



Presented by your 2019-2020 San Diego Section Officers

Section Director: Cristina Nunez

Section President: John Williamson

President Elect: Oscar Cortes

VP Supervisory: Abu-Bakr Al-Jafri

VP Rank & File: Paul Swearingen

VP At Large: Ben Neill

Secretary: Alex Balce

Treasurer: Farah Kushkaki

Upcoming Events

- 9/17/2020 - WTS SD Annual Awards & Scholarships Recognitions (Virtual)
- 9/26/2020 - Caltrans Heart & Stroke Walk Digital Experience (Virtual)
- TBD – Swearing in New elected SD PEGC Section Officers FY 2020-21

Recruit New PEGC Member

1-Text or email PEGC recruitment videos:

<http://pecg.org/pecg-delivers> or

<https://www.youtube.com/user/PEGCA>

2-Text or email to sign-up (e-application):

<http://www.pecg.org/join>

3-Monetary rewards for recruiting:

- \$50 for each rank and file employee
- \$200 for each supervisor/manager

1st Virtual Toot Our Horn Tuesdays!

Tuesday, May 26th, 2020



Due to Covid-19 pandemic, District 11 held its first virtual Toot Our Horn Tuesdays via Webex online meeting. It was a celebration and a recognition of our excellent Caltrans District 11 employees. It is an event to recognize who have reached milestones, new employees and exceptional service. District 11 management have recognized the following employees:

➤ New Employees

Jennifer Talana - TE Civil
Safwat Ibrahim -TE Civil
Rebecca Sifuentes – ROW Agent
Victoria Coluna - SSA Admin
Alejandro Vazquez – AGPA Admin
Jake Cooper – TE Civil
Ali Demir – TE Civil
Sherry Tadros – TE Civil
Lioneil Lumido – TE Civil
Robert Nhep – TE Civil
Raymon Hutalla – TE Civil
Alex Balce – TE Civil
Tristan Korn - Surveyor
Jose Marquez -Sr. Planner

➤ Milestones

40 years at Caltrans - Lorna Rice
25 years at Caltrans - Robert Lumahan
25 years at Caltrans - Gregory Gutierrez

PECG Weekly Update

May 29, 2020

PECG this week joined nearly 60 other infrastructure, labor, business, and local government organizations in urging the U.S. Congress to “support the inclusion of a significant Federal investment in infrastructure in the next stimulus package to accelerate our economic recovery and get Californians back to work.”

As has been much reported, the COVID-19 pandemic has plunged California and the rest of the country into deep recession. In California, that has led to a \$41 billion drop in expected tax revenue over the next year and created a projected \$54.3 billion state budget deficit. To close the large budget deficit, the Newsom Administration has proposed a 10% reduction in state employee compensation costs, and cuts in nearly every other state-funded program.

No doubt, part of the solution to this budget crisis is additional federal stimulus funding for California and every other state struggling with budget deficits caused by COVID-19. The letter notes that an infusion of federal infrastructure investments will help shore up the state’s finances and protect the infrastructure sector from devastating cuts. It also reminds Congressional leaders that investing in infrastructure creates tens of thousands of solid middle-class jobs in the construction sector and across the economy. The letter concludes that the “time to act is now” on a federal stimulus package.

To read more archived weekly updates:
<http://pecg.org/communications/weekly-update/>

➤ Promotions

Erwin Gojuanco
Grace Ann Budomo– Right of Way Agent
Krystian Fimbres - Area Supt
Grecia Meza –TE/Civil
Estevan Ramirez- Rios—Maint Superv
Chris Schmidt – CEA A
Jimmie Smith – Area Supt
Khou Yang – SSA

Chief DD
Right of Way
MTCE Supp
Design
East Tree Crew
Right of Way
MTCE East
Admin/Hiring

➤ Employee of the Quarter

Zachary Svelling, - Associate Right of Way Agent

PECG NEW MOU AGREEMENT

Wednesday, July 1st, 2020

In late June 2020, the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was approved by the Legislature as part of AB 119 and signed by the Governor Gavin Newsom. PECG members have ratified by voting up to 98% to ratify the new MOU with CalHR (representing the State). The PECG Bargaining Team thank you for the vote of confidence and your support throughout the negotiations conducted under difficult circumstances. Some of the major benefits are: 3% General Salary Increase (GSI) in July 2022 and 16 hours of leave credit with cash value per Personal Leave Program (PLP 2020). Here is the side-by-side comparison of the benefits provided to PECG members with the agreement vs.no agreement:

	PECG MOU 2020-2022	Without Agreement
GENERAL SALARY INCREASE	Yes	No
LONGEVITY PAY	All Differentials Paid and Raises Continue in 2021 and 2022	Longevity Raises Suspended
GEOGRAPHIC PAY	Differential Paid	Uncertain
PERSONAL LEAVE PROGRAM	Two Leave Days a Month at Employee’s Discretion, with Cash Value	Two Unpaid Furlough Days a Month at State’s Discretion, No Cash Value
ANNUAL/VACATION LEAVE	640 Cap Lifted Through 2025	640 Cap Remains in Place
RETIREE MEDICAL CONTRIBUTION	2% OPEB/CERBT Suspended	2% OPEB/CERBT Continues
FURLOUGH PROTECTION	Yes	No
REDUCTION IN TAKE HOME PAY JULY 1, 2020	6.73%	8.73%

In The News

July 20, 2020

The California Transportation Foundation (CTF) awarded the North County Transit District (NCTD), in conjunction with the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG), Caltrans District 11, HDR Engineering, Inc., and Flatiron-Skanska-Stacy-Witbeck (FSSW) the Transit/Rail Project of the Year.

The CTF Transportation Award recognizes excellence in California transportation for all modes, public and private sector, and from all regions of the state.

The San Elijo Lagoon Double Track project was completed as part of "Build NCC", or the first phase of the North Coast Corridor Program, which also includes extending the carpool lanes on Interstate 5 from Lomas Santa Fe Drive in Solana Beach to State Route 78 in Oceanside, new bike and pedestrian trails and the restoration of the San Elijo Lagoon.

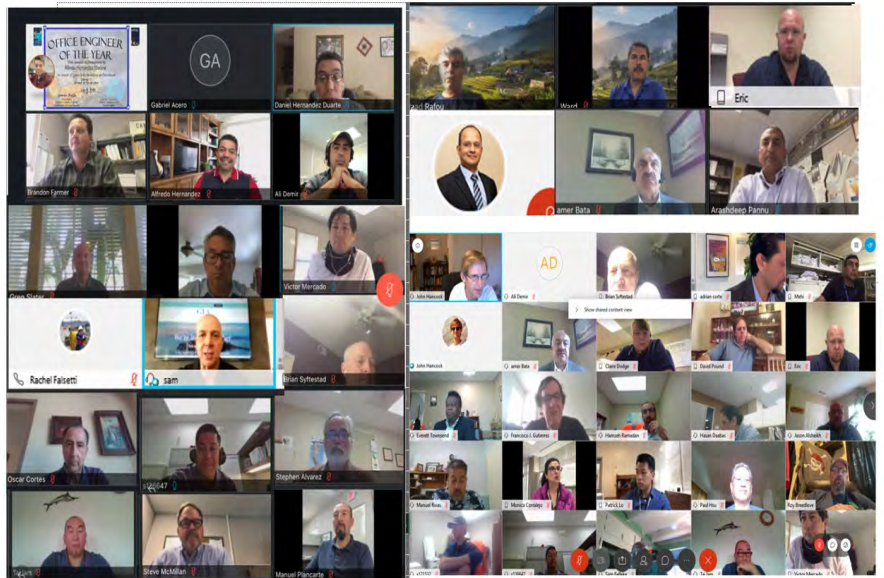
"Projects like the San Elijo Lagoon Double Track project will support multimodal transportation improvements throughout the region for years to come," said SANDAG Board Chair and Poway Mayor Steve Vaus. "Passenger rail services are expected to double over the next decade, and these projects will help our region keep pace with demand."

The San Elijo Lagoon Double Track project is a rail improvement project that extends between the cities of Encinitas and Solana Beach. The project added 1.5 miles of second main track from Cardiff-by-the-Sea to the southern border of the San Elijo Lagoon and replaced the more than 80-year-old wooden trestle San Elijo Lagoon rail bridge with a modern, double-track, concrete bridge.

1st Virtual Resident Engineer Meeting

Wednesday, July 8th, 2020

Due to Covid-19 pandemic, the Annual Resident Engineer Meeting for District 11 employees was held via Webex online meeting and hosted by Adrian Cortez, Structure Bridge Engineer along with other District 11 Executives. Some of the topics discussed were: Safety updates, RE Dashboard website, METS update, Contract Administration efficiencies, G-12 Request Protocols and Project Closeout updates.



➤ Construction Personnel Awards Recipients



The new double track creates more than four miles of continuous double track on the LOSSAN coastal rail corridor, eliminating the need for meeting or passing trains to take turns using the single track.

“As part of the 40-year, \$6-billion I-5 Build NCC Public Works Plan, projects like the San Elijo Lagoon Double Track are an example of how our relationships with transportation and regional partners lead to more options for travelers,” said Caltrans District Director Gustavo Dallarda. “Across the state, Caltrans’ efforts to jointly plan and coordinate multi-faceted transportation programs for more pedestrian, bike and transit-oriented facilities will lead to increased efficiencies and safety for people and goods.” Improvements included:

- Adding a new pedestrian undercrossing at the south end of the lagoon;
- Upgrading signaling and safety at the Chesterfield Drive grade crossing;
- Reconfiguring a rail switch; and

“NCTD appreciates CTF for recognizing the San Elijo Lagoon Double Track project at this year’s awards. Double tracking through the sensitive habitat of the lagoon in a responsible way is a major step toward providing more efficient rail service in our region and offering the best customer experience to our riders,” said Tony Kranz, NCTD board chair and Encinitas councilmember.

The project is also compatible with the extension of the Coastal Rail Trail for bikes and pedestrians in Encinitas. The Coastal Rail Trail is a 44-mile system of planned bike facilities between the cities of Oceanside and San Diego. This bike trail is intended to provide a safe and comfortable bike riding environment that is separated from motor vehicle traffic.

➤ Construction Personnel Awards Recipients

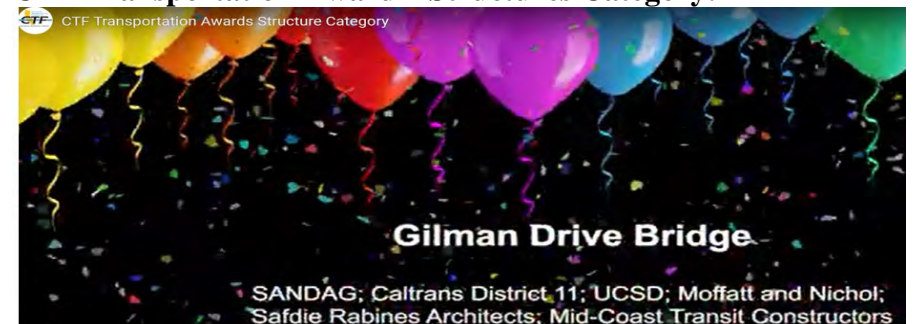


➤ Construction Project Awards

Transit Rail Project of the Year:



CTF Transportation Award – Structures Category:



SANDAG and Caltrans also won Structure Project of the Year for the Gilman Drive Bridge project, which provided a second connection between University of California San Diego and University City over I-5.

To read more:

<https://www.masstransitmag.com/management/press-release/21146766/north-county-transit-district-nctd-california-transportation-foundation-awards-nctd-sandag-caltrans-with-transit-trail-project-of-the-year>

Supervisors & Managers Updates

July 2020

PECG is happy to report that CalHR (representing the State) has officially confirmed that all provisions of PECG's new MOU will be provided to all rank and file and supervisory and managerial employees in Unit 9.

It is an undeniable truth – PECG has delivered unparalleled victories on behalf of Unit 9 supervisors and managers like you. Thanks to PECG, Unit 9 supervisors and managers have seen:

- Salaries go up by at least 85% in the last 14 years, by far the largest increase in state service.
- CalPERS pensions have been protected.
- Our health care CoBen benefits are the highest in state service.
- Our jobs have been protected from outsourcing.

This level of success didn't happen by accident. It is the result of the united strength and collective effort of 10,000 PECG members, including over 1,300 supervisors and managers, working together to achieve our shared goals.

To read more:

<http://pecg.org/members/supervisors/>

PECG San Diego New Officers

Monday, July 20th, 2020

Since there is only one candidate nominated for each San Diego Section officer for the 2020-2021 term, the San Diego Section officers and the Nominating & Election Committee chose to forgo the official election process. Therefore, your new PECG San Diego Section officers for the year 2020-21 are as follows:



Director: John Williamson (per Section Bylaws)

President: Oscar Cortes (per Section Bylaws)

President Elect: Frank Contreras

Vice President Collective Bargaining: William Vivar

Vice President Supervisory: Abu-Bakr Al-Jafri

Vice President At Large: Ben Neill

Secretary: Alex Balce

Treasurer: Farah Kushkaki

PECG International

Thursday, July 23rd, 2020

San Diego PECG President Elect, Oscar Cortes participated on a webinar for Latin America with the topic "Sustainable and Resilience Infrastructure with PPP" the discussion was around how effective or non are the Public Private Partnership delivery process and lessons learned from an International perspective from all panelist.

THE WORLD ASSOCIATION OF PPP UNITS & PROFESSIONALS

WEBINAR

WAPPP

InfraPPP

ASEGURAMIENTO DE LA SOSTENIBILIDAD Y RESILIENCIA DE PROYECTOS DE ASOCIACIONES PÚBLICO-PRIVADA

DR. DOMINGO PEÑALVER
Investigador en el Centro de Innovación para el transporte (CENTI/CIMNE) y miembro del comité editorial de WAPPP

OSCAR ALBERTO CORTÉS
Vicepresidente de relaciones internacionales con FEMCOC México

JAIME LI
Contractor jurídico, PPP Unit de Perú

ALEJANDRO PÉREZ ARELLANO
Abogado Asociado Flor y Hurtado Abogados, Ecuador

ANTONIN MENEGAUX
Economic Affairs Officer UN Economic Commission for Europe, Working Party on PPP

Thursday 23 July 2020 | 17:00 - 18:30 Geneva time (CET)

SANDAG

July 2020

The 2021 Regional Plan has a bold new vision in 5 Big Moves:

- Complete Corridors
- Transit Leap
- Mobility Hubs
- Flexibility Fleets
- Next OS

What are Complete Corridors?

Complete Corridors provide a variety of travel choices and use technology to manage how highways and major roads are used in real time. They provide a balance of dedicated, safe space for everyone, including freight vehicles and people who walk, bike, drive, ride transit, and use Flexible Fleets.

What is Transit Leap?

Transit Leap could create a complete network of high-speed, high-capacity, high frequency transit services that connect major residential areas with employment centers and attractions throughout the San Diego region. Transit Leap services could connect to supporting Flexible Fleets in Mobility Hubs. New high-speed services — covering longer distances with limited stops— may be separated from vehicle traffic with bridges, tunnels, or dedicated lanes. Improvements to existing transit services—such as the Trolley, COASTER, SPRINTER, and Rapid—may include additional rail tracks, more frequent service, dedicated transit lanes, and traffic signal priority to keep transit moving quickly.

Highway Safety Poster Contest

Monday, August 3rd, 2020

Each year statewide, Caltrans holds its annual Highway Safety poster contest. The contest is open to children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews of Caltrans employees, and it gives the children an opportunity to express their messages about the importance of driving safely in or near highway work zones. It also allows them to be part of Caltrans' educational outreach and life-saving message. The contest was open to children 17 years old or younger, and judges selected posters based on creativity, how well the poster conveyed the highway safety theme, and the use of color. Although the posters differ greatly in appearance, they all convey one of these important messages, "Be Work Zone Alert" or "Move Over." It is worth mentioning that some of the winners are from our own District 11 employees:

2020 Poster Contest Winner



Winner 7 – 10 years old

Kendall Rose Arangure's favorite things are mac 'n cheese and her dog. In addition to skateboarding, this 8-year-old third grader at Inspire School loves art. Her father is John Arangure, District 11 Transportation Surveyor. Being selected to paint an electrical box for the city of Vista was a major highlight for this young artist. Kendall thinks it's important for drivers to pay attention because it keeps her dad safe.

What are Mobility Hubs?

Mobility Hubs are communities with a high concentration of people, destinations, and travel choices. They offer on-demand travel options and supporting infrastructure that enhance connections to high-quality Transit Leap services while helping people make short trips around the community on Flexible Fleets. Mobility Hubs can span one, two, or a few miles based on community characteristics and are uniquely designed to fulfill a variety of travel needs while strengthening sense of place.

What are Flexible Fleets?

Flexible Fleets are shared, on-demand transportation services that provide convenient and personalized travel options. While they build on the popularity of services such as rideshare, bikeshare, and scooter share, fleets can also include neighborhood shuttles and delivery services. These fleets provide services for all types of trips, 24/7, which can reduce the need to own a car. They also provide important connections between high-speed Transit Leap services and key destinations such as work or home, making it easier for commuters to choose transit. Flexible Fleets are primarily accessible through mobile apps and can be operated by public and private agencies or through partnerships.

What is Next OS?

Next OS is the “brain” of the entire transportation system. It is a digital platform that compiles information from sources like passenger vehicles, buses, ridesharing vehicles, delivery trucks, e-bikes, and scooters into a centralized data hub. Analysis of this data will improve how transportation is planned, operated,

14-17 years old

Addison Rice – 15
Father, Andrew Rice
Senior Transportation Surveyor

District 11



11-13 years old

Izabella Nicole Neri – 11
Father, Tommy Neri
Highway Maintenance Leadworker

District 11



New PECG Corporate Officers

Tuesday, August 18th, 2020

PECG's Corporate Officer ballots were counted today and the results have been certified by the PECG Elections Committee. The newly elected officers will be installed on September 26, 2020 and serve for one year.

- Cameron Knudson: President Elect
- Matt Hanson: Vice President, Collective Bargaining and Chair of the Bargaining Team
- Stefan Cajina: Vice President, Supervisory and Chair of the Meet and Confer Team.
- Wasim Ali: Vice President, At Large.
- Ferdinand de la Cruz: Secretary.
- Jane Pham: Treasurer.

The current PECG's Corporate President Elect, Keith Mack will become the President and Joe Mello, current President becomes the Past President.

and experienced. Transportation operators could better manage supply and demand by modifying how infrastructure and services are used throughout the day. The result would be a modernized transportation system with roads and transit services that operate smoothly and serve people better.

To read more:

https://www.sdforward.com/docs/default-source/2021-regional-plan/5525-5bigmoves-infosheetpacket-aug2020_final.pdf?sfvrsn=53d5fe65_2

PECG Member Involvement

If you are interested in volunteering on any one of these San Diego Section Committees, please email our Section Director, Cristina Nunez at: cristina.nunez@dot.ca.gov

- Events Planning Committee
- Health & Safety Comment
- Membership Committee
- Nominations & Election Committee
- Policy & Bylaws Committee
- Political Involvement Committee
- Retirement Committee
- Scholarship & Student Monitoring Committee
- Public Outreach Committee
- Science Fair Committee Events Committee
- CHEERS Committee
- Grievance Committee
- STEM Committee

40th Annual Roosevelt Honors

Saturday, August 29th, 2020



The San Diego County Democratic Party hosted the 40th Annual Roosevelt Honors to celebrate virtually our local elected officials, candidates, volunteers, and activists. With PECG Corporate support, a virtual table was reserve for some PECG San Diego Section members to attend via zoom:

Josan Feathers
Diane Vermeulen
Cristina Nunez
Roy Flores
Robert Lumahan
Oscar Cortes
John Williamson
Abu-Bakr Al-Jafri
Alex Balce
Frank Contreras



We are making history and for the first time, a woman will ascend to the Vice Presidency of the United States and her name is Kamala Harris. She became the first Black woman to be named to a majority's presidential ticket. Californians have watched Senator Harris fight for our rights over the past two decades as a District Attorney, Attorney General US Senator and now a Vice Presidential candidate. She went after the big banks to win a historic mortgage settlement on behalf of thousands of struggling families. She went after predatory for-profit colleges, winning a billion dollars on behalf of their victims. She stood for LGBTQ rights by opposing Propositions 8 and 22 and laid the groundwork for the U.S. Supreme Court's decision to grant same-sex couples the right to

QUICK LINKS

- Visit San Diego Section
sandiegopecg.org
- Follow us on Twitter
[Twitter.com/pecg_sandiego](https://twitter.com/pecg_sandiego)
- Health Plan Premiums 2020
<http://pecg.org/wp-content/uploads/2020-Health-Plan-Monthly-Premiums.pdf>
- New MOU: 2020-2022
<http://pecg.org/new-pecg-mou/>
- PEGC Informer
pecg.org/communications/informer/
- Weekly Update
<http://pecg.org/communications/weekly-update/>

PEGC MEMBER BENEFITS

- Theme Parks & Discounts
- PEGC Sponsored Insurance
- PEGC Scholarships Programs
- PEGC FED-PAC
- Health Plan Premiums

marry, everywhere. Kamala Harris was the featured speaker of the night for the 40th Annual Roosevelt Honors.

During the virtual 40th Annual Roosevelt Honors, several awards were presented to the following distinguished recipients. All of the awardees have demonstrated exceptional leadership and commitment to San Diego County and our San Diego County Democratic Party.



With this Roosevelt Honors theme, “Meeting the Moment with the Movement”, the featured guest speakers were:

- **Kamala D. Harris:** Vice Presidential Nominee
- **Gabby Giffords:** Former Congresswoman
- **Eleni Kounalakis:** California Lt. Governor
- **Alex Padilla:** California Secretary of State

Retirements:

- Arturo Jacobo
- Nadine Danjou
- Shahin Sepassi
- Tina Tong
- Henry Castillo
- Carol Callejon
- Sam Vaziri
- Manuel Plancarte
- Ellen Cooper
- Menchie Comer
- Elizabeth Robledo
- Purisimo Rosal
- Mark Phelan
- Rahi Nikravesh
- Antonio Rodriguez

The Passing of PECG Icon: Joe Odle



On May 4, 2020, Caltrans announced via email the passing of PECG Icon Joe Odle - "It is with heaviness of heart, that we share news of longtime employee Joe Odle's passing at the Stellar Memory Care Facility in San Diego after battling Alzheimer's disease. Joe retired in 2008 after a 40-year career with Caltrans as a Transportation Engineer & Licensed Surveyor, where he most recently worked in the Commercial Plant Materials Department. Prior to joining the State, Joe was a U.S. Marine for six years, serving two tours in Vietnam. He is survived by his wife, Mallie, daughter Katy, her husband Jorge and sons Kyle and Andres."

Few words shared by some of our PECG family...

"From my 20 years of PECG involvement in one form or another, I can easily say that Joe Odle is the best PECG leader to ever come out of the San Diego Section in the last 25 years and his mentoring and example has helped San Diego develop four statewide Presidents in the past 20 years."

-Roy Flores

"I worked with him in my materials engineering life – as well as my PECG life. He was a very knowledgeable and good guy."

-Cathrina Barros

"He always was very kind and helpful."

-Diane Vermeulen

"I worked with him in Minor A and the Lab. He was always cheerful and helpful. I will miss him."

-Abu-Bakr Al-Jafri



**Improve your public speaking and
enhance your leadership skills!**

Try us out for free and join us in our virtual weekly meeting via Cisco Webex.

To get more information and to be included in our invitation list, contact our Toastmaster CalState-1733 Vice-President of Membership, Victor Cardenas at victor.cardenas@dot.ca.gov or Cathryne Bruce-Johnson, President at cathryne.bruce-johnson@dot.ca.gov.