

# 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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**TICKETS ON SALE NOW!**  
CalAPA 'Day at the Races' at Del Mar Race Track, Del Mar, CA.  
Saturday, July 21.  
Contact: Sophie You (916) 791-5044  
Details [HERE](#).

\*

**SAVE THE DATES!**  
Fall Asphalt Pavement Conference, Oct. 24-25  
Doubletree Hotel, 2001 Point West Way, Sacramento.

## 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.

## → Roads generally fare well in California's June 5 Primary Election, but potential detour may be on the horizon

Last week's statewide primary election delivered some good news for transportation advocates, but the flurry of road repairs underway faced the stark reality of political maneuvering that could put tens of billions of dollars of infrastructure investments in jeopardy.

Proposition 69, a statewide ballot measure to protect transportation dollars from being utilized for other purposes, glided to easy victory in the June 5 primary election, with a whopping eight in 10 voters endorsing it.

A regional transportation measure in the Bay Area also surpassed the two-third approval threshold required to raise or extend taxes, but a local measure in the City of Davis, west of Sacramento, fell short of the two-thirds "yes" votes needed to take effect. A story about the Davis measure was featured in last week's Asphalt insider, which can be viewed [HERE](#).

It was clear, however, that gas taxes will be a top campaign issue for Republicans seeking to win the Governor's Office and at least seven seats in the U.S. House of Representatives currently held by Republicans but where voters chose Democrat Hillary Clinton over Republican Donald Trump for president two years ago.

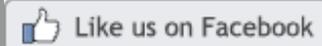


**Gubernatorial candidate Gavin Newsom (left), the top vote-getter in last week's primary election, tours a Vulcan Materials asphalt plant in San Diego in 2015. He has said he will campaign against any effort to repeal SB1, the Road Repair & Accountability Act of 2017.**

SB1, the Road Repair & Accountability Act of 2017 that is expected to generate more than \$5 billion a year for transportation improvements, has quickly become the poster child for Republican campaign rhetoric that Californians are over-taxed. The bill, which passed the Legislature last year, raised gas taxes 12 cents a gallon -- the first such increase since the mid-1990s -- to pay to fix crumbling roads, bridges and other transportation infrastructure. The money is split between the state and local governments, and has already resulted in billions worth of repair projects either under construction or in the pipeline.

For sponsorship and exhibitor opportunities, contact Sophie You at (916) 791-5044.

## SOCIALIZE



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## 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 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.



John Cox, a Republican gubernatorial candidate who captured one of the two spots in California's "top two" primary election, pledged to make repeal of the gas tax one of his signature campaign themes. Democratic Lt. Gov Gavin Newsom, the top vote-getter in the governor's race, similarly pledged to campaign to preserve SB1.

Last week the *Los Angeles Times* editorialized that the campaign to overturn SB1 is "cynical political gamesmanship." *The Times* noted that the pay-as-you-go gas tax was once a Republican idea, but that brand of fiscal responsibility has been trumped by short-term political maneuvering. Proponents have turned in what they say is enough signatures of registered voters to qualify the measure for the November ballot, but the signatures are being verified by local registrars and the measure has not yet received a ballot designation.



*Fiona Ma (center), the top vote-getter for state Treasurer in last week's primary election, is pictured during a tour of a Vulcan Materials asphalt plant in Pleasanton in 2011 when she was a member of the state Assembly.*

In other noteworthy election news, Democrat Fiona Ma easily was the top vote-getter in the race for state Treasurer. She will face fellow Democrat in November. When she was a member of the state Assembly, Ma carried a bill that was signed into law by Gov. Jerry Brown to promote the use of more Reclaimed Asphalt Pavement (RAP) in asphalt mixes.

For a more detailed analysis of the impact of last week's primary election on the asphalt industry, CalAPA members should refer to the "Member Alert" that was sent out on June 7. To learn about projects made possible by SB1, visit the Rebuilding California website [HERE](#).

## → Spotlight on the Pavement Preservation Center at CSU Chico

With protecting California's valuable pavement assets very much in the news these days, an institution dedicated to doing just that showed off its laboratory facilities last week to representatives from industry and agencies.

The California Pavement Preservation Center on the campus of California State University, Chico, was founded in 2006 to be a focal point for research into preserving pavements so that scarce transportation dollars go as far as possible. It is funded by the university, Caltrans and private donors.

Tony Tavares, Caltrans Chief of the Division of Maintenance, and Tim Gruetert, Chief of the Caltrans Office of Roadway Materials Testing, were among the attendees Thursday to get an update of the center's activities and plans for the future.

Tavares underscored

# 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](#).

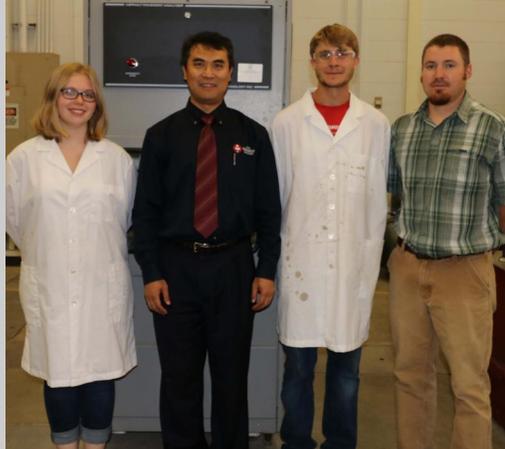
## MAGAZINE



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

the importance of the collaboration between agency, industry and academia to benefit from the latest knowledge and practical experience with regard to pavement and construction materials, and how research can help inform those discussions. "The goal is to find a resolution, and to keep things moving," he said.



**CSU Chico representatives (from left): Kimberly Joslin, research assistant; DingXin Cheng, CSUC Professor; Christopher Jensen, laboratory assistant, and Brandon Fraser, technician.**

CalAPA members in attendance included Sallie Houston with George Reed/VSS, Scott Metcalf with Ergon Asphalt & Emulsions and Scott Dmytrow with Telfer Pavement Technologies. Metcalf is co-chair of the CP2 patrons group, along with Rene Vercruyssen with CalAPA member Knife River.

DingXing Cheng, a professor of engineering at Chico State and the director of the CP2 Center, briefed the gathering on recent center activities and plans for future research. School of Engineering Dean Ricardo Jacquez also addressed the group. Noting the connection between the classroom and the hands-on activities in the on-campus materials lab, Jacquez said, "When it is a real-world problem they are working on, it is a better learning environment."

The connection between workforce development was also evident for industry and agency representatives are already actively recruiting the next generation of workers. CalAPA's strategic plan includes a workforce development goal, and the association has sponsored numerous students, including from CSU Chico, to attend CalAPA conferences at no charge.

Lab Technician Brandon Fraser conducted the laboratory tour portion of the meeting, showcasing the binder testing equipment and various test methods and techniques developed at the center.

For more information on the CP2 Center, click [HERE](#) to visit the center's website. CP2 research will be highlighted at the CalAPA Fall Asphalt Pavement Conference & Equipment Expo, which is scheduled for Oct. 24-25 in Sacramento. Details on the conference program will be announced in an upcoming issue of *Asphalt Insider*. For Fall Conference exhibitor or sponsor information, contact Sophie you of CalAPA at (916) 791-5044.



**DingXin Cheng from CSU Chico (left) and student Harry Yu attended the 2016 CalAPA Fall Conference in Sacramento.**

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## GET CERTIFIED!



The Caltrans-industry Joint Training & Certification Program (JTCP) for materials technicians is holding classes in Northern and Southern California. Click [HERE](#) to visit our JTCP resource page to learn more.

## DESIGN!

**PAVE**Express  
Specify & Verify Pavement  
Designs Online for Free  
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To visit the PAVEExpress website, click [HERE](#). To view the companion website, PaveInstruct, click [HERE](#).

## 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.



*Brandon Fraser, far right, conducts the tour June 7 of the materials laboratory on the campus of California State University, Chico. DingXin Cheng, director of the CP2 Center, is second from the left.*

## → 'Day at the Races' in Del Mar July 21 is a great way to bask in that Triple Crown magic

Del Mar, "Where the turf meets the surf," is not only one of the most scenic thoroughbred horse racing tracks in the world, it's also rich with history, with new and exciting chapters being written each year.

That pedigree, and California's growing prominence in the sport of kings, was on display for an international audience over the weekend when an undefeated 2-year-old chestnut colt, Justify, galloped to racing immortality at the Belmont Stakes in New York, becoming only the 13th Triple Crown winner in thoroughbred history. Justify previously notched impressive wins at the Kentucky Derby and the Preakness.

Justify's first two wins were at Santa Anita in Southern California, and the horse is trained by Bob Baffert, a familiar face on the California circuit. In 2014, the CalAPA-sponsored race was won by another speedy 2-year-old, Lord Nelson, and Baffert joined CalAPA representatives Holly Mendell and John Michalik from California Commercial Asphalt for the Winner's Circle photo.



*Trainer Bob Baffert (far left) in the Winner Circle of the CalAPA-sponsored race at Del Mar in 2014. The legendary trainer captured his second Triple Crown over the weekend when Justify won the Belmont Stakes.*

As racing fans know, Baffert went on to be the trainer of 2015 Triple Crown champion, American Pharoah, which twice raced at Del Mar before capturing the Triple Crown. California Chrome, a 2014 Kentucky Derby and Preakness winner who came up short at the Belmont, also raced at Del Mar, further cementing the Golden State's cred in the world of thoroughbred racing.

CalAPA's popular "Day at the Races" at Del Mar returns for the



opening weekend of the thoroughbred racing season. The association has once again reserved a luxury suite overlooking the finish line. Seating is limited for this family-friendly event, and tickets must be purchased on-line and are offered on a first-come, first-served basis. Details are [HERE](#).

Join us July 21 and maybe you'll get to see the next chapter of horse-racing history written for yourself. For more information, contact Sophie You of CalAPA at (916) 791-5044.

## → Tech Term of the Week

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

**CREOSOTE:** An oily liquid, used in wood preservation, colorless when pure but usually colored yellow or brown by impurity or exposure.

## → Paving Pointer of the Week

*Each week we highlight a key point or best practice of interest to asphalt paving crews, inspectors and others working in the field. We welcome suggestions. More tips can be found in our Asphalt Parking Lot Construction Checklist [HERE](#).*

**SITE PREPARATION:** Ask Yourself: If overlaying a sub-base aggregate material, was a "prime coat" (a bonding and sealing agent) required and was it installed per the project specifications?

## → Quote of the Week

"When you're young and starting out you imagine institutions are monoliths -- big, impervious to your presence. Later, having spent time within, you know how human and flawed it all is, and how it's saved each day by the wisdom and patience -- the quiet heroism -- of a few. Be one of the few."

**Peggy Noonan**

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)