

CALIFORNIA ASPHALT INSIDER

The latest news and views from the California Asphalt Pavement Association

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CALENDAR

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

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'Quality HMA Paving' training class
Tuesday, Feb. 13, 8 a.m. to noon
National University, Rancho Cordova Campus, 10901 Gold Center Drive, Sacramento
Contact: Ritha Nhorn (916) 791-5044
Register [HERE](#).

*

'Quality HMA Paving' training class
Tuesday, Feb. 20, 8 a.m. to noon
City of San Leandro, 999 E.

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.

→ Governor pledges to 'do everything in my power' to protect SB1 road-repair law; federal funding picture remains hazy

Gov. Jerry Brown, speaking at his eighth and final "State of the State" address last week, pledged to "do everything in my power" to protect SB1, the historic transportation infrastructure investment law that is already spawning pavement improvements around the state.

Speaking Jan. 25 at the state Capitol, Democrat Brown spoke mostly of his accomplishments during his fourth and final term in office, which will conclude when a new governor is sworn in next January. Among those highlights he touted was last year's passage of SB1, the Road Repair & Accountability Act of 2017, which will generate more than \$50 billion over a decade to repair state and local roads and other transportation infrastructure. The bill, which included the first increase in the state's fuel tax since 1994, is intended to reverse years of neglect that has resulted in California having some of the roughest roads in the nation, costing the average motorist more than \$700 a year in lost fuel economy and car repairs. It was authored by state Sen. Jim Beall, D-San Jose, and signed into law by Brown on April 29.

"Our economy, the sixth largest in the world, depends on mobility, which only a modern and efficient transportation system provides," the governor said. "The vote on the gas tax was not easy but it was essential, given the vast network of roads and bridges on which California depends and the estimated \$67 billion in deferred maintenance on our infrastructure. Tens of millions of cars and trucks travel over 330 billion miles a year."



The Democratic governor also took the opportunity to let some air out of the tires of Republicans in Washington, D.C., who have been unable to put forward a long-promised federal transportation plan despite controlling both houses of Congress and the White House.

"The funds that SB1 makes available are absolutely necessary if we are going to maintain our roads and transit systems in good repair," the governor said. "Twenty-five other states have raised gas taxes. Even the U.S. Chamber of Commerce has called for a federal gas tax because the highway trust fund is nearly broke. Government does what individuals can't do, like build roads and bridges and support local bus and light rail systems. This is our common

14th Street, South Offices
Building Conference Room,
San Leandro

Contact: Ritha Nhorn (916)
791-5044

Register [HERE](#).

*

'Quality HMA Paving'
training class (& optional
lab tour)

Thursday, Feb. 22, 8 a.m. to
noon

University of Nevada, Reno,
1664 N. Virginia St., Harry
Reid Engineering Laboratory
Building, Room 109-110, Reno,
Nevada

Contact: Ritha Nhorn (916)
791-5044

Register [HERE](#).

*

SAVE THE DATES!
CalAPA Legislative 'Fly-In'
to the State Capitol in
Sacramento

March 13-14

Details soon!

Contact: Russell Snyder (916)
791-5044

*

SAVE THE DATES!
Spring Asphalt Pavement
Conference & Equipment
Expo

April 25 & 26, 2018

Doubletree Hotel, 222 N.

Vineyard Ave., Ontario.

For sponsorship and exhibitor
information, contact Sophie

You at (916) 791-5044

Details soon!

SOCIALIZE



endeavor by which we pool our resources through the public sector and improve all of our lives."

Brown reserved his harshest words for Golden State Republicans and other political operatives who have seized upon the California gas-tax hike as a potential campaign issue, and are mounting a campaign to overturn it at the ballot box.

"Fighting a gas tax may appear to be good politics, but it isn't," Brown said sternly. "I will do everything in my power to defeat any repeal effort that may make it to the ballot."

One repeal effort, backed by Assemblyman Travis Allen, R-Huntington Beach, a long-shot candidate for governor, failed to generate enough signatures of registered voters to qualify for the ballot. Another measure, aiming for the November ballot, is still in the signature-gathering stage, and Allen has now thrown his support behind that effort.

Voters will have an opportunity to weigh in on transportation funding in the June 5 primary election when they will consider a Constitutional amendment to protect transportation dollars from being used for other



purposes. Known as Assembly Constitutional Amendment 5 (ACA5), authored by Assemblyman Jim Frazier, D-Oakley, when it passed the Legislature last year, it does not yet have a ballot designation.

Transportation California, an advocacy group supported by CalAPA, is distributing information about SB1, including a fact sheet and talking-points memo that debunks the "myths" being put forward by SB1 opponents. Transportation California Executive Director Roger Dickinson spoke to the CalAPA Annual Dinner in Los Angeles on Jan. 18. *Asphalt Insider* coverage of his remarks can be found [HERE](#). You can download the fact sheet [HERE](#) and the "myths" memo [HERE](#). As part of the educational effort, CalAPA is distributing sponsored SB1 bumper stickers statewide.

The fuel tax hikes and fees that were part of SB1 took effect last November, and since then state and local agencies have announced they are accelerating hundreds of millions of dollars worth of deferred-maintenance transportation projects. Some are already under construction. A website devoted to SB1 implementation, which includes an interactive map of SB1-funded projects, is [HERE](#).

In Washington, meanwhile, President Trump will deliver his State of the Union speech on Tuesday, and infrastructure is expected to be among the topics addressed. As a candidate, Trump pledged to implement a vast program to improve the nation's infrastructure, including transportation, but his first year in office was dominated by protracted debates in Congress over health care and tax reform. Fissures over immigration policy led to a brief government shut-down earlier this month, and a temporary measure to keep the federal government funded expires in February.

Details of a potential federal transportation infrastructure plan were leaked to the media in recent days, but it has been widely panned and does not address the chronic shortfalls in the federal Highway Trust Fund. Observers remain skeptical that Congress can make meaningful progress on the issue in 2018 with mid-term elections just months away.

CalAPA members will have the opportunity to remind our elected officials of the importance of our transportation infrastructure to the state's economy and quality of life during the CalAPA annual "Fly-In"



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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 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

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to the state Capitol in Sacramento, which is scheduled for March 13 and 14. An official announcement will be made soon. In addition, CalAPA and the National Asphalt Pavement Association will be participating again this year at the annual Transportation Construction Coalition "Fly-In" to Washington, D.C., which is scheduled for May 15-17 at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in Washington, D.C. An announcement with details on that event also will be forthcoming.

For additional information, including how to contact your local elected officials, click [HERE](#) to visit CalAPA's Legislative Action Page.



Gov. Jerry Brown delivering his eighth and final "State of the State" address Jan. 25 at the Capitol.

→ Joint Training & Certification Program for materials technicians releases 2018 schedule

The Caltrans Joint Training & Certification Program for materials technicians, which is being managed under an inter-agency agreement with California State University, Long Beach, has released its schedule of classes for 2018.

The Joint Training and Certification Program (JTCP) was established by Caltrans Materials Engineering and Testing Services to achieve consistent training and certification for all technicians involved in the transportation construction industry throughout California. The purpose of the JTCP is to improve the quality of the pavement construction practices that Caltrans and other agencies obtain, and to help reduce conflict and delay on construction projects within the state. The JTCP was developed in partnership with CSULB's College of Engineering. CalAPA and other construction trade associations have endorsed the program.



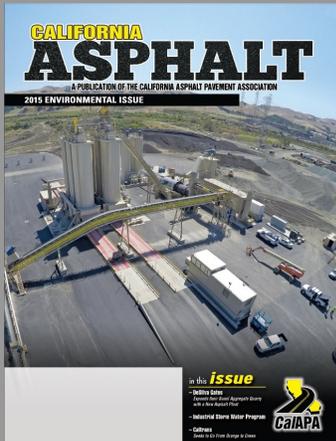
JTCP instructor Dan Ridolfi (foreground) leads a pilot JTCP class in December.

Beginning this year, the JTCP is the official program for industry and agency personnel to obtain the necessary certifications for work requiring Caltrans testing certifications.

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



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

SUBSCRIBE!

2NB2CBIBEI

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

WATCH

The classes will be held beginning in February and throughout the year on the campus of Cal State Long Beach and also at California State University, San Jose. The main Joint Training & Certification Program (JTCP) website is [HERE](#). A direct link to the Hot Mix Asphalt I class schedule (including test methods covered) is [HERE](#). A direct link to the Hot Mix Asphalt II schedule is [HERE](#). A direct link to the Soils and Aggregate schedule is [HERE](#). A direct link to the Portland Cement Concrete schedule of classes is [HERE](#).

There are strict prerequisites, including completion of a safety quiz, that must be completed prior to registering for a class. Click [HERE](#) to learn more. A "Frequently Asked Questions" page is [HERE](#).

As an aid to those familiarizing themselves with the new program, CalAPA has created a "Joint Training & Certification Program Resource Page" on the CalAPA website [HERE](#). A July 17, 2017 *Asphalt Insider* newsletter article reporting on the official launch of the JTCP program is [HERE](#). An Oct. 23, 2017 *Asphalt Insider* update is [HERE](#). The program is actively recruiting instructors for the program. To learn more, click [HERE](#).



JTCP Instructor Dave Aver (at white board) teaching a pilot JTCP class last December.

The Caltrans program manager overseeing the program is Jeremy Peterson-Self. He can be reached at (916) 227-7162. The lead contact for the program at CSULB is Dr. Shadi Saadeh. He can be reached at: (562) 985-4147.



Attendees participate in the hands-on portion of the HMA technician pilot class last month at San Jose State University.

→ Tech Term of the Week

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

CAPILLARY ACTION: The rise or movement of water in the voids of a



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

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soil caused by capillary forces.

→ Quote of the Week

"Wise men make more opportunities than they find."

Francis Bacon

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.

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