



LEAGUE OF
CALIFORNIA
CITIES



PUBLIC WORKS OFFICERS INSTITUTE

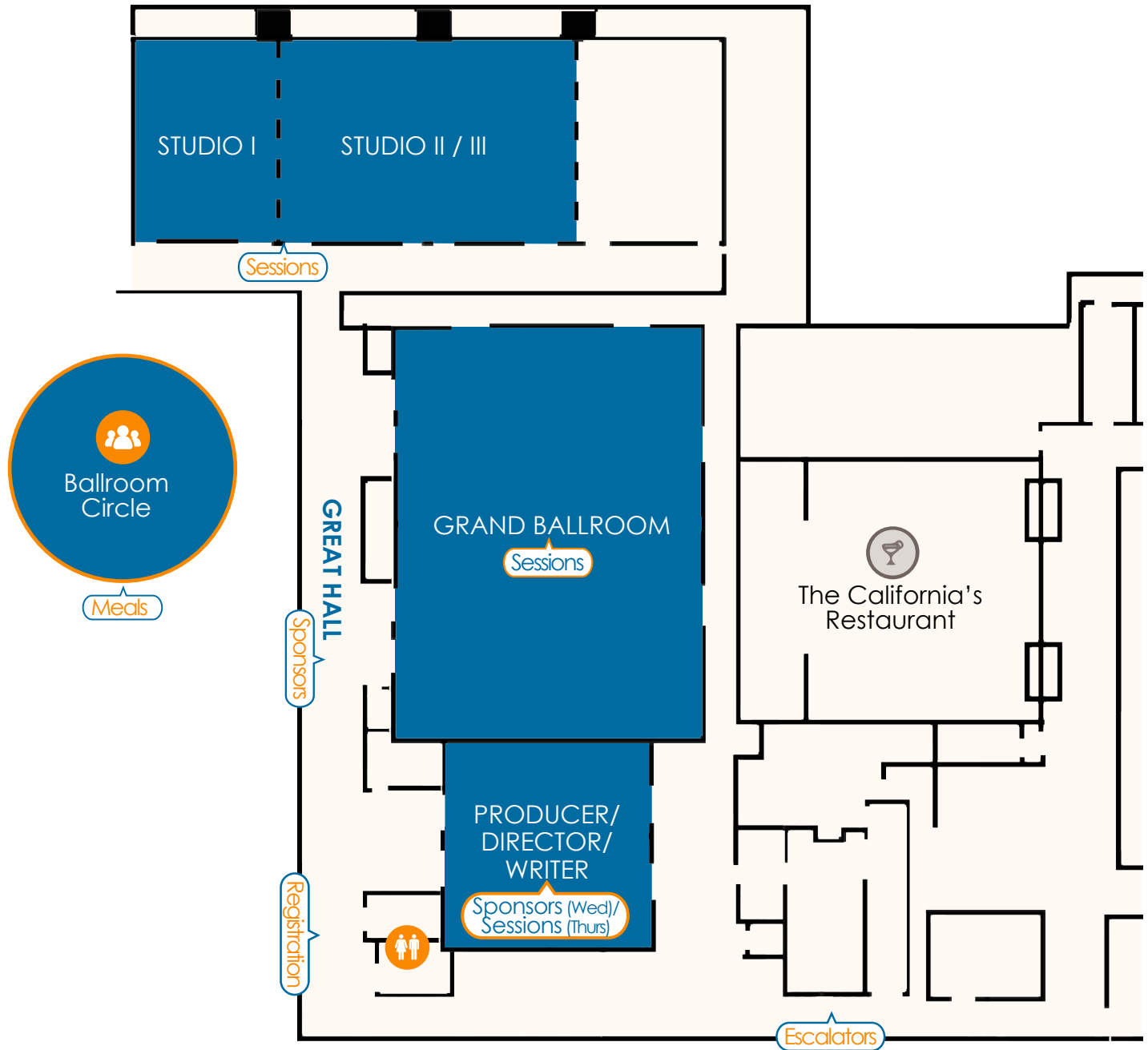
SHERATON UNIVERSAL HOTEL

March 19-21, 2025



FLOOR PLAN

First Floor



Find session materials, including presentation slides, online at www.calcities.org/PWOI

WiFi Network: Public Works

Passcode: Pwoi2025

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19

9:00 a.m.- 6:00 p.m.

Registration Open
Great Hall

10:00 a.m.- 6:30 p.m.

Elite Sponsor Tables Open
Producer / Director / Writer + Foyer

1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

Opening General Session
Grand Ballroom

Cal Cities and CEAC Presidents' Welcome

Scott Smith, President, Public Works Officers Department and Public Works Director, Fountain Valley

David Leamon, President, County Engineers Association of California and Public Works Director, Stanislaus County

Introductory Remarks

Vic Bienes, President Elect, American Public Works Association

Local Streets and Roads Awards

Keynote: Engineering Excellence: Building a Vibrant Public Works Culture from the Ground Up

Public works departments face mounting challenges, from aging infrastructure and tight budgets to a shrinking labor pool and retiring staff. In this high-stakes environment, fostering a workplace culture that retains talent, preserves knowledge, and enhances performance is essential. The transformative "Culture Creator" program, featuring the innovative "Triple-P Method," offers public works leaders a blueprint for building adaptive, motivated, and high-performing teams. This session provides practical strategies to boost morale, improve retention, foster collaboration, bridge knowledge gaps, and drive innovation despite limited resources. Perfect for directors, managers, and supervisors, it equips leaders to turn challenges into opportunities, ensuring service excellence and long-term success.

Keynote: *Seth Winterhalter, President, HaltingWinter Municipal Solutions*



2:45 - 4:00 p.m.

Concurrent Session

Future Proofing Transportation Funding
Studio 1

California's shift to zero-emission vehicles (ZEVs), including the Advanced Clean Cars II regulation requiring 100% ZEV sales by 2035, is accelerating the decline of fuel excise tax revenues — projected to drop 31% in the next decade. This session examines the challenges posed by this decline on transportation infrastructure, economic health, and quality of life, along with potential solutions like a road user charge. Transportation California will share findings from ongoing research, provide updates on efforts to develop sustainable funding mechanisms, and outline plans for potential legislative action in 2025. Learn how cities and counties can engage in securing long-term funding to support a resilient, equitable transportation system in a zero-emission future.

Moderator: *Benjamin Lopez, Political Director, Rebuild SoCal Partnership*

Speakers: *Frances Dea-Sanchez, Associate Deputy Director, California Transportation Commission*
Lauren Prehoda, Road Charge Program Manager, California Department of Transportation
Kiana Valentine, Executive Director, Transportation California

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19

2:45 - 4:00 p.m.
Concurrent Session

How to Curb Pedestrian Fatalities — Understanding Speed Safety Systems Studio 2 + 3

With traffic injuries and fatalities on the rise in California, interest in speed safety systems has never been greater. This session will explore the role of these systems in improving road safety, focusing on key topics such as enabling legislation AB 645 (pilot cities), the capabilities and limitations of safety cameras, and their evolving applications. Panelists will address how to prioritize safety and equity over profits, ensure privacy safeguards, and dispel common misconceptions. Leading researchers and experts will share insights into the effectiveness of speed cameras, location selection strategies, and other critical considerations for reducing speed-related crashes and saving lives.

Moderator: *Damian Kevitt, Executive Director, Streets Are For Everyone (SAFE)*

Speakers: *Will Barnow, Vice President of Strategic Relationships, Verra Mobility*

Juan Matute, Deputy Director, UCLA Institute of Transportation Studies

Derek Smith, Founding and Managing Member, Marinship Development LLC

2:45 - 4:00 p.m.
Concurrent Session

Best Practices for the use of Recycled Materials in Asphalt Pavements and Training Opportunities from the CCPIC Grand Ballroom

This session will explore best practices for maintaining and improving asphalt pavements, focusing on the incorporation of recycled materials in asphalt mixes under the new state law. By understanding how asphalt pavements deteriorate and fail, participants will gain insights into proactive maintenance and construction techniques that enhance pavement performance and sustainability. The session will also provide an update on subsidized online training opportunities through Caltrans LTAP, offering certificates in Pavement Engineering and Management and Pavement Construction Inspection.

Moderator: *Matt Randall, Deputy Director, Placer County Department of Public Works*

Speakers: *John T. Harvey, Director, City and County Pavement Improvement Center, UC Davis*

Erik Updyke, Technical Engineer, City and County Pavement Improvement Center, UC Davis

4:15 - 5:30 p.m.
Concurrent Session

Fleet and Electric Utility Partnerships for EV Implementation Studio 2 + 3

The transition to electric mobility is not just a trend but a necessity to mitigate climate change and reduce our reliance on fossil fuels. Electric vehicles (EVs) play a pivotal role in achieving these goals. However, successful EV implementation requires collaboration between fleets and electric utilities to overcome infrastructure challenges, manage costs, and optimize operations. This presentation will explore the strategic partnerships between fleet operators and electric utilities to accelerate the adoption of EVs. This session will discuss the key benefits, challenges, case studies, and best practices to inspire and guide organizations towards a more sustainable transportation future.

Moderator and Speaker: *Joseph Mattox, Fleet and Facilities Maintenance Division Manager, Moreno Valley*

Speaker: *Jason Niccoli, Electric Utility Division Manager, Moreno Valley*

Save The Dates:

2025 ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND EXPO
OCTOBER 8-10 | LONG BEACH CONVENTION CENTER

2026 PUBLIC WORKS OFFICERS INSTITUTE
FEBRUARY 25-27 | HYATT REGENCY MONTEREY HOTEL

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19

4:15 - 5:30 p.m.
Concurrent Session

Innovative Approaches to Building Infrastructure: Thinking Beyond Design-Bid-Build Grand Ballroom

With demands on existing infrastructure increasing, are there better ways to get major projects built? New legislation allows cities to implement progressive design-build project delivery methods to hire design and construction teams at the beginning of a project. The opportunity for cities to partner and collaborate with preferred design and construction teams provides the opportunity for reduced project risks, cost savings, and, ultimately, better infrastructure projects. However, it can also present unforeseen legal, practical, and political risks and challenges. This presentation will discuss how cities can successfully use progressive design-build, along with other similar and underutilized alternative project delivery tools, to build public infrastructure.

Moderator: Michael Maurer, Partner, Best Best & Krieger LLP

Speakers: Craig Hayes, Partner, Best Best & Krieger LLP
Jonathan Salsman, Principal Civil Engineer, Chula Vista

4:15 - 5:30 p.m.

Speed Sessions Studio 1

Moderator: Scott Smith, President, Public Works Officers Department and Public Works Director, Fountain Valley

Microtrenching in 15 Minutes (4:15-4:50 p.m.)

California Senate Bill (SB) 378, enacted in 2021, requires local jurisdictions to allow microtrenching for installing underground fiber optics. This presentation will cover the fundamentals of microtrenching, its impact on pavements, and strategies for local agencies to collaborate with telecom companies to find mutually agreeable solutions.

Speaker: Debaroti Ghosh, Senior Engineer, Nichols Consulting Engineers Chtd

In-Situ Roadway Subgrade Repair (4:55-5:30 p.m.)

Learn how the City of Fountain Valley reduced project costs by over 80% and expedited construction timelines using innovative methods to repair damage caused by the 2023 California Rainstorms. Discover how this creative solution addresses widespread settlement issues and provides a model for other agencies to solve complex infrastructure challenges efficiently and affordably.

Speakers: Temo Galvez, Deputy Public Works Director / City Engineer, Fountain Valley
Kyle Hilton, Associate Engineer, Fountain Valley

5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Networking Reception

Producer / Director / Writer + Foyer

Make new friends and catch up with old ones while enjoying delicious appetizers and tasty beverages and visiting with exhibitors during the evening networking reception. It's the perfect opportunity to form support networks inside your profession.

THURSDAY, MARCH 20

8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Registration Open Great Hall
8:00 - 9:00 a.m.	Networking Breakfast Ballroom Circle
9:00 - 10:15 a.m. <i>Concurrent Session</i>	Innovative Rubber Pavement Products Come to Rural and Remote California Studio 1 Stanislaus County in partnership with CalRecycle is constructing a pilot project to evaluate a potential new method of incorporating recycled rubber in asphalt mixes to enhance pavement performance. This session will explore the county's motivation for adopting this new road technology, the potential benefits, and the practical steps of implementation, including construction techniques proving its viability for rural and smaller agencies. Moderator and Speaker: David Leamon, President, County Engineers Association of California and Public Works Director, Stanislaus County Speakers: Theron Roschen, Municipal Services Manager, Interwest Consulting James Signore, Principal, NCE
9:00 - 10:15 a.m. <i>Concurrent Session</i>	Creating New Models for Resilience — Regional Approaches to Securing California's Water Future Studio 2 + 3 California water managers face challenges like declining water supply reliability, aging infrastructure, stricter regulations, and climate-driven "weather whiplash." This session highlights innovative regional collaboration efforts to tackle these issues. Attendees will learn about stakeholder-driven processes, decision-support tools, and key lessons from these projects, followed by a panel discussion on advancing water resilience in California communities. Moderator: Jeffery Szytel, CEO, WSC Speakers: Joshua Aguilar, Deputy Director of Water Resources, Western Water Paul Jones II, Senior Advisor, Dopudja & Wells Kristine McCaffrey, General Manager, Calleguas Municipal Water District
9:00 - 10:15 a.m. <i>Concurrent Session</i>	Decoding RFP Success: Consultants' Insights on Mastering the RFP Process for Effective Project Outcomes Producer / Director / Writer The Request for Proposal (RFP) process is a crucial gateway for organizations seeking to engage consultants for various projects. The effectiveness of an RFP can significantly impact the success of project delivery. This presentation delves into the RFP experience from the consultant's perspective, offering a candid look at the good, the bad and the ugly of the RFP process. Moderator: Patrick Dobbins, Public Works Director / City Engineer, Gonzales Speakers: Jonathan Blanchard, Geotechnical Engineer, Yeh and Associates, Inc. Tim D'Zmura, President / CEO, Annealta Group Robert Newman, So Cal Municipal Services Director, MNS Engineers / NTI

THURSDAY, MARCH 20

10:30 - 11:45 a.m.
Concurrent Session

An Innovative Approach to Generate Funding and Promote Stormwater Capture and Use: Stormwater Credit Programs Studio 1

Stormwater Credit Programs provide municipalities with a novel funding mechanism by selling credits from regional stormwater capture projects to regulated dischargers. These programs support project funding, maintenance, and regulatory compliance while offering benefits like improved water quality, hydrologic function, groundwater recharge, and cost-effective operations. This panel features experts from approved programs in California, such as Anaheim and Contra Costa County, sharing insights on development, stakeholder engagement, regulatory processes, and lessons learned. Attendees will gain practical strategies for leveraging this innovative approach to sustainable stormwater management.

Moderator: Matthew Lentz, Vice President and Principal, GSI Environmental

Speakers: Amanda Booth, Environmental Program Manager, San Pablo

Mark Grey, Principal Technical Director, Construction Industry Coalition on Water Quality

Keith Linker, Principal Civil Engineer, Anaheim

10:30 - 11:45 a.m.
Concurrent Session

The California Strategic Highway Safety Plan: Partnering to Save Lives on California's Public Roads Studio 2 + 3

The California Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP) is a collaborative, performance-based effort aimed at reducing fatalities and serious injuries on California roadways. By prioritizing safety through education, improved infrastructure, law enforcement and emergency response, the SHSP seeks to create a safer environment for all road users. This session will start by outlining the development of the 2025-2029 SHSP, focusing on its alignment with the Safe System Approach to address key safety challenges like impaired driving, pedestrian safety, and speeding. After an overview of the plan goals and timeline, attendees will have an opportunity to provide input about local safety priorities to help shape the final plan. Additionally, attendees will learn how to partner with the SHSP long-term in a way that strengthens local communities.

Moderator: Danielle Stanislaus, President, Emergent Transportation Concepts, LLC

Speakers: Rene Guerrero, Department Director, Public Works Officers Department and Public Works Assistant Director, Ontario

Thomas Mattson, Director of Public Works, Humboldt County

10:30 - 11:45 a.m.
Concurrent Session

Women in Public Works Roundtable Producer / Director / Writer

Join our dynamic discussion highlighting the experiences, challenges, and successes of women in public works. Connect, share insights, and explore strategies for growth and leadership in the field.

Moderators: Joan Araujo, Director Central Services, Public Works, Ventura County

Julie Lucido, Immediate Past President, Public Works Officers Department and Director of Public Works, Napa

Rebecca Neves, First Vice President, Public Works Officers Department and City Engineer, Folsom

11:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Networking Lunch Ballroom Circle

THURSDAY, MARCH 20

1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

General Session

Grand Ballroom

Introductory Remarks: Scott Smith, President, Public Works Officers Department and Public Works Director, Fountain Valley

Public Works Visibility as First Responders

Public works professionals are often the unsung first responders, arriving first after disasters to clear the way and staying long after the crisis ends. Despite their critical role, they are often overlooked by communities, officials, and even other city departments. This presentation explores strategies to raise the profile of public works departments, drawing on lessons learned from peers and emphasizing their officially recognized status as first responders under Presidential Policy Directive 8.

Moderator and Speaker: Joubin Pakpour, Region 8 Director, American Public Works Association

Speakers: Ken Berkman, Second Vice President, Public Works Officers Department and Director of Public Works, Burbank

Joshua Pack, Director of Public Works, Butte County

2:15 - 3:30 p.m.

Concurrent Session

Right-of-Way the Right Way

Studio 1

This session provides strategies for setting up Right of Way (ROW) projects to achieve negotiated settlements, avoiding the time-consuming and costly process of eminent domain. Speakers will focus on how to clearly define the rights required for the project, understand the property owners' needs, and facilitate a smooth path to agreement. Additionally, the session will cover how to streamline ROW delivery within the overall project development process, including the use of incentive programs, waivers, and design expectations, as well as managing third-party ROW rights. Finally, our experts will talk about what to do if you cannot avoid eminent domain in your project. Attendees will learn how these strategies can save both time and money while ensuring successful project completion.

Moderator: Bob Morrison, Vice President, Monument ROW

Speakers: Jason Jurens, District Manager, Consor

David Leamon, President, County Engineers Association of California and Public Works Director, Stanislaus County

Artin Shaverdian, Partner, Nossaman LLP

2:15 - 3:30 p.m.

Concurrent Session

Managing Federal Funding During Disaster and Emergency Events

Studio 2 + 3

This session will provide an overview of the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) Emergency Relief Program, offering essential insights into how to work with Caltrans and understand the key differences between FHWA and FEMA funding programs. Attendees will learn the fundamentals of these federal funding options, including eligibility requirements, application processes, and best practices for managing and documenting disaster-related expenses. This session will equip participants with the knowledge needed to navigate federal programs effectively during emergency and disaster events for a smooth recovery of your community.

Moderator: Nathan Bray, Public Works Director / Road Commissioner, Merced County

Speaker: Vince Mammano, Director of Strategic Solutions, Mark Thomas

Theary Monh, D7 Emergency Relief Coordinator, Caltrans

THURSDAY, MARCH 20

2:15 - 3:30 p.m.
Concurrent Session

Citywide Street Sweeping Parking Restrictions: Strategies for Effective Implementation and Community Impact

Producer / Director / Writer

This session explores the collaborative efforts of the City of Ontario Public Works Agency to develop and implement a citywide street sweeping parking restrictions program. With a population of 185,000 and spanning 50 square miles, Ontario is the 3rd largest city in San Bernardino County but lacked a coordinated parking restrictions program for street sweeping. Speakers from several city departments will share the challenges they faced in addressing resident concerns, the planning process, and how various city departments worked together to launch the program.

Moderator: Andrea Ampig, Senior Management Analyst, Ontario

Speakers: John Gonzalez, Police Lieutenant, Ontario

Tim Masot, Parks and Streets Maintenance Manager, Ontario

Bonnie Tam, Public Works Departmental Administrator, Ontario

3:45 - 5:00 p.m.
Concurrent Session

Wireless in the Right of Way: All Things Permitting and Leveraging Your Assets Studio 2 + 3

Learn about the latest issues and trends with wireless installations in the right of way, including information related to recent Federal Communications Commission (FCC) orders, litigation in the wake of FCC action, California's Batch "Broadband" Permit Processing Bill, and the status of 5G network rollout in context of the growing demand for wireless network capacity. This session aims to help public works officials understand the impacts of applicable federal and California laws and regulations and better leverage their assets in the right of way, covering telecommunication industry trends, the requirements being placed on local governments, and the actions that localities can take.

Moderator and Speaker: Bennett Givens, Of Counsel, Best Best & Krieger LLP

Speaker: Brittany Weidner, Associate Attorney, Best Best & Krieger LLP

3:45 - 5:00 p.m.
Concurrent Session

Demystifying AI: Practical Applications in Public Works

Producer / Director / Writer

AI is no longer a concept of the future—it's transforming public works today. This session showcases real-world applications of AI by public and private sector innovators, highlighting how it enhances efficiency, reduces costs, and streamlines decision-making. Gain practical insights into addressing technical and administrative challenges with AI, demystifying the technology, and unlocking its potential for smarter, more effective operations. Discover actionable strategies and examples of AI in local agencies to bring transformative change to your organization.

Moderator: Joshua Pack, Director of Public Works, Butte County

Speakers: Johannes Hoevertsz, Director of Public Infrastructure, Sonoma County

Andy Ramirez, Assistant City Manager, Loma Linda

Ian Timmons, President, Founder, OurGov

3:45 - 5:00 p.m.

Speed Sessions

Studio 1

Moderator: Tom Koutroulis, Director, OC Waste & Recycling

SB 1383 100% Procurement Requirement Now in Effect: Are You Ready? (3:45 - 4:20 p.m.)

Jurisdictions now need to procure 100% of their SB 1383 CalRecycle procurement target of recovered organic waste products. Jurisdictions need to come up with real solutions to comply with SB 1383 requirements or face possible fines. Bill Camarillo, CEO of Agromin, shares innovative strategies jurisdictions are using to tackle product procurement challenges after years of navigating the process.

Speaker: Bill Camarillo, CEO, Agromin

From Maps to Apps: How the Evolution of GIS Led Us to SUE (4:25 - 5:00 p.m.)

The use of GIS data by utilities and public works agencies has significantly evolved over the past 15 years. Subsurface utility engineering (SUE) emerged as a crucial practice in linear construction. We look back on how we got to our current situation with GIS data, how GIS intersects with SUE Quality Levels, and how current solutions can dramatically improve data availability for SUE. We'll present use cases for Quality Levels A, B, C, and D that will help public works professionals make the most of the data available and improve data quality over time.

Speaker: Dave Veilleux, Head of Municipal Partnerships, CivilGrid

2024 - 2025 Department Officers

President, Scott Smith, Director of Public Works, Fountain Valley

First Vice President, Rebecca Neves, City Engineer, Folsom

Second Vice President, Ken Berkman, Director of Public Works, Burbank

Department Director, Rene Guerrero, Assistant Director of Public Works, Ontario

Immediate Past President, Julie Lucido, Director of Public Works, Napa

FRIDAY, MARCH 21

8:00 - 10:30 a.m.

Registration Open
Great Hall

8:00 - 9:00 a.m.

Networking Breakfast
Ballroom Circle

8:45 - 10:15 a.m.

Cal Cities Legislative Update
Grand Ballroom

How does legislation really get passed? What is happening behind the scenes between the governor and the legislature? Get the inside scoop! A Cal Cities legislative representative will answer your questions and provide their insights on the latest in public works-related policies being debated in Sacramento.

Moderator: Scott Smith, President, Public Works Officers Department and Public Works Director, Fountain Valley

Speakers: Damon Conklin, Legislative Representative, League of California Cities

Melissa Sparks-Kranz, Legislative Representative, League of California Cities

10:15 - 11:30 a.m.

Closing General Session
Grand Ballroom



Keynote: We Gotta Fail...to Succeed!

Milo Shapiro's keynote is a playful, interactive experience that blends storytelling, humor, and improv games to inspire innovation and embrace failure. Through personal stories, historical examples, and thought-provoking ideas, Milo explores our relationship with risk, change, and setbacks, showing how these challenges can unlock brilliance and foster creativity. In the second half of his "talk", attendees actively participate in fun, easy improv exercises that reveal communication quirks and strategies for success. With laughter filling the room, Milo emphasizes creating environments where innovation thrives, minimizing the fear of failure, and unlocking individual and team potential leaving audiences energized and empowered.

Closing Remarks: Rebecca Neves, First Vice President, Public Works Officers Department and City Engineer, Folsom

Keynote Speaker: Milo Shapiro, CEO, ImproVentures

SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS!

Send us your
feedback on the
institute by scanning
this QR code.





LEAGUE OF CALIFORNIA CITIES

1400 K Street, Suite 400, Sacramento, CA 95814
www.calcities.org