

CALIFORNIA ASPHALT INSIDER

The latest news and views from the California Asphalt Pavement Association
Vol. 10, Issue 39 <> Sept. 25, 2017



www.calapa.net

IN THIS ISSUE

[Caltrans' State Pavement Engineer, Jesse Bhullar, moves over to Division of Traffic; Chief Deputy Kome Ajise announces departure](#)

[Cool temperatures make for some hot play at CalAPA's annual golf tournament](#)

[Something for everyone at CalAPA Fall Asphalt Pavement Conference & Equipment Expo Oct. 25-26 in Sacramento](#)

[Tech Term of the Week: Accelerometer](#)

[Quote of the Week: Buddha](#)

CALENDAR

(Always on-line [HERE](#))

*

SIGN-UP NOW!
'Asphalt Pavement 101' class
Tuesday, Oct. 24
10 a.m. TO 2:30 p.m.
National University, Redding Campus, 760 Cypress Ave., Suite 215, Redding
Contact: Ritha Nhorn (916) 791-5044
Details [HERE](#).

*

Greetings!

This weekly bulletin contains the latest news and information of interest to the asphalt pavement industry in California. Please feel free to distribute this newsletter to others who may be interested in asphalt pavements.

→ Caltrans' State Pavement Engineer, Jesse Bhullar, moves over to Division of Traffic; Chief Deputy Kome Ajise also departs

Caltrans State Pavement Engineer Jesse Bhullar has accepted a position as chief of the Division of Traffic, and has been replaced on an interim basis by Mark Suchanek, the chief of maintenance and operations for District 1 based in Eureka.

The department also announced that Chief Deputy Director Kome Ajise is leaving the department to join the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG). The moves are the latest in what is expected to be a wave of personnel changes at the 20,000-employee department as retirements kick in for longtime civil servants, dubbed the "Silver Tsunami," and political appointees depart in the final months of the Brown Administration. Caltrans is currently advertising to fill more than 1,000 openings.

Bhullar, who made his name in the Division of Traffic, took over as State Pavement Engineer on Feb. 17, 2015. His tenure in the job was interrupted for six months in 2016 when he returned to the Division of Traffic on an interim basis. Tom Pyle filled in for him during his absence.

In announcing Suchanek as acting State Pavement Engineer, Caltrans Maintenance Chief Tony Tavares said in an internal e-mail: "Mark has over 33 years of diverse experience within Caltrans, having worked in maintenance, project development, construction and traffic. With the exception of a one and half year rotation as the Deputy District Director for Program/Project Management, Mark has spent the last 13 years as the Deputy District Director for Maintenance and Operations in District 1." Suchanek took over the Division of Pavement on Sept. 11.



Mark Suchanek

"I am honored to be selected for the acting State Pavement Engineer position," Suchanek told *Asphalt Insider*. "I am looking forward to working with industry and Caltrans staff to deliver roadway and infrastructure improvement projects, especially projects made possible by the passage of SB1." SB1 is the 10-year, \$52 billion transportation investment measure passed by the Legislature earlier this year.

Also announcing his departure is Ajise, who joined the department in 1987 as a graduate student assistant from Fresno State and steadily

REGISTRATION OPEN!

CalAPA Fall Asphalt Pavement Conference & Equipment Expo (plus optional 'Asphalt Pavement 101' training class) Wednesday & Thursday, Oct. 25 & 26 Doubletree Hotel, 2001 Point West Way, Sacramento Details [HERE](#).

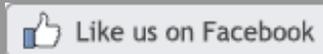
For sponsorship and exhibiting opportunities, click [HERE](#) to download our sponsor and exhibitor form, or contact Sophie You at (916) 791-5044.

*

SAVE THE DATE!

Southern California Contractors' Committee 'End Zone' mixer Monday, Nov. 6 Karl Strauss Brewing Company, 2390 E. Orangewood Ave., Irvine Details soon! Contact: Sophie You at (916) 791-5044

SOCIALIZE



Follow us on [twitter](#)



CHOOSE ASPHALT

Asphalt is used on about 93 percent of paved roads in California and across the U.S. Why? Because it's smooth, quiet, safe, durable and 100 percent recyclable. Visit the [Asphalt Pavement Alliance](#) website learn more about why

climbed the ladder at Caltrans, including holding posts as District 10 Director (based in Stockton) and Deputy Director of Planning and Modal Programs in Headquarters.

"It is with mixed emotions that I have to let you all know that I will be leaving Caltrans after almost 30 years, and joining the Southern California Association of Governments as their Director of Planning effective Nov. 1," Ajise wrote to fellow Caltrans employees on Sept. 7. Ajise attended the CalAPA Spring Asphalt Pavement Conference in 2016.



Caltrans Chief Deputy Director Kome Ajise, left, with CalAPA member Stephen Matich at the 2016 CalAPA Spring Conference in Ontario. Ajise was a speaker at the event.

Another high-profile departure is that of John Stayton, Deputy Division Chief of Construction for Caltrans, who announced in a humorous internal e-mail that he will retire by the end of the year.

"The other day I was walking into the Caltrans Translab on my way to another Rock Products Committee meeting when someone said, 'Hi, what are you doing here, I thought you retired.' Maybe they were reading my mind or they were just trying to tell me, 'It is time for you to leave.' Then, there are bets in the office with odds of when I might retire. All of this makes you start to think about retiring, which I have been doing for some time."

The changes mean that three of the four Department representatives on the Caltrans-industry Rock Products Committee are technically vacant or about to be vacated. The Rock Products Committee reviews and makes recommendations for changes to Caltrans specifications and construction standards in areas related to construction materials.

→ Cool temperatures make for some hot play at CalAPA's annual golf tournament

Unseasonably cool temperatures made for some speedy play at last week's annual CalAPA's golf tournament in Industry Hills.

More than 100 golfers dodged a brief morning shower and then stormed the famed Eisenhower Course at the Pacific Palms Resort, returning to the Clubhouse in record time for the annual asphalt industry tournament, which is sponsored by CalAPA's Southern California Contractors' Committee.

Proceeds from the Sept. 21 event help underwrite CalAPA's workforce development activities, such as offering free admission to CalAPA conferences to college students pursuing careers in construction.

Special thanks go out to all the sponsors that made the event possible. Eagle Sponsors for the golf tournament included:

Associates Environmental; Ergon Asphalt & Emulsions, Inc.; Valero Marketing & Supply, Co.; and Vulcan Materials Company. Birdie Sponsors were: Butler-Justice,

asphalt is the right choice now more than ever.



GET TECHNICAL

Are you an engineer, designer or technical professional who makes decisions on pavement type selection? The DriveAsphalt website has technical reports and other resources may be just what you're looking for. Click [HERE](#) for more information.



CalAPA

California Asphalt Pavement Association (CalAPA)

Mailing address:
P.O. Box 981300
West Sacramento, CA 95798

Main office:
1550 Harbor Blvd., Suite 211
West Sacramento, CA 95691

(916) 791-5044 (phone)

BACK ISSUES

Did you miss an issue of the *California Asphalt Insider*? No problem! Past editions of the newsletter are available at the CalAPA newsletter [archive page](#).

MAGAZINE

Inc.; California Commercial Asphalt; Diversified Asphalt Products; G3 Quality; Holliday Rock Co., Inc.; Patriot Risk & Insurance Services; Road Science, a Division of ArrMaz; The R.J. Noble Company; Taylor Environmental Services, Inc.; and World Oil Corporation.

Beverage Cart sponsors were: Caterpillar and Construction Marketing Services. Hole-in-one contest sponsors were: Coastline Equipment and Diversified Asphalt Products.

Closest-to-the-pin contest sponsors were: CEI Enterprises, Inc.; Road Science, a division of ArrMaz; and Terra Pave, Inc.

To view more photos from the event, click [HERE](#) to visit CalAPA's Facebook Page. The next Southern California Contractor's Committee event will be a "Meet us in the End Zone" mixer in Irvine on Nov. 6. An official announcement will be coming soon.



A scenic and challenging tee shot at last week's CalAPA golf tournament held at the Pacific Palms Resort in Industry Hills.

→ Something for everyone at CalAPA Fall Asphalt Pavement Conference & Equipment Expo Oct. 25-26 in Sacramento

Registration is now open for the Fall Asphalt Pavement Conference & Equipment Expo, to be held Oct. 25-26 in Sacramento. Details about the conference, including on-line registration, can be found [HERE](#).

This year's program is the annual event's most ambitious ever, with more educational opportunities than ever before. Click [HERE](#) to view a detailed agenda to topics and presenters. It's also a networking bonanza, with more than 200 industry and agency personnel expected to attend.

The keynote speaker will be state Sen. Jim Beall, D-San Jose,



Clowning around at the CalAPA Golf Tournament held at the Pacific Palms Resort in Industry Calif. on Sept. 21 were Nick Schaefer (carried), Brian Platt, Zach Wheeler and Chris Gerber of G3 Quality, Inc.



CalAPA produces a highly regarded magazine, *California Asphalt*, and an annual membership directory. To view current and past issues of the magazine, click [HERE](#).

For advertising sales information, click [HERE](#) or call Kerry Hoover with Construction Marketing Services at (909) 772-3121.

STAY INFORMED



Click [HERE](#) to receive *California Asphalt Insider* each week via e-mail FREE! Or visit our website at: www.calapa.net

WATCH



Click [HERE](#) to visit our video page.

DESIGN!

Chairman of the Senate Transportation & Housing Committee and author of SB1, the historic Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017. The measure, signed into law by the governor earlier this year, will invest \$52 billion for transportation improvements over 10 years, with most of the money going toward pavements. Holding state and local agencies accountable for how the money is spent is a prominent feature of the legislation, and will also be a central theme of Beall's remarks.



Sen. Jim Beall

Also on the program will be Tony Tavares, Caltrans Maintenance Chief, who will discuss the types and timing of pavement projects made possible by SB1. The lion's share of SB1 is devoted to maintenance activities intended to improve the condition of roadways, bridges and other surface transportation infrastructure. There will also be a presentation on federal infrastructure funding by Ashley Jackson, Director of Governmental Affairs for the National Asphalt Pavement Association (NAPA).

Recently added to the program is Larry Bonine, president of Pinnacle Leadership Group and a former Arizona DOT Director. He is a nationally recognized expert on leadership and partnering between public works agencies and the construction industry. An interview with Bonine was featured in the 2016 leadership issue of *CalAPA's California Asphalt* magazine, which can be viewed on-line [HERE](#).

Conference presentations will cover best practices in Hot Mix Asphalt design, specifications, testing, placement, future trends, public public works funding, research and the status of evaluations. Noted experts will delve into the latest information regarding performance testing and specifications, perpetual pavements in California, specifications for local streets and roads, compaction essentials and performance of Reclaimed Asphalt Pavement (RAP) mixes. The timed agenda of topics and presenters is [HERE](#).

The conference will kick off at 1 p.m. on Oct. 25 at the Doubletree Hotel, 2001 Point West Way in Sacramento. It will feature an evening reception on Oct. 25, and a full day of educational programming on Oct. 26. A new feature this year will be three concurrent sessions on Day 2, so attendees can choose which educational tracks are best suited to their area of interest. By popular demand, an optional training class, "Asphalt Pavement 101" will be offered in the morning on Oct. 25, taught by former Caltrans and Asphalt Institute senior materials engineer Roger Smith.

Concurrent Session 1 will focus on design & specifications, including engineering tools to deliver pavement performance. Concurrent Session 2 will do a deep dive into materials, including keys to successful asphalt mix design and production. Concurrent Session 3 will emphasize construction, including proper lay-down best practices for overall performance. The concurrent sessions, as well as the reception, are included in the price of conference admission.



A popular feature of the annual conference is the trade show floor and outdoor equipment on display. Click

[HERE](#) for information about sponsoring or exhibiting at the conference. Exhibitor questions should be directed to Sophie You of CalAPA at (916) 791-5044. Exhibitors are encouraged to reserve their spots early as the prime locations go fast.

Getting an up-close look at the latest equipment is a popular feature of the Fall Asphalt Pavement Conference & Equipment Expo.

LEARN!

We can bring CalAPA's popular training classes to your facility at a date and time convenient to you! Click [HERE](#) to view our "hosted" training class flier, or contact CalAPA at (916) 791-5044 for details. This service is available to public agencies and CalAPA members only.



→ Tech Term of the Week

Each week we highlight a word, acronym or other reference commonly used in the asphalt pavement industry in California.

ACCELEROMETER: A sensor that measures acceleration. An inertial profiler uses the signal from the on-board accelerometer(s) to compute the inertial reference value (i.e., relative height) that can be combined with the height sensor data to produce a complete profile.

→ Quote of the Week

"What we think, we become."

Buddha

We hope you enjoy CalAPA's *Asphalt Insider*. We are committed to providing you with the most up-to-date information on technical issues, regulation, news, analysis and events in California that may impact the asphalt pavement industry. Click [HERE](#) to contact us with any comments or suggestions.

Sincerely,

Russell W. Snyder, CAE

Executive Director

California Asphalt Pavement Association (CalAPA)

The *California Asphalt Insider* is an official publication of the California Asphalt Pavement Association. For more information or to inquire about membership, call (916) 791-5044, or click [HERE](#) to send us an e-mail.

Copyright © 2017 California Asphalt Pavement Association - All Rights Reserved.

www.calapa.net