



LEAGUE OF
CALIFORNIA
CITIES

125 / **YEARS**
1898-2023

Public Works Officers **INSTITUTE**

March 13-15, 2024
Monterey, CA



WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13

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

Registration Open
De Anza Foyer

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

Visit with Exhibitors
De Anza I

1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

Opening General Session
De Anza II-III

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Julie Lucido, President, Public Works Department and Director of Public Works, Napa

Local Streets and Roads Awards

Presented by the Public Works Department Officers

Finding The Funny In Change

Get ready to transform the way you and your team deal with change! The pace of change is faster than ever, leaving many leaders and organizations feeling overwhelmed and uncertain. In Jan's electrifying keynote, "Finding the Funny in Change," she shows attendees how to turn tension into laughter and get your point across with ease. She'll equip you with the humor tools to diffuse tension instantly, initiate those tough conversations, and facilitate communication through using well-placed, appropriate humor. By using Jan's tips, attendees will not only keep their teams more engaged, but also more likely to remember their message.

Keynote Speaker: *Jan McInnis, Comedian/Speaker*



2:45 - 4:00 p.m.

Concurrent Session

Reducing Agency Liability and Preventing Busted Budgets: Policies for Geotechnical Engineers of Record
Bonsai Ballroom

Just what is a Geotechnical Engineer of Record (GEOR) and why does your city need one? Hear both success stories and disaster situations that showcase how well-managed GEOR policies can reduce an agency's exposure to delays, losses, and insurability, as well as long-term cost and maintenance issues on projects of all sizes. This session will cover how to best secure and transfer GEORs, set a scope of service, implement and track a project-communications plan, and document the GEOR's professional access to others within the project to increase project efficiency and reduce agency liability for errors.

Moderator: *Neal Berliner, President, GEOCON WEST, INC.*

Speakers: *George Molina, Associate Civil Engineer, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works*
Eric J. Swenson, President, Geo-Engineering Solutions Inc.

Yvette Wilson, President, Rock Solid Engineering, Inc.

Find session materials online at
www.calcities.org/PWOI

WiFi Network: Cal Cities
Passcode: Publicworks

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13

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

Brief Look at the Evolution of Sidewalks (and its Maintenance) Portola Room

Although sidewalks date back several thousand years, our stratified understanding of them is relatively recent. Explore the five main purposes of a sidewalk, as well as the challenges with funding and prioritizing sidewalks, especially in rural communities. This panel will touch on pedestrian master plans and the responsibility of maintenance, specifically the California Streets and Highway Code and Americans with Disabilities Act. Attendees will leave with an understanding of how to best repair sidewalks, tips for partnering with risk management authorities, and knowledge of preferred methods of repair and asset management.

Moderator and Speaker: *Carl Valdez, Retired Public Works Superintendent, Sr. Business Development Manager, Precision Concrete Cutting*

Speakers: *Joseph Ortega, Vice President, Precision Concrete Cutting*
Alexis Renteria, Business Development Manager, Precision Concrete Cutting

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

Project Labor Agreements: What's Good, What's Bad and What's Ugly Bonsai Ballroom

City councils are coming under increasing pressure to adopt project labor agreements, or community workforce agreements, for projects over \$1-2 million in costs. City staff are already under pressure to deliver projects on time and on budget — and project labor agreement discussions can be highly politicized, with both the detriments and the benefits often overstated. So how do you strike a balance between the social policy and the efficiency of projects? Join us for a discussion on best practices, showcasing examples of where well-intentioned negotiations fell short and where they shined.

Moderator: *Benjamin Fine, Director of Public Works/City Engineer, Pismo Beach*

Speakers: *Julian Gross, Principal, Law Office of Julian Gross*
Jonathan Holtzman, Founding Partner, Renne Public Law Group
Prentiss Jackson, CEO, Workforce Integrity and Training Solutions

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

Traffic Safety, Now! Portola Room

In the pursuit of safer roads, there are instances where traditional engineering solutions fall short. Roundabouts present a dynamic alternative that addresses complex traffic challenges with greater efficacy. Unlike conventional approaches, roundabouts offer versatility, adaptability, and enhanced safety features that can significantly reduce accidents and improve traffic flow to ensure safer streets for all.

Not only do they mitigate accidents, but they also foster community engagement, allow for iterative design enhancements, and offer systemic safety improvements to road networks. Join us for an engaging session that explores the transformative potential of roundabouts. This session will focus on how to ensure traffic safety improvements are incorporated into maintenance projects and discuss funding opportunities and efficiency.

Moderator: *Rebecca J. Neves, Second Vice President, Public Works Department and City Engineer, Folsom*

Speaker: *Lindsey Van Parys, Business Group Leader, GHD*

5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Networking Reception De Anza I and Foyer

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

THURSDAY, MARCH 14

8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Registration Open De Anza Foyer
8:00 - 9:00 a.m.	Networking Breakfast De Anza II-III
9:00 - 10:15 a.m. <i>Concurrent Session</i>	An Analysis of the Brooks Act: 50 Years in Review Bonsai Ballroom The Brooks Act is a federal law mandating that architects and engineers for federal government projects are procured based on their qualifications and competence, rather than price. This session will review the Brook Act's creation, discuss the procurement steps, and evaluate the law's benefits. Panelists will provide a peer-to-peer perspective on the implementation of this procurement law 50 years after its passage, and attendees will leave with a unique review of its application and results. Moderator: Robert Newman, So Cal Municipal Services Director, MNS Engineers / NTI Speakers: Rania Amen, Director and City Engineer, San Diego Patrick Dobbins, Public Works Director/City Engineer, Gonzales Creighton Sebra, Member, Clark Hill, LLP
9:00 - 10:15 a.m. <i>Concurrent Session</i>	CalRecycle Grant Program for Tire Derived Aggregate (TDA) De Anza I Join us for a discussion on the CalRecycle tire recycling grant program, focusing on road repair projects using Mechanically Stabilized Tire Derived Systems. The TDA program supports the use of waste tire materials that are recycled into a sustainable backfill material with properties not found in traditional civil engineering materials. This panel will provide valuable information for attendees about the CalRecycle program and other civil engineering applications. Moderator: Rene Guerrero, Director of Public Works, Pomona Speaker: Joaquin Wright, GHD Inc. on Behalf of CalRecycle
10:30 - 11:45 a.m.	Groundwater, Water Resiliency and the Challenges...Do they really Mix? Bonsai Ballroom Join us for a conversation about groundwater and the challenges of treating PFAS/PFOS and benzene. While there are many other contaminants to address, these two are some of the most prominent for cities. This panel will discuss the relationship between their impact on water supply sources and delivery, challenges for effective treatment, associated costs, funding sources, and affected agencies. Moderator: Lisa Lynn Hulette, Senior Associate, West Region Funding Lead, Hazen and Sawyer Speakers: Robert Beste, Assistant General Manager, WRD C. Stephen Bucknam Jr., President, Bucknam and Associates Inc. Glen Kau, Public Services Director/City Engineer, Norwalk

2023 - 2024 Public Works Department Officers

President, Julie Lucido, Director of Public Works, Napa

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

Second Vice President, Rebecca J. Neves, City Engineer, Folsom

Department Director, Rene Guerrero, Director of Public Works, Pomona

Immediate Past President, Ben Fine, Director of Public Works/City Engineer, Pismo Beach

THURSDAY, MARCH 14

10:30 - 11:45 a.m.

Speed Sessions: City Case Studies

De Anza I

Moderator: Benjamin Fine, Director of Public Works/City Engineer, Pismo Beach

My Maintenance - Keeping Neighborhoods Clean (10:30 - 11:05 a.m.)

The Pismo Beach "My Maintenance" program was born from the city council's desire for a better way for citizens to communicate public works requests and to implement a proactive approach to graffiti, cannabis, and trash removal. The "My Maintenance" program divides the city into seven maintenance zones. On the first Friday of each month, a member of the public works staff visits and proactively looks for ways to improve their region. Staff pull weeds, remove graffiti and stickers, tighten loose sign bolts, pick up trash, and document larger issues that will take more than one person and one hour to accomplish. Learn how this proactive approach has transformed Pismo Beach and how to implement the program's principles in your city.

Speaker: Benjamin Fine, Director of Public Works/City Engineer, Pismo Beach

Mulch Made to Order: How One City is Meeting its SB 1383 Demands (11:10 - 11:45 a.m.)

When the city of Ventura's Public Works Department was tasked with finding SB 1383 organic compost and mulch product procurement and disbursement solutions, it came up with a unique plan. It partnered with its organics waste recycler, Agromin, to create an online ordering system where Ventura residents could request free compost and mulch made from collected green waste online. A separate portal keeps track of how much compost and mulch tonnage is ordered by residents and the percentage of SB 1383-qualified materials, which the city uses when reporting its procurement numbers to the state. This system maintains procurement, product ordering, delivery, and SB 1383 tonnage tracking all in one place — saving time and money. The session will discuss the steps taken to implement the program, lessons learned along the way, and how it could be applied to other cities.

Speaker: Bill Camarillo, CEO, Agromin

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

Networking Lunch

De Anza II-III

1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

Clean Fleet Deployment

De Anza II-III

This year, many public fleets must begin to comply with the newly adopted Advanced Clean Fleet regulations for medium and heavy-duty fleets. The California Air Resources Board adopted these new regulations with the goal of achieving zero-emission by 2045. Hear from both Cal Cities and CSAC legislative representatives on the latest updates on clean fleet compliancy, reporting and what legislative and budgetary responses are being proposed this year.

Opening Remarks: Julie Lucido, President, Public Works Department and Director of Public Works, Napa

Speakers: Damon Conklin, Legislative Representative, Transportation, Communications, and Public Works, League of California Cities

Mark Neuburger, Legislative Advocate, California State Association of Counties

THURSDAY, MARCH 14

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

On the Road to a Smoother Future

Bonsai Ballroom

Dive deep into the lessons learned from the city of Moreno Valley's \$50 million investment in the Citywide Pavement Rehabilitation Program. The large financial investment came with an 18-month performance period, which created multiple challenges for the city's Public Works Department. Panelists will share the challenges, opportunities, tips, and tricks that attendees can apply to pavement projects in their own cities.

Moderator: Scott Smith, First Vice President, Public Works Department and Director of Public Works, Fountain Valley

Speakers: Quang Nguyen, Capital Projects Principal Engineer, Moreno Valley
Harold Zamora, Assistant City Engineer/Engineering Manager, Moreno Valley

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

Tools to Electrify Your City: Funding, EV Charging, and Collaboration

De Anza I

Electric vehicles are quickly gaining in popularity with both consumers and government entities. They promise cleaner air, lower greenhouse gas emissions, lower operating costs, and reduced noise pollution. For cities, being EV-ready is becoming more and more important. In this session, learn about the funding opportunities available for transit, city transportation, and electric charging, as well as strategies to accelerate your city's electrification efforts and meet the state's 2045 decarbonization goals.

Moderator and Speaker: Tony Cardenas, Government Relations Manager, Southern California Edison (SCE)

Speaker: Alyssa Haerle, Director, Infrastructure Incentive Administration, CALSTART

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

Fees! You Got 'Em. How Do They Work Today?

Bonsai Ballroom

Every city has fees, and the state has plenty of laws governing them. Receive an update — tailored for public works professionals — on the full range of municipal fees, including general, regulatory, development impact, and property-related fees, as well as recent legal developments. Panelists will discuss the impact of a case allowing property-related fees for parts of the mandate viewed as "trash fees" on stormwater fees and how the proposed California Business Roundtable measure would severely restrict municipal fees and other revenue tools.

Moderator and Speaker: Timothy William Seufert, Managing Director, NBS

Speakers: Chris Ghione, Public Services Director, Morgan Hill
Matthew Summers, City Attorney, Colantuono, Highsmith & Whatley, PC

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

Innovative Advancements in Fiber Deployment

De Anza I

Rapid Connect is a new type of fiber network construction recently developed that improves safety, simplifies construction and maintenance, lessens community impact, and reduces the impacts on the environment, all while maintaining a high level of resiliency and network availability. This new technology has not yet been presented in a public setting.

Moderator: Rochelle Harry Swanson, External Affairs, Crown Castle

Speakers: Daniel Acosta, Program Manager, Crown Castle
Shoaib Ahrary, Engineering Services Manager, Elk Grove
Nazila Cruz, Civil Engineer, Los Angeles

FRIDAY, MARCH 15

8:00 - 10:30 a.m.

Registration Open
De Anza Foyer

8:00 - 9:00 a.m.

Networking Breakfast
De Anza II-III

9:00 - 10:15 a.m.

Legislative Update and Budget Update
De Anza II-III

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: Julie Lucido, President, Public Works Department and Director of Public Works, Napa

Speakers: Damon Conklin, Legislative Representative, Transportation, Communications, and Public Works, League of California Cities

10:15 - 11:30 a.m.

Closing General Session
De Anza II-III



Making Work Suck Less: Healing Workplaces Through Play

There is a growing animosity between employers and employees that we all have felt these past few years. 85% of staff are disengaged at work, and the phrase "I don't want to work anymore" is more common than at any time in modern history. It's manifested in quiet quitting, quiet firing, strikes, and RIFs/Layoffs. We can ignore this problem and hope it miraculously disappears, or we can proactively address it. The organizations brave enough to take this challenge head-on will thrive for the foreseeable future, while others obsessed with the status quo will become as obsolete as Blockbuster Video.

This talk explores the bold steps we need to heal the divisions within workplaces using a play-oriented approach to work. The only way to find unique solutions to these significant issues that organizations have been too afraid to face is through a play mindset. We will identify immediately actionable strategies to mend the divide between executives, managers, and staff. Together, we can choose what direction we want the future of work to go. The question we must answer is: What are we willing to do to create a work culture where not only the organization can thrive but where our people finally become the priority?

Closing Remarks: Scott Smith, First Vice President, Public Works Department and Director of Public Works, Fountain Valley

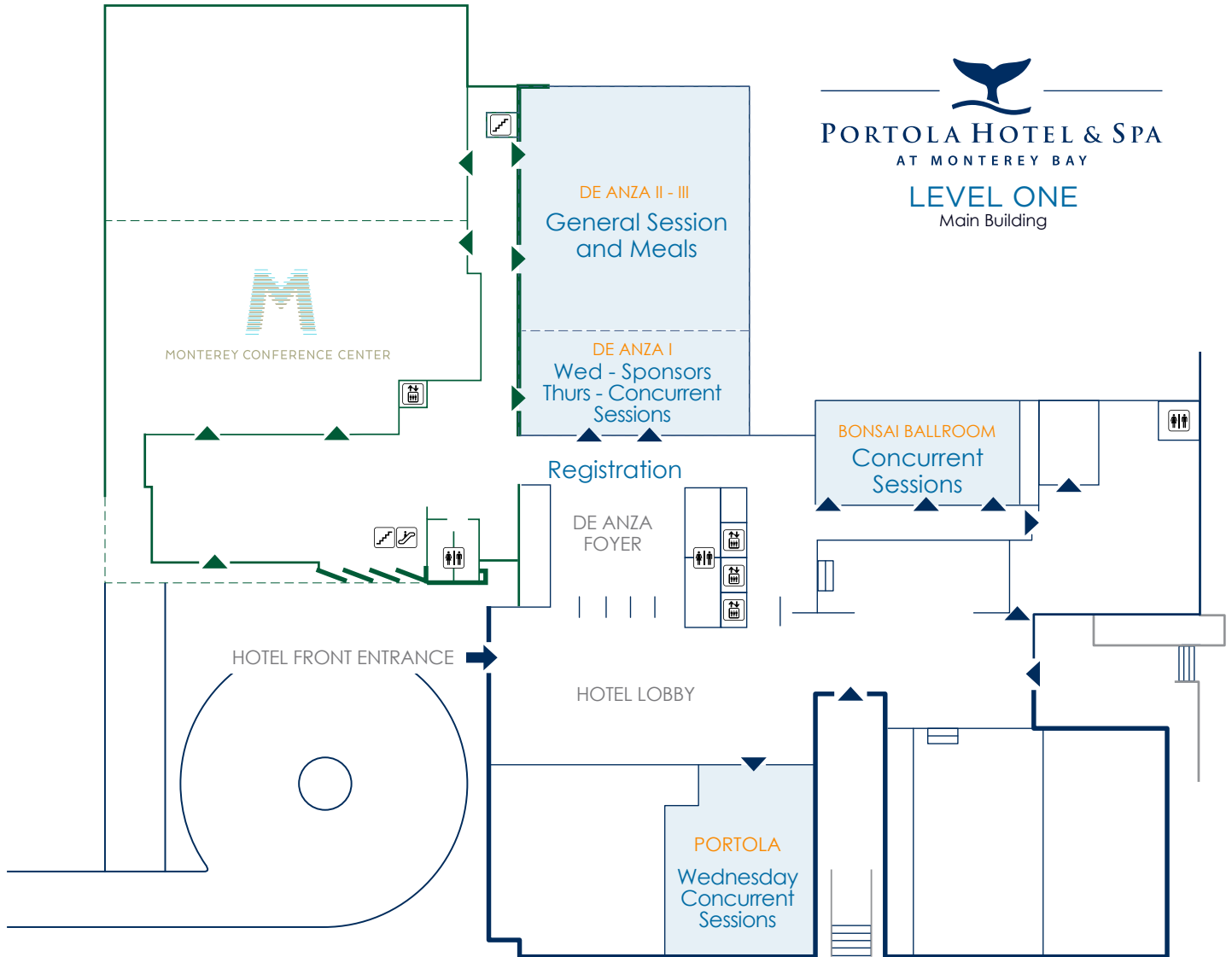
Keynote Speaker: Jeff Harry, Rediscover Your Play

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FLOOR PLAN



Save The Dates:

2024 ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND EXPO
OCT. 16-18 | LONG BEACH CONVENTION CENTER

2025 PUBLIC WORKS OFFICERS INSTITUTE
MARCH 19-21 | SHERATON UNIVERSAL HOTEL, UNIVERSAL CITY

The logo features the number '125' in a large, bold, yellow font. A blue diagonal slash cuts through the '5'. To the right of the slash, the word 'YEARS' is written in a bold, blue, sans-serif font. Below 'YEARS', the years '1898-2023' are written in a smaller, blue, sans-serif font.

125 / YEARS
1898-2023

Strengthening California Cities
through **Advocacy** and **Education**