

CALIFORNIA ASPHALT INSIDER

The latest news and views from the California Asphalt Pavement Association
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IN THIS ISSUE

[A timely reminder about work zone safety](#)

[Epic fires recall heroic response to Napa blaze by CalAPA members](#)

[CalAPA members confer in Sacramento to formulate response to Prop. 6](#)

[In their own words: the importance of infrastructure investment in America](#)

[Tech Term of the Week: Design thickness](#)

[Pavement Pointer of the Week: During the paving operation](#)

[Quote of the Week: Martin Luther King](#)

CALENDAR

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

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REGISTRATION OPEN!

Annual CalAPA Golf

Tournament

Thursday, Sept. 20, 2018

8 a.m. to 2 p.m. (new earlier start time!)

Pacific Palms Resort, City of Industry
Details [HERE](#).

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SAVE THE DATES!

Fall Asphalt Pavement

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.

→ A timely reminder about work zone safety

At a meeting with the construction industry in Richmond on Friday, Caltrans District 4 Construction Chief Bob Finney gave a grim run-down of several safety-related incidents that occurred recently in the Bay Area on state highway jobs.

Finney, who has held the position for more than a decade, said he could not remember a similar flurry of seemingly unrelated incidents, but he said the trend is nonetheless troubling. As he related the details of each accident, he dubbed his remarks a "public service announcement."

Although safety professionals could not draw any connection between the incidents, it prompted the district to hold a "stand down" to review safety procedures and redouble its efforts to engage with contractors to ensure highway improvement projects are completed safely. Finney called upon the contractors attending the meeting to be extra vigilant.

As he spoke, several miles away the California Highway Patrol was responding to a fatal accident along Interstate 80 where an errant driver killed a CHP officer and another driver during a routine traffic stop.

It was another chilling reminder that danger lurks around every curve of our highway system and on the other side of that traffic cone.

Last year's passage of SB1, the Road Repair & Accountability Act of 2017, has led to an infusion of funds to repair California's aging roads and bridges, and a flurry of work has been undertaken as a result. However, as the industry gears up to deliver on these projects, it is scrambling to recruit and train a workforce to deliver these projects safely and efficiently.

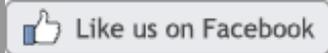
Our more seasoned readers may recall a popular TV show from the 1980s, "Hill Street Blues," which cast an unflinching eye on street cops in Chicago. At the conclusion of each squad room briefing of patrol officers, the watch commander sent his charges off to the streets with a stern admonishment, "Be careful out there." Those



Caltrans District 4 Construction Chief Bob Finney (left) talks safety at a meeting Friday with industry in Richmond. Christine Williams with CalAPA member Granite Construction is to his right.

Conference, Oct. 24-25
Doubletree Hotel, 2001 Point
West Way, Sacramento.
For sponsorship and exhibitor
opportunities, contact Sophie
You at (916) 791-5044.

SOCIALIZE



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.

words are worth pausing and reflecting on in our industry as well. Don't be in such a hurry or on "auto-pilot" to be aware of the potential hazards of a construction project, particularly road work where vehicles are present.

The National Asphalt Pavement Association (NAPA), a CalAPA partner, has developed a national public awareness campaign about the importance of driving safely in work zones. For more information, including a link to perhaps the most compelling work-zone safety Public Service Announcement ever produced, click [HERE](#). And remember, "be careful out there."

→ Epic fires recall heroic response to Napa blaze by CalAPA members

With so much of our state consumed by raging wildfires in recent days, it is a fresh reminder of the close connection between the asphalt industry and the communities where we live and work. This is no more evident than during times of crisis.

CalAPA members BoDean and Syar Industries played a prominent role during last year's fast-moving Napa wildfires, which was chronicled in the CalAPA magazine, *California Asphalt*. Click [HERE](#) to view the issue.



This year's massive California wildfires fires recall the heroic efforts by CalAPA members to help respond to the 2017 Napa fires, including this BoDean water truck pressed into service by overwhelmed firefighters, credited with saving countless homes.

The disasters also underscore the importance of adequately maintained roads and bridges, which are often lifelines for fleeing residents and emergency responders. Expect to hear more on this subject from police officers and firefighters as voters consider Prop. 6 on the Nov. 6 ballot, which if passed would put thousands of road-improvement projects in jeopardy in California.

Finally, the time to review your emergency plan is before disaster strikes. The Governor's Office of Emergency Services has numerous resources [HERE](#). Learn more about developing your own emergency preparedness plan for your family [HERE](#). As the father of time management, Benjamin Franklin, supposedly was known to remark, "Failing to plan is planning to fail."

→ CalAPA members confer in Sacramento to formulate response to Prop. 6

With thousands of vital transportation improvement projects in jeopardy, CalAPA members met in Sacramento last week as part of a coordinated effort to educate the public about the importance of safe roads and bridges.

This comes as the "No on Prop. 6" campaign ramped up with its first TV ads and other mobilization efforts, which includes hundreds of endorsements from a diverse group of police, firefighters, environmental groups, unions and business interests. The main "No on Prop. 6" website is [HERE](#). A Central Valley-focused TV ad that began airing last week can be viewed [HERE](#).

The Road Repair & Accountability Act of 2017, passed by a two-

CalAPA

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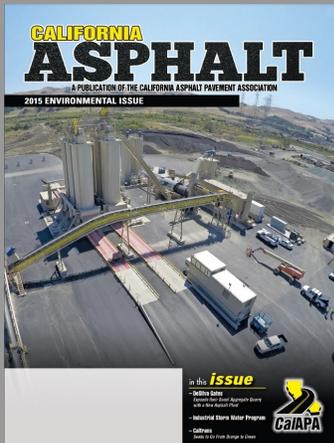
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BACK ISSUES

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.

third vote of the Legislature and signed into law by the governor, will generate about \$5 billion per year to repair crumbling roads, bridges and other transportation infrastructure in every part of the state. A measure on the June ballot, Prop. 69, endorsed by 80 percent of voters, creates a "lock box" to prohibit transportation dollars from being used for other purposes, and a flurry of road repairs are already underway statewide.

Political operatives, seeking to activate conservative voters in the mid-term elections, are backing Proposition 6 on the Nov. 6 ballot, which would repeal the state's first fuel tax increase since 1994 to pay for the road repairs. CalAPA and hundreds of other organizations oppose the repeal. You can read the coalition list [HERE](#).

CalAPA members met in Sacramento last week to compare notes with like-minded groups and elected officials that view Prop. 6 as posing a danger to all Californians. Meanwhile, CalAPA was mentioned in a news story about Prop. 6 by the public-interest news organization CalMatters. You can read the article [HERE](#). Look for more updates on Prop. 6 in future issues of *Asphalt Insider*. The CalAPA Legislative Action page, which has fact sheets and other grass-roots tools to contact your elected officials, is [HERE](#).



CalAPA Legislative Committee Chairman Don L. Daley III with California Commercial Asphalt (left) and CalAPA Political Action Committee Chairman Brian Handshoe with Kenco Engineering pose in front of the Governor's Mansion last week.

→ In their own words: the importance of infrastructure investment in America

The graphics may be a bit cheezy, but a brief video produced by the U.S. House of Representatives' Transportation & Infrastructure Committee uses the words of historical figures to underscore the importance of public investments in infrastructure for the greater good.

U.S. Rep. Bill Schuster, R-PA, chair of the committee, is the narrator for the video and poses the questions to the visionary leaders, including a former California governor who went on to become president of the United States.



To view the 3-minute video, click [HERE](#).

The take-away is that investing in infrastructure is a proven good idea that is as old as America, and has contributed mightily to our nation's prosperity and quality of life. Don't take our word for it. Others have spoken far more eloquently on the subject.

STAY INFORMED

SUBSCRIBE!

SUBSCRIBE!

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

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!

PAVEExpress
Specify & Verify Pavement
Designs Online for Free
www.pavexpressdesign.com

To visit the PAVEExpress website, click [HERE](#). To view the companion website, Pavelnstruct, 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.

→ Tech Term of the Week

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

DESIGN THICKNESS: The total pavement structure thickness above the sub-grade.

→ 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](#).

DURING THE PAVING OPERATION: Ask yourself: What is the specified compacted thickness in inches? How thick is the crew laying the mixture prior to compaction? A rule of thumb is that a loose mat compacts a quarter inch per 1 inch of thickness. Is the finished mat smooth with no deviations greater than ¼ inch over 10 feet?

→ Quote of the Week

"The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice."

Martin Luther King

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, events and trends 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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