a different life for himself. After his release in 2015, he began attending classes at 2nd Call, a community-based violence reduction and reentry organization that seeks to provide a second chance to those who were formerly incarcerated. It offers an array of life skills and behavior management classes and services, including pathways into union construction careers.

His involvement with 2nd Call led Fagan to join the Southwest Union of Carpenters. During his four-year apprenticeship he helped build the 71-story Intercontinental Hotel in downtown Los Angeles and USC Village, working for two different companies. At the same time, he continued to attend classes at 2nd Call, "learning how to become a leader in the field, how to be a productive member of

society, and how to cope with everyday life challenges on a mature level."

Three-quarters of the way through his apprenticeship, he decided to pursue the superintendent's career path, becoming a superintendent in the spring of 2019 with another general contractor and then joining PCL Construction in March of 2020.

Fagan credits 2nd Call for helping him transform his life. He counts several leaders from the organization and the construction industry among his closest mentors, including "Big John" Harriel, a general superintendent with Morrow Meadows; Skipp Townsend, co-founder and 2nd Call executive director; Kenny Smith, co-founder of 2nd Call and owner of Monster Trucking; and his father-in-law, Ralph Williams, senior superintendent for Swinerton Builders, to name a few.

Embracing a Career in Construction

Nearly a decade after attending his first class at 2nd Call, Fagan continues to be

"It has been the greatest experience to be able to work in a community where I was once part of the problem, and now I am part of the solution. To work on this project is everything."

- Anthony Fagan



heavily involved in the organization, now as a class facilitator. He strives to inspire others to transform their lives as he did by taking responsibility for their past and making positive choices that drive their own future success. For Fagan, the decision to pursue a career in construction was a game changer that has provided both financial security and personal fulfillment.

"I'm living proof that it's an opportunity that can happen for anyone, no matter what walk of life you come from, what your background or home environment was," he said. "I love the fact that no matter where I go, the set of skills that I've acquired mean I will always be able to provide for my family." His career has enabled him to break what Fagan describes as a "generational curse" of being born into poverty and debt, or negative equity, when it comes to his own sons.

Moving from skilled tradesman into the project management ranks a few years ago brought new opportunities that he welcomes. "Every day in construction poses a new challenge, a new opportunity for growth," he said. "As the projects become more complex and the value amount of the projects increase, I continue to grow inside that system as well."

Fagan is quick to express his gratitude for the opportunities he has been given including working for a company that is

invested in its employees' success and provides a mentoring environment. "I don't have an environment where I am scared to ask for help. Individuals in my personal and professional circles have given me the opportunity to be part of the decision-making process, and have given me responsibility and held me accountable for my actions. That is what has made me successful."

Advocating for the Underserved

In addition to working hard to advance his own career goals, Fagan is a strong advocate for underserved individuals in his community, particularly the youth. About three ago he created the nonprofit, "Fagan's House," with the assistance of leaders from 2nd Call. The nonprofit provides mentorship and guidance to young men and women in the local community who may not have a positive adult role model in their lives.

"I knew I wanted to reach the kids in this community," he said. "While I am grateful for the path I took because it serves as the foundation of why I am so successful now and why I keep moving forward, if somebody had gotten to me as a kid and helped spark my brain in a more positive way, my path might have been a little different."

In his work at Fagan House, he spends

time most Saturdays with local young men "just having conversations, teaching them how to shake hands, how to look someone in the eye, the importance of being on time, how to change a tire." He also shares information about getting into a trade, whether construction or auto mechanics.

"We want them to always be able to fish, versus people just giving them a fish," he said. The organization holds yearly softball and basketball games, sponsors a toy giveaway at the holidays and a summer camp for kids at a local park, among other charitable activities.

Fagan said that while he "never set out to be a role model," he embraces and "is amazed by" the impact he realizes he has had on countless people in his community through his YouTube videos and online presence, by visiting local high schools to speak to kids, and through his advocacy work at 2nd Call, Fagan's House, the Carpenters Union, and other forums.

"I am busy, but never too busy to return a phone call or get out to a school and talk to the kids," he added. "I know that when I was in their same shoes growing up, I didn't have anybody to come to for help. So I really want to give them hope and let them know that there is a bigger world out there besides what they know and see day to day." 🙏

INSPIRING PROJECT

MWH/Webcor Team Raises the Bar for Local Hiring on Major San Francisco Infrastructure Project

BY CAROL EATON

Aerial of the BDFP project courtesy SFPUC

For most of the people who live or work in San Francisco, the construction of an upgraded facility to treat 80% of the City's sewage and stormwater is a necessary investment to keep their plumbing systems running smoothly – but hardly a project that inspires a high degree of interest or excitement.

Ask the residents and businesses located in the Bayview-Hunters Point neighborhood what they think of the \$2.7 billion Biosolids Digester Facilities Project (BDFP), however, and you may elicit a more enthusiastic response. Many of them have welcomed the opportunity for well-paying union jobs and contracts to help build this important infrastructure project, thanks to an impressive 30% local

hiring goal that is creating plenty of work in a historically marginalized Southeast corner of the City by the Bay.

The project's Local Business Enterprise (LBE) goal, along with a similarly high Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) goal, were established by MWH Constructors and Webcor Builders, a joint venture (MWH/Webcor), the construction manager/general contractor hired by the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) to build the new facility.

New Reliable, Efficient, Modern Facility

The new BDFP facility at the city's Southeast Treatment Plant (SEP) will replace and relocate the outdated existing solids treatment facility, originally built in 1952,



Lance Ota

with more reliable, efficient, and modern technologies. Engineering firms Brown & Caldwell, Jacobs, and Black & Veatch collaborated on the design of the project, with the goal to transform the existing SEP into a modern resource recovery



Project at a Glance: Biosolids Digester Facilities Project

Owner: San Francisco Public Utilities Commission

CM/GC: MWH Constructors and Webcor Builders, a joint venture

Design Firms: Collaboration of Brown & Caldwell, Jacobs, and Black & Veatch

Total Cost: \$2.7 billion

Slated Completion: 2027

Contract Awards (as of 8/23): Over 200 contracts to general contractors and subcontractors, including over 90 to LBEs

facility, a neighborhood asset, and an attractive workplace.

The new facility will incorporate cutting-edge technology to benefit residents in nearby neighborhoods and those in its service region in a variety of ways. For starters, it will produce higher-quality biosolids and capture and treat odors more effectively. Its state-of-the-art digesters will be located about 10 times farther away from existing residences than they currently are (1000 feet from the nearest residence versus the current 100 feet). The project also will include several visual improvements in and around the SEP.

The existing plant, which treats between 85 million and 215 million gallons of wastewater each day, was overdue for an upgrade when planning and design for the new facility got underway. The

project broke ground in July 2019 and is now approximately 50% complete with completion slated for 2027, followed by commissioning.

Lance Ota, senior project manager for the BDFP team, has been involved since MHW/Webcor initially submitted their proposal for the project approximately six years ago. "The team recognized this was an opportunity to help the neighborhood and make this a nicer facility for the people who live and work adjacent to it," he commented.

Putting Dollars Back into Local Community

While the project was only required by the owner to meet a minimum threshold of approximately 12% LBE and DBE goals, "the fact that we are pushing those

numbers into the 30% range is because this team saw the importance of it and pushed to make sure that we not only met but far exceeded that requirement," he added.

"This neighborhood is a marginalized community, but the people who live and work here deserve the same respect as everybody else. We realized we could put dollars into the local community by emphasizing local hiring from the surrounding area."

The project team has employed several strategies to address the local workforce goal in a way that most benefits residents and businesses in the Bayview-Hunters Point neighborhood, according to Ota. These strategies included:

- **Hyperlocal hiring** – While the initial project plan called for hiring within

the San Francisco region, MWH/Webcor further concentrated that focus to “hyperlocal” hiring of residents from the three nearest zip codes to the work site. “When we packaged contracts to bid, we’ve also checked who was available in that hyper local community, what their capacity was, and tried to make sure that the contracts, even if won by a larger general contractor, required a percentage of work to be hyperlocal participation,” Ota explained.

- **Targeting specific contractors** – The team looked for strategic scopes of work that could be packaged in such a way that they targeted a specific genre of contractors in the neighborhood, making these smaller scopes of work more attainable to bid out and be won by these small, local firms.
- **Higher LBE percentage goals** – The team included higher LBE percentage goals on some of the larger prime contracts bid out for the project. That strategy encourages the general contractors awarded the contracts to engage local area subcontractors within their overall scope of work and to mentor these smaller local contractors in order to help them be successful on this project and, in turn, on their future projects.

Measurable Results

To date, these efforts have delivered measurable results. BDFP project outreach manager Chris Bardales reported that as of late August 2023, approximately 45 local and apprentice hires had been brought onto the project from local union pre-apprenticeship programs. The team has awarded over 200 contracts to general contractors and subcontractors, of which 93 were LBEs and of those, 65 were hyper-local contracts awarded to LBEs within the Bayview-Hunters Point neighborhood.

Representatives from the MWH/Webcor team highlighted the success of the project’s local hiring program in a presentation at the “Scaling Pre-Apprenticeship to Support Equity in Infrastructure” session during the U.S. Department of Labor’s ETA Vision 2030 conference in Washington, D.C. in May 2023.

In addition to the solutions enacted to meet workforce goals, the project team has contended with a variety of technical and logistical challenges that are typical with a project of this size, scope, and complexity. These have ranged from dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic early on (which slowed the project start), to ongoing material cost escalation, working within a highly constrained site, and accommodating approximately 500 workers on the jobsite each day.

Team Brings Solutions

The MWH/Webcor team has employed an array of solutions to address these challenges, including implementing a high level of BIM that models down to the rebar and nuts and bolts, and utilizing laser scanning and other tools. They have engaged in formal partnering at multiple levels with the owner and other key stakeholders to ensure the project remains on track and successfully meets all of its critical cost, schedule, quality, and safety goals.

While many of these solutions are noteworthy, Ota said he continues to be particularly proud of the team’s efforts to push the bar and find workable strategies that help ensure the surrounding community is benefitting from and involved with the delivery of this important infrastructure project that will serve the City of San Francisco, and be part of their neighborhood, for years to come.

“We are not just building project, but we are building people,” he commented. “That will be the legacy I take from this project.” ☼

“This neighborhood is a marginalized community, but the people who live and work here deserve the same respect as everybody else. We realized we could put dollars into the local community by emphasizing local hiring from the surrounding area.”

– Lance Ota, Senior Project Manager for the BDFP team

December 23, 2022

Katrina Hagen
Director, Department of Industrial Relations
160 Promenade Circle, Suite 300,
Sacramento, CA 95834

Subject: AB 1851 and the Prevailing Wage On-Haul Standard

Our associations – which represent contractors, trucking employers and material suppliers across the State – are concerned that the Department of Industrial Relations (DIR) may interpret the application of Assembly Bill 1851 (AB 1851) as a change to the current application of prevailing wage for on-haul trucking. Additionally, we request that the Department provide guidance on this matter as soon as possible to head off any unnecessary confusion or disadvantage in bidding to concerned stakeholders.

As you know, the California Labor Code section 1772 and subsequent case law has helped establish the scope of coverage of prevailing wage. Specifically, this section has deemed that workers employed “in the execution” of a public work contract should be deemed to be employed on a public work.

Authorized by Assemblymember Robert Rivas, AB 1851 sought to clarify if on-haul trucking at public works projects must be paid a prevailing wage. This clarification was sought by the bill sponsors and author based on their belief that “a series of recent California Supreme Court decisions (commonly known as the *Kaanana*, *Mendoza*, and *Busker* decisions) found that because on-haul trucking is not specifically mentioned in statute as comprising part of a public project, it is unclear whether it falls under prevailing wage requirements” (AB 1851 Fact Sheet).

Negotiations with stakeholders resulted in chaptered bill language that clarifies the intent of the author, sponsors, and stakeholders that AB 1851 simply restores the status quo prior to the above referenced supreme court decisions. This was accomplished by:

1. Underscoring that prevailing wage is paid to an individual truck driver if their work is integrated into the flow process of construction (O.G. *Sansone Co. v. Department of Transportation* [Civ. No. 45232, Court of Appeals of California, Second Appellate District, Division Three, February 19, 1976].)
2. Stating the intent of the Legislature in enacting “paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 1720.3 of the Labor Code to restore, as of the effective date of this act, the holding of O. G. *Sansone Co. v. Department of Transportation* (1976) 55 Cal.App.3d 434,....”



...and its subsequent interpretations, as it relates to the on hauling of materials used for paving, grading, and fill onto a public works site.”

This measure was passed and signed into law without any opposition from the signatories of this letter because of the willingness of the author and his sponsors to negotiate a statute that clarified the current application of prevailing wage as it relates to on-haul trucking. We ask that the DIR mitigate any confusion in the construction industry with respect to AB 1851 with written guidance indicating the current situation as it existed prior to the Court's opinions in *Mendoza* and *Busker* and that no new standard was created by AB 1851.

Thank you in advance for your attention and review of this request.

Sincerely,

Chris O'Connor, Associated General Contractors of California

Robert Dugan, California Construction and Industrial Materials Association

Scott Govenar, Construction Employers' Association

Chris Shimoda, California Trucking Association

Todd Bloomstine, Southern California Contractors Association

Eddie Bernacchi, United Contractors

Unifying the Industry – Negotiations and Advocacy

BY CHRIS O'CONNOR, BRIAN MELLO AND PETER TATEISHI, AGC OF CALIFORNIA

The buzz in AGC of California circles this year has been the effort of the organization to continue to lead by example, making attempts to coordinate and unify the industry as much as possible.

This renewed focus has been at the direction of AGC of California members, large and small, and especially from the member leadership serving on the State Board of Directors.

The need is clear. Years of mutual distrust has built up between industry associations and groups of contractors.

We have shared objectives and challenges, but more often than not, we see each other as opponents.

This internal division continues to be the most significant and persistent source of weakness contractors are plagued with when entering negotiations with labor unions, government agencies and politicians. Too often one type of contractor will strike deals to curry favor that benefit their specific company or subset of the industry.

The benefits of those deals never shake out to be as good as initially thought and

are rarely worth the long-term unintended consequences.

That's why AGC of California members and staff set off on a New Year's resolution aimed at proactively reaching out to fellow industry associations, and their contractors, in an effort to increase collaboration on the issues that are most important to our industry.

Labor Relations – Aligning the Industry

One of the areas AGC of California is actively engaging in is labor relations.

There was a full recognition that as an industry, we have not done any succession planning for labor relations. Contractors have delegated that responsibility in most cases to a select few – many of whom are approaching retirement. This includes responsibilities to our trust funds, to the labor agreements, and to the relationships with our union partners.

AGC of California board leadership has been intentionally reaching out to contractors of other associations and within our own to begin the discussions on how we take more ownership and align the industry as we go forward. For those contractors that are signatory to a union, this is one of the most important relationships as it is the relationship with your workforce.

Across the board, contractors need to take a more proactive approach to labor relations and not rely solely on associations to manage these relationships. We have witnessed now over the past few years and throughout rounds of negotiations that contractors must own the agreements collectively and not let association dynamics get in the way.

Labor relations is a critical form of advocacy that occurs between our industry partners. However, when we think of advocacy, we typically think of the government institutions and elected officials that make decisions influencing our economy, and instituting rules governing our projects, companies, and contracts. Here AGC of California is proud to continue our work serving as the voice of the industry.

A United Front with Agency Liaisons

This year, in order to display a united front when meeting with agencies throughout the state, we opened up our existing system of agency liaisons to others in the industry. Even if association engage-

ments are well intentioned, we recognize the importance of conveying the right message to agencies who can pick and choose which association position best fits theirs. This can include how agencies develop new specs, evaluate contracts, or interpret new state regulations on job sites.

Examples can be seen in how, following the passage of AB 1851 in 2022, AGC of California consistently advocated to the California Department of Industrial Relations, California Department of Transportation, and in every agency liaison across the state regarding the parameters of prevailing wage coverage for on-haul trucking onto public works sites. AGC of California was intimately involved in the negotiation of the bill and has made the effort to provide joint feedback and issue joint statements with other associations on the purpose of the legislation.

Furthermore, understanding the difficulties industry has faced while working with the Office of the State Fire Marshal, we set out to bridge the gap and work through solutions within the industry. AGC of California, the American Institute of Architects (AIA), the California Council, and the Construction Management Association of America (CMAA) have convened for quarterly meetings this year in an effort to represent the architecture, engineering, and construction (AEC) industry in California.

Chief Berlant, acting state fire marshal, and Chief Henning, assistant deputy director, fire & life safety, state training and code development & analysis, have made their commitment to changing the much-needed shift in culture that has historically troubled our industry.

Our first meeting was an introduction. We were able to set common ground on goals. Both sides recognized discrepancies between the design phases through



plan review and inspections, as many inspectors' interpretation of code varied. We recognized the need for education and training and a shift that needed to happen with the historically retaliatory culture.

Through our meetings we've been discussing a number of topics, including:

- Third Party Inspectors
- Project Documents
- Standard Book of Design
- Rated Condition and Use of Engineering Judgement
- Training Needs

More recently we have been working with Chief Goodrich on a request for representatives to develop a design-build plan review submittal guideline.

Advocacy Around CARB's Advance Fleet Regulation

AGC of California has consistently been advocating on behalf of our members to mitigate the many risks and uncertainties around the recently passed California Air Resources Board Advanced Clean Fleets regulation. This regulation applies to entities that have either \$50 million or more in gross annual revenues, or that own, operate, or have common ownership or control of a total of 50 or more vehicles (excluding light-duty package delivery vehicles). The regulation affects medium- and heavy-duty on-road vehicles with a gross vehicle weight rating greater than 8,500 pounds.

Through the proposal process, industry was able to stop the CARB board from lowering the threshold of how many trucks a company owns from 50 to 10; however, many questions around implementation were still unanswered.

Understanding the complications of this regulation, AGC of California actively advocated for the establishment of an implementation working group (IWG) by CARB alongside the California Construc-

Successful advocacy is not about imposing one's views on others, but about fostering understanding, finding shared interests, and working collaboratively towards mutually beneficial solutions. In doing so, AGC of California is able to navigate the complex world of regulation and legislation by unifying our industry to shape policy.

tion and Industrial Material Association.

On May 5, 2023 AGC of California submitted comments to the California Air Resource Board's clerk, expressing the need and desire to be a part of an IWG. We provided the purpose, make-up, method, and structure of what such a group would look like and the benefits of its establishment by CARB.

In July, CARB released a notice entitled *"Advanced Clean Fleets Meeting to Discuss Formation of Truck Regulation Advisory Committee."* This notice was in direct alignment with industry's advocacy efforts and provided an opportunity for our industry to express the challenges we will face in complying with the regulation while actively working to execute projects at the scale and caliber we are experiencing.

To go beyond our comments submitted on May 5, AGC of California initiated a coalition letter encouraging CARB to add crucial questions to the Frequently Asked Questions document and answer

the questions accordingly. Additionally, within the coalition letter we urged CARB to include various trade organizations and relevant construction labor unions in the process of developing documents and other aspects of implementation through the Truck Regulatory Advisory Committee. Those who signed the coalition letter included:

- California Construction and Industrial Materials Association
- Construction Industry Air Quality Coalition
- Rebuild SoCal Partnership
- Operating Engineers Local 12
- California Alliance for Jobs
- California Construction & Industrial Material Association
- United Contractors
- Southern California Contractors Association
- Los Angeles County Business Federation

Industry Consensus Key to Change

Consensus from industry is necessary while working to foster relationships to develop change. Successful advocacy is not about imposing one's views on others, but about fostering understanding, finding shared interests, and working collaboratively towards mutually beneficial solutions. In doing so, AGC of California is able to navigate the complex world of regulation and legislation by unifying our industry to shape policy.

At AGC of California we are proud to serve as the voice of the industry. Our leadership role means it is our charge to pull industry together, not wedge it further apart. ☒

Chris O'Connor is Vice President, Engagement & Legislative Affairs,

Brian Mello is Associate Vice President, Engagement & Regulatory Affairs, and

Peter Tateishi is CEO, AGC of California.

SOLV Energy Achieves OSHA VPP Status on Three Projects



SOLV Energy held a ceremony to mark attaining VPP status on three projects.

In the realm of renewable energy, AGC of California member SOLV Energy stands out in the world of health and safety.

Recently, SOLV Energy achieved a significant milestone: three of its jobsites – the Oberon 1 & 2, Arica solar project, and Victory Pass solar project in eastern Riverside County – have been honored with the Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) designation by the California Division of Occupational Safety and Health (Cal/OSHA).

This accolade is a testament to SOLV Energy's unwavering dedication to revolutionize the energy industry and uphold the highest standards of safety and well-being for its workforce.

SOLV Energy has been on a mission to transform the energy landscape, bringing cleaner power solutions to its communities. From humble beginnings, the company has grown into a workforce of more than 800 dedicated employees. The journey, which began with installing ar-

rays for local businesses, has evolved into powering entire neighborhoods.

The Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) is a program administered by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) in the United States. It's designed to recognize and promote effective safety and health management systems in workplaces.

Companies that participate in the VPP go above and beyond standard safety regulations. They implement comprehensive safety programs and continuously strive for excellence in workplace safety. This program is designed to encourage employers and employees to work together to create a safe and healthy work environment.

"Nothing is more important than the place where people, tools, equipment, and task meet," commented Michael Darling, vice president – safety, environmental and health for SOLV Energy. "Everything a safety department must do starts there. Policy, procedure, and training are only as effective as the understanding of the task by the worker and the support they

are given to accomplish that task safely."

The recognition from Cal/OSHA's VPP Program is a significant achievement. It affirms the company's position as a front-runner in the industry and inspires it to keep raising the bar for safety and excellence. This recognition doesn't just bolster SOLV Energy's reputation – it solidifies its commitment to creating a safer, more sustainable future.

SOLV Energy took several concrete steps to achieve the VPP status, according to Darling. "We worked closely with the California unions, labor, millwrights and electrical, engaged the owners and spent a year interacting with Cal/OSHA consulting to see that our safety plan was effectively written and implemented," he noted.

Darling added that the company remains steadfast in its pursuit of innovation, determined to lead the way in renewable energy. SOLV Energy's recent recognition in Cal/OSHA's VPP Program underscores its unwavering dedication to excellence in both renewable energy and workplace safety and health. ☀

AGC of California CEF Connects Contractors with Schools in New 'Adopt-A-School' Initiative BY CAROL EATON



The Del Campo High School students visit a Buzz Oates Construction project at Raley Boulevard in Sacramento.

AGC of California contractors are making a difference and supporting construction workforce development in the Delta-Sierra District through a new "Adopt-a-School" initiative that has delivered much-needed materials and supplies to several construction career technical education programs.

The AGC of California Construction Education Foundation (CEF) and the AGC of California Delta-Sierra Board of Directors started the Adopt-a-School program in the Sacramento region this year, and it has already delivered measurable results. The program directly connects companies with local schools that originally applied for CEF grant funding and helps them make an impact on their construction-related programs by donating items on their wish

list. The initial goal was to raise \$5,000 per program, but some companies surpassed that amount.

AGC of California member companies Buzz Oates Construction, XL Construction, EquipmentShare, Otto Construction, Teichert, Royal Electric Company, and MarketOne Builders, Inc. adopted seven different high school programs during this first year of the program. Those schools include: Del Campo High School, Galt High School Construction BITA, Galt High School Welding Pathway, Laguna Creek High School, Lincoln High School, Rosemont High School, and Sheldon High School.

Buzz Oates Adopts Del Campo High School

Buzz Oates Construction, Inc. teamed up

with several trusted subcontractors and suppliers to raise over \$15,000 for Del Campo High School's DC Build program.

As stated in the original grant application to AGC of California CEF, DC Build's mission is to expose students to as much of the built environment as possible. "The goal/vision is that with this exposure, students will be motivated to either enter into the workforce in the trades, enter a junior college/technical school to better equip them for employment, or enter a four-year school on the pathway towards design and management," according to the application.

David Claveau, senior vice president of Buzz Oates Construction, said the company was able to far exceed the initial \$6,000 goal set for the school's program.

"We went to our subcontracting community and asked if anyone was interested in donating to this cause, and the response was exceptional," he said. "Through the generous donations of our subcontracting partners, we were able to meet all their needs and provide additional safety and PPE equipment for all of the participating students."

That donation included everything on the school's wish list of materials, ranging from a battery powered drill, screws, nails, plywood, 2x4s, pipe, ceramic tile, and drywall – all designated for a small building project to be constructed by the students. A total of nine subcontractors and vendors participated in the effort. In addition to those items, they also provided safety equipment including hard hats, gloves, and more for 120 students. The contractor hosted 38 students from the school on a jobsite walk through one of its local projects.

Due to the remarkable success of its fundraising efforts Buzz Oates Construction had money left over, which will allow them to adopt another high school in the near future.

The Sacramento-based company has a long tradition of giving back that began with Founder Marvin L. "Buzz" Oates, who was known throughout the community for his generosity and community spirit.

"He made it a point throughout his

"By supporting the CTE programs, in particular those programs which encourage students to look to the construction trades as viable career paths, we are continuing that legacy. It is our hope to further student interest in construction related careers, providing opportunities for students to become productive members of the construction community."

- David Claveau, Buzz Oates Construction

career to give back to the community and to help create opportunities for people to further their careers and to support the health and growth construction industry," Claveau commented. "By supporting the CTE programs, in particular those programs which encourage students to look to the construction trades as viable career paths, we are continuing that legacy. It is our hope to further student interest in construction related careers, providing opportunities for students to become productive members of the construction community."

Otto Construction Adopts Laguna Creek High School

Another contractor involved with the Adopt-a-School program is Otto Construction, whose President and CEO, Allison Otto, is a statewide board member of AGC of California CEF and the Delta-Sierra Regional Chair. She said

the chance to make an impact through this program was one they didn't want to pass up.

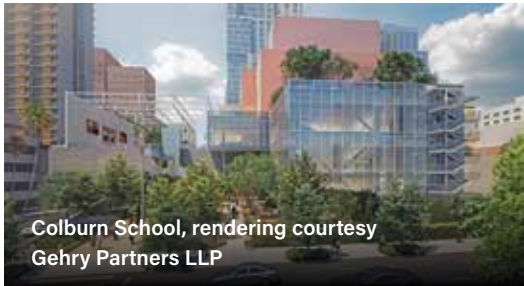
"This was the perfect opportunity to connect with students and share our passion about building," Otto commented. The company adopted Laguna Creek High School in Elk Grove, supporting its Green Energy Technology Academy. The Academy uses the study of energy transformation via green energy technologies as the platform to get students ready for life after high school, and students gain valuable trades skills.

Through their contribution to the school as part of the Adopt-A School program, Otto Construction helped the school attain materials to build "solar suitcases" that provide portable electricity to communities in need, along with other items on their wish list. Their donations will impact approximately 200 students at the school.

"We're very excited that CTE programs are becoming more available in schools, and we're happy for the opportunity to show our support by directly funding a local CTE program," Otto said. "We're also excited to help show students that there are careers in construction. Our workforce is aging out, and the fact that these kids will have the ability to interact directly with people in the industry and can hear the stories of people working in construction is invaluable." ☘

Make an Impact on Your Community With CEF

AGC of California CEF programs are dedicated to inspiring, developing, and equipping California's current and future construction workforce. The nonprofit provides resources, support, and training through innovative programs in order to attract, develop, and retain a strong, motivated, and skilled workforce. Companies interested in supporting local schools and CTE programs should contact Yuhi Aizawa Combatti, director, workforce & community development, at combattiY@agc-ca.org to get involved.



Colburn School, rendering courtesy Gehry Partners LLP

McCarthy Receives Top ENR Award

Engineering News-Record (ENR) recently named McCarthy Building Companies, Inc. its California Contractor of the Year for 2023. ENR recognized the company's "innovation in the areas of virtual design and construction, its integration of the latest technology with preconstruction services and its utilization of prefabrication and modular construction on projects" according to the announcement in *ENR's* August 24, 2023 edition.

McCarthy has an array of projects in development in California, including the 2 million-sq.-ft., 22-story Gaylord Pacific Resort Hotel & Convention Center in Chula Vista; the UC Davis Health California Tower, a 14-story hospital facility and 5-story pavilion adjacent to the existing medical center; and construction of the Frank Gehry-designed Colburn Center, an expansion of the renowned Colburn School in downtown Los Angeles, to name a few.

Flatiron Selected for Bay Area Bridges Toll Modernization Project

The California Department of Transportation and the Bay Area Tolling Authority recently selected Flatiron as Construction Manager/General Contractor for a \$73 million project to modernize toll systems at seven Bay Area bridges. The project will implement an open road tolling system to improve safety, enhance traffic-flow efficiency and streamline the Bay Area traveling experience.

The high-tech tolling gantry system will detect vehicle information as drivers pass through toll gantries at highway speeds without slowing down to pay tolls.

The new open road tolling gantries will be added at seven Bay Area area bridges.

Giroux Glass Announces Key Appointment



Giroux Glass, Inc. recently appointed Jeffrey Heymann to Senior Director of Major Projects. With over 35 years of experience in the exterior façade industry, Heymann brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise to his new position.

His extensive background encompasses various areas within the industry, including sales, engineering, manufacturing, estimating, project management, and field operations.

"Nurturing a team of talented professionals who deliver exceptional results is vital for our continued growth," said Nataline Lomedico, CEO/President of Giroux Glass, Inc. "I'm excited to welcome Jeff Heymann to our leadership team. His unparalleled industry experience and strategic acumen will contribute significantly here at Giroux."

Heymann's most recent tenure was at MiTek - Benson, where he held various senior positions over 20 years. His proficiency in strategic planning and sales management resulted in the implementation of best practices in the curtainwall and façade cladding industry. He was instrumental in the success of such as the Freedom Tower, Tower Four, 15 Central Park West, Manhattan West, and numerous other high-profile developments in New York, Boston, Washington, D.C., Seattle, San Francisco, and Los Angeles.

Blach Construction Tops Out SPCA Project



The staff of SPCA Monterey County and Blach Construction – accompanied by four-legged guests – gathered this September to celebrate the topping out of two new buildings that will significantly expand the SPCA's campus and strengthen its ability to serve the people and animals of Monterey County.

Representing Blach's second major project for the owner, the project includes the remodeling of an existing wood-frame structure in addition to the new buildings. It is expected to be completed in March 2024, approximately one year after breaking ground.

The \$13 million three-building project is comprised of approximately 10,000 square feet of new space and 2,500 square feet of remodeled space. The new Sally Lucas Treatment, Learning and Compassion Building will enable the SPCA's behavior team to work with dogs presenting challenges upon intake. The remodeled Claire R. Jacobson Learning Center will provide classroom space for kids' camps and other education programs.

While a topping out – a ceremonial event whereby the final steel beam is hoisted and placed a structure – normally includes the project owner and construction crew's signing of the beam, many SPCA employees' dogs also had their paw prints immortalized. 🐾



Del Campo High School students visit a Buzz Oates Construction project at Raley Boulevard in Sacramento, CA.

Buzz Oates wishes to thank our subcontractor partners for their generous donations to the AGC of California Adopt-a-High-School Program



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At left, Los Angeles World Airports Chief Development Officer Terri Mestas headlined AGC of California's SBCX event in Los Angeles this August.

LAWA Official Headlines Successful SBCX Event in Los Angeles

The AGC of California hosted its annual Southern California Small Business Construction Expo (SBCX) on August 25, 2023, at the Long Beach Convention Center in Long Beach. Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) Chief Development Officer Terri Mestas headlined the event as the keynote speaker.

"LAWA is committed to creating a positive and measurable impact on the growth and success of small and diverse businesses in Los Angeles, and to develop a strong diverse and inclusive workforce community," Mestas commented. "We are proud to partner with AGC of California and its members as we build our \$30 billion capital improvement program with aligned values about diversity and inclusivity."

Mestas manages a \$30 billion budget for the capital improvement program that includes projects such as the automated people mover, the new Terminal 9, new

Concourse 0, new cargo facilities, new roadways into Los Angeles International Airport, and runway and taxiway projects, among other projects. She leads a team of dedicated staff members with support from over 450 companies executing work at Los Angeles International, Van Nuys and Palmdale Airports.

AGC of California's SBCX connects small/underrepresented business (SUB) contractors who are growing their business with resources and experts from across the state, including representatives from public and government agencies, prime contractors, and specialty trade organizations.

Over 40 organizations sponsored booths and shared tips for landing contracts, project forecasts for opportunities and more. AGC of California's Southern California SBCX was developed in partnership with presenting sponsors BuildOUT California, the California De-

partment of General Services (DGS), LAWA, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, and the Port of Long Beach. Over 445 people registered for the event.

SBCX places special emphasis on making connections between construction industry businesses that are disadvantaged business enterprises (DBE), disabled veteran business enterprises (DVBE), LGBT business enterprises (LGBTBE), minority business enterprises (MBE), small business enterprises (SBE), women business enterprises (WBE), and women-owned small businesses (WOSB).

"SBCX epitomizes the collaboration that drives our industry forward," said AGC of California Chief Executive Officer Peter Tateishi. "By uniting small/underrepresented business contractors with key stakeholders, we're not just creating opportunities; we're fostering a network of innovation, strengthening our trade, and paving the way for future growth. It's a vital step in ensuring the lasting prosperity of California's construction landscape."

AGC of California members Clark Construction, Envision Inglewood Connected, Hensel Phelps, Skanska, and Sully-Miller Contracting Co. sponsored the event along with Turner Construction Co.

The panel session, "Engage with Agencies," included Olga Mireya López, senior representative, strategic business & construction careers, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority; Veronica Soto, senior advisor for workforce development, Los Angeles World Airports; Wayne Gross, business outreach liaison, DGS; John Arena, business outreach program manager, Metro Water District; and Jennifer Kropke, officer of diversity, equity, inclusion and procurement, to share their insights on engaging with agencies. ☺

Calendar

November 13, 2023

2023 Statewide Airport Showcase, virtual

November 14, 2023

Small/Underrepresented Business (SUB) Forum, virtual

November 16, 2023

San Joaquin Forecast Dinner at Copper River Country Club, Fresno

December 1, 2023

AGC Eureka/Shasta Holiday Gathering & District Board Meeting at LuLu's Eating & Drinking Establishment, Redding

December 1, 2023

Riverside/San Bernardino District Holiday Dinner at Mission Inn Hotel & Spa, Riverside

December 5, 2023

Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion (DE&I) Forum Meeting, virtual

December 7, 2023

Bay Area Region Holiday Topgolf Mixer & Toy Drive at Topgolf San Jose

December 8, 2023

SoCal Holiday Luncheon & Toy Drive at House of Blues Gardenwalk, Anaheim

December 14, 2023

San Joaquin Board Meeting & Holiday Lunch at Lyles Construction Group, Fresno

February 2, 2024

AGC of California Installation and Awards Gala, The Fairmont, San Francisco



SAVE THE DATE: FEBRUARY 2, 2024

The AGC of California 2024 Installation & Awards Gala

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The AGC of California 2024 Installation & Awards Gala will honor the incoming AGC of California president and officers in addition to celebrating the winners of the Constructor Awards, Achievement Awards and the AGC Construction Friend Award.



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