

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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EVENT POSTPONED:
Southern California Paving Contractor Mixer
Tuesday, March 31, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Brewheim, 1931 E. Wright Circle, Anaheim
Contact: Bill Knopf (442) 400-9697

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.

→ SPECIAL REPORT: CalAPA & industry response to the COVID-19 coronavirus outbreak

With events rapidly unfolding across California, the nation and the globe related to the COVID-19 virus pandemic, CalAPA shifted gears this week to emergency response mode, gathering and distributing information in real time to members on the impact to the industry.

At the same time, the association, like all agencies and companies, was contending with potential disruptions to operations and impact on staff and families.

In anticipation of a the potential disruption in company operations, *Asphalt Insider* on March 2 published an article on crisis communication tips, which was distributed to members, non-members, agency personnel and others via the newsletter's 2,800-person subscriber list. A link to that issue is [HERE](#). CalAPA requested of numerous Caltrans officials that the Department communicate to the construction industry via its Construction web page any potential impacts to projects, payments or other interactions. No information had been posted as of late Sunday. The department did announce late Friday, however, that it was posting public service announcements on more than 700 electronic highway advisory signs around the state. A link to that announcement is [HERE](#).



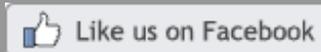
A Caltrans photo of a PSA message on an electronic highway sign.

On March 10, the association followed up with a "Member Alert" relaying information from Caltrans on specification language on projects that references project impacts due to epidemics and quarantine restrictions, and also steps the Caltrans was taking with regard to ensuring payments are not disrupted due to the various work restrictions imposed to government employees as a result of Public Health agency orders. As a public service, CalAPA is making that member-only communication widely available [HERE](#).

On Friday, industry representatives met with representatives of the California Air Resources Board with regard to the on-going rule-making process related to AB617, the community air quality law. At the meeting, CalAPA formally requested that CARB suspend the rule-making process for one year as industry's ability to provide

*
REGISTRATION OPEN:
Annual Asphalt Pavement
Conference
April 15-17, 2020
Disney's Grand Californian
Hotel & Spa, 1600 S.
Disneyland Drive, Anaheim
Contact Sophie You at (916)
791-5044 for sponsorship and
exhibitor information.
Details [HERE](#).

SOCIALIZE

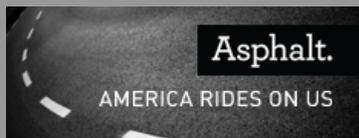


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CHOOSE ASPHALT

Asphalt is used on about 95 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

meaningful input was being compromised by the unfolding emergency. Several CalAPA members who were scheduled to attend the meeting at the CalEPA building in downtown Sacramento were absent or were forced to participate via teleconference. A CARB representative also was participating via phone from home. CARB said they would take the request to their executive management.

CalAPA further communicated with other construction trade associations and partners to encourage strong lines of communications with project owners to ensure that contingency plans are in place and projects and payments are not disrupted.

On Thursday, the CalAPA Southern California Contractors' Committee decided to cancel a planned industry mixer scheduled for March 31 in Anaheim. An abundance of caution was the stated reason. Three days later, California Gov. Gavin Newsom directed the temporary closure of bars, pubs and wineries in the state during a Sunday press conference. CalAPA was also forced to cancel a planned training class set for April 8 in San Jose when a city facility was shut down. In addition, a planned tour of the materials lab on the campus of San Jose State University, arranged by CalAPA and featuring state Sen. Jim Beall, D-San Jose, the chairman of the Senate Transportation Committee, was also postponed.



State Sen. Jim Beall speaks at a 2018 CalAPA asphalt conference.

On Friday, CalAPA distributed a message to all those who have registered for the association's upcoming Asphalt Pavement Conference, scheduled for April 15-17 at Disney's Grand Californian Hotel & Spa in Anaheim, as well as scheduled presenters. The governor earlier in the week issued an advisory discouraging gatherings of 250 people or more unless appropriate health and safety measures are put in place. Disney announced its parks and hotels in California would close through March. CalAPA is in constant communication with Disney with regard to the status of events scheduled in April, including the CalAPA Asphalt Pavement Conference, for which scores of people have already registered.

Meanwhile, the association posted the following notice on the Annual Asphalt Conference event website: "SAFETY & SECURITY: CalAPA continues to monitor events related to the COVID-19 virus outbreak, which is commonly called the novel coronavirus. The safety of attendees at CalAPA events is always the top priority, and the association will take precautionary steps in accordance with guidance from public health officials and the venue. Event registrants will be notified of any changes to the program or other essential information as soon as possible. Disneyland Resort has a world-class reputation for protecting the safety and security of guests at its parks and meeting facilities. Additional information from Disney can be found [HERE](#)." CalAPA continues to be in communication with Disney with regard to the status of the Anaheim event, and has capped the number of attendees in accordance with the governor's advisory. More updates on the status of the event will be provided as soon as additional guidance is received from Disney and local and state health officials.

CalAPA has activated its contingency plans to continue association operations uninterrupted, which include the use of cloud-based computing solutions, teleworking, Virtual Private Networks, GoToMeeting and GoToWebinar platforms and other technology to continue delivering on association's educational and information-

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

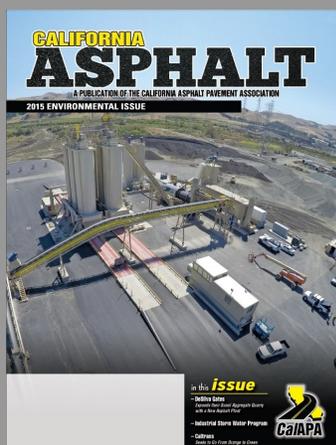
Main office:
1550 Harbor Blvd., Suite 211
West Sacramento, CA 95691

(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



CalAPA produces a highly regarded magazine, *California Asphalt*, and an

sharing mission. All association publications will remain on their regular schedules, and all committee meetings will feature a web-conference option.

On Thursday, the Caltrans-industry Advisory Committee that oversees the Joint Training & Certification Program met in an unscheduled meeting to discuss impacts from the virus to classes being held on the campuses of California State University, Long Beach and San Jose State University. CalAPA is a member of the advisory committee.



Assemblyman Patrick O'Donnell (center) visits a JTCP class last year at Long Beach State University. Caltrans program manager Jeremy Peterson-Self is at right.

In the short-term, classes that were scheduled to be held in March will be postponed. The campuses have procedures in place to protect students through various social distancing and other measures, and program administrators were conferring to see about what impact there would be to classes held beyond March. Caltrans officials have committed to working closely with industry to ensure that technicians receive proper certifications, or emergency extensions, during the disruption.

Industry representatives, as well as a representative from the Federal Highway Administration, commended the JTCP program managers for their work in minimizing disruptions to the certification program as much as possible.

The full extent of the impacts from the pandemic are not fully known, but CalAPA will continue to keep the industry informed of pertinent information as it becomes available. For more information, contact CalAPA at (916) 791-5044.

→ CalAPA 'virtual' office and resources

CalAPA will continue to operate during normal business hours, Monday through Friday. However, based on public health guidelines and other institutional impacts, the association's physical office at 1550 Harbor Boulevard in West Sacramento many not always be staffed. However, phone calls to the association's main phone number will be routed electronically to the appropriate staff for follow-up. Staff can be contacted directly via e-mail or via the association's general web contact form, which is [HERE](#). The association website of resources, of course, is open 24/7, and includes an archive of past issues of the newsletter, magazine and other resources. It is [HERE](#).



→ Commentary: 'You can't make good

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

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!



To visit the PAVEXpress website, click [HERE](#). To view the companion website, PaveInstruct, click [HERE](#).

decisions without good information'

Editor's Note: in the 2017 Quality issue of the CalAPA magazine, "California Asphalt" (Vol. 21, Issue 5), the following commentary appeared on Page 4 as a "Publisher Letter" and was signed by Russell W. Snyder, CAE, Executive Director of CalAPA. It is being republished this week because the message is as important as ever. A link to the issue is [HERE](#). For those who may have more time on their hands for reading in the days and weeks ahead, an archive of recent issues of the magazine, which is filled with exclusive content about our industry in California, can be found [HERE](#).

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There's an old management saw that you can't make good decisions without good information. Unfortunately, these days we often have too much information and have a difficult time sorting through it all to find the valuable nuggets that will be useful to our businesses and organizations.

In my previous career in journalism, I watched as the Information Age made a slow but steady march on the scene, hastened by networked computing, the internet and the World Wide Web, and finally smart phones and other devices that allow us to access information from anywhere and at any time.

The trouble with information is there is good information and bad information. Knowing which is which is a daily challenge for the savvy information consumer. That's why trusted sources of news and information are so important.

In the mainstream media, established newspapers such as *The Wall Street Journal*, *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post* and news magazines produce high-quality information that meet professional standards of fairness and accuracy. In our state the highly regarded *San Jose Mercury News*, *Sacramento Bee* and *Los Angeles Times* have many well-deserved awards for journalistic excellence. When they get something wrong, they publish a correction or clarification. Their editorial pages are open to alternate points of view. On television, network and local TV news shows strive to report information accurately.

Out on the internet, however, it's still a wild frontier. Seemingly legitimate news flows around social media that is loosely constructed, poorly sourced and of dubious legitimacy. Studies have shown that such "fake news" continues to grow and threatens to overwhelm our citizenry that is trying to make sense of the world. Recent studies have found that propaganda is exploding across the globe via false or misleading social media postings, which is creating a real threat to democratic institutions.

For the information consumer, it is important to understand where your news and information is coming from, and that it is a trusted source. For the asphalt industry in California, we take the responsibility to provide reliable information very seriously. Our weekly electronic newsletter, *California Asphalt Insider*, and our bi-monthly magazine, *California Asphalt*, are produced to professional standards and content is reviewed and fact-checked for accuracy. We make sure to cite our source material, and run corrections if we have made a factual error. We strive to generate valuable content that is available nowhere else and that helps advance knowledge and understanding of our industry for the benefit of all.

We thank our readers, our advertisers, and most of all, the members of the California Asphalt Pavement Association who support this

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.



important activity.

→ Tech Term of the Week

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

ASPHALT INTERMEDIATE COURSE: A course between a base course and asphalt surface course. It is sometimes called binder course.

→ 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](#).

TONNAGE CALCULATION: Are there enough trucks on the run to haul the mix needed to complete the job? If you have five trucks on the round each carrying 25 tons = 125 tons per round. If each round takes one hour to make, then the production rate is 125 tons per hour. If the job requires 1,000 tons at 125 tons per hour = eight hours to get the mix to the job.

→ Safety Tip of the Week

Each week we highlight a key tip or best practice to ensure that asphalt plants and paving operations are safe, comply with appropriate regulations and are accident-free. We welcome suggestions. More tips can be found in our Safety Checklists posted on our Safety Resources Page [HERE](#).

EQUIPMENT SAFETY: Are machine guards in place and effective? Are welding bottles stored upright, separated and secured? Is equipment carefully inspected before each use?

→ Quote of the Week

"The only thing we have to fear is fear itself."

Franklin D. Roosevelt

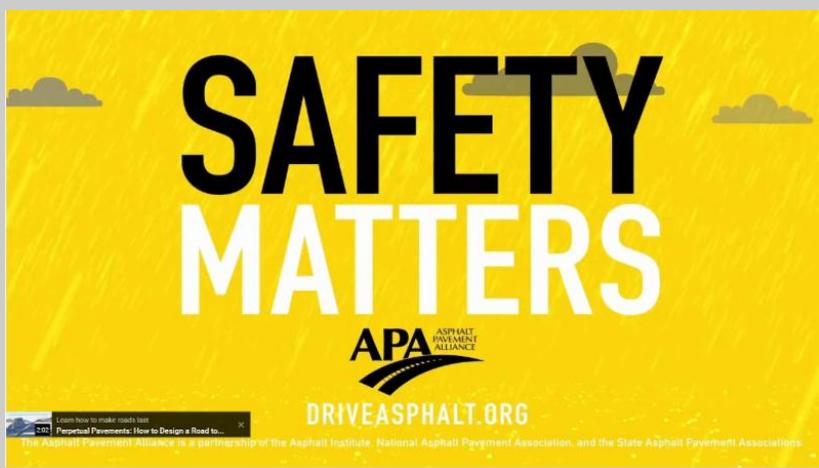
We hope you enjoy CalAPA's *Asphalt Insider*. We are committed to providing you with the most up-to-date information on technical issues, regulation, news, analysis, events and trends in California that may impact the asphalt pavement industry. Click [HERE](#) to contact us with any comments or suggestions.

Sincerely,

Russell W. Snyder, CAE

Executive Director

California Asphalt Pavement Association (CalAPA)®



Visit the CalAPA Safety resources page [HERE](#).

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 © 2020 California Asphalt Pavement Association - All Rights Reserved. The CalAPA® name (No. 5,621,794) and logo (No. 5,621,795) are registered trademarks with the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office. www.calapa.net