



2019 Engineering Excellence Awards

Active members strengthen the profession

Launching of QBS Champion Award Program

Opportunities & challenges in Sacramento



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# Engineering & Surveying

SPRING | 2019

B U S I N E S S   R E V I E W



**COVER** Winner of the 2019 Golden State Award — Carollo Engineers, Inc. for the City of Woodland Aquifer Storage and Recovery Wells #29 and #30.

## 2019 Engineering Excellence Awards .....10

ACEC California honors engineering and land surveying firms with Engineering Excellence Honor, Merit and Commendation Awards.

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ACEC

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES

California

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### A successful year of events



Ralph W. Guida, IV, PLS  
PRESIDENT, GUIDA SURVEYING  
President, ACEC California, 2018–2019

**2018** was a year full of wins for ACEC California and its member firms—and I am very proud of being able to serve as the organization's 2018–2019 president. As many of you know, I have long been a strong supporter of ACEC California's mission and goals, and I can tell you that the organization's successes this year were a testament to our members' engagement and deep commitment to seeing these achievements through.

We kicked off 2019 with an extraordinary banquet to honor the outstanding projects that earned ACEC California's prestigious 2019 Engineering Excellence Awards, and to support the next generation of civil engineers and land surveying professionals through the ACEC California Scholarship Foundation. Without exception, the annual Engineering Excellence Awards banquet never fails to astonish me with the innovation and vision that are applied to these phenomenal projects. The 2019 Golden State

Award winner—Carollo Engineers, Inc. in Sacramento—was an especially impressive project that helped the City of Woodland change its potable water source from a groundwater system to a higher quality treated surface water supply through the implementation of an innovative Aquifer Storage and Recovery program. It was an extraordinary night, one that will benefit the next generation of design professionals with the proceeds of the event going to the ACEC California Scholarship Foundation, which awards tens of thousands of scholarship funds to students annually.

While the 2019 Engineering Excellence Awards celebrated our individual firm achievements, I would be remiss if we didn't also recognize the fantastic election successes ACEC California earned in 2018. By working within a broad coalition and really working to raise critically needed funds, ACEC California played a lead role in defeating Proposition 6—the 2018 state ballot

initiative that would have revoked billions of dollars of state transportation funding. We could not have done it without our member firms' commitment and I thank each of them for their efforts.

In October, we held our Strategic Summit in Napa, where members were able to attend comprehensive updates on California infrastructure projects, including: High Speed Rail and the California WaterFix. The well-attended and dynamic Statewide Transportation Forum was especially informative so that our members could hear from officials from some of the largest county transportation authorities. The Forum's participants provided a status update and insight into how the consulting engineering community could partner with local agencies as they make progress on their respective long-range transportation plans.

As we move forward into Governor Gavin Newsom's first term, it will be important to have an "all hands on deck" perspective as we learn more about his administration's legislative and regulatory priorities. I know that engagement in ACEC California is in addition to design professionals' daily workplace responsibilities, and I want to express my gratitude to the many professionals who continue to help ACEC California become a strong voice for the private engineering and land surveying industry. I'm looking forward to what's to come in 2019. ■

...the organization's successes this year were a testament to our members' engagement and deep commitment to seeing these achievements through.



# Surveying the City of Los Angeles Sixth Street Viaduct



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## TranSystems

EXPERIENCE | Transportation



Caltrans District 12 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Improvements  
Pacific Coast Highway (SR-1), Laguna Beach, CA

## Delivering the Transportation Experience

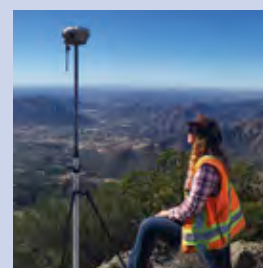
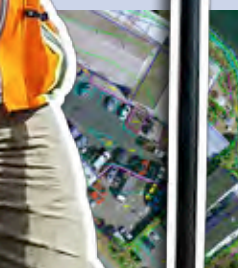
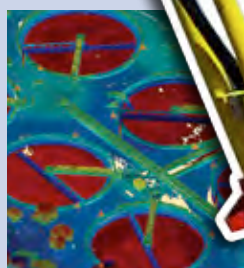
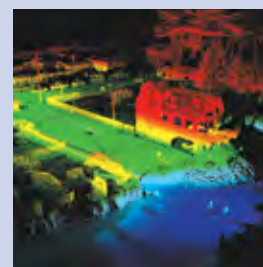
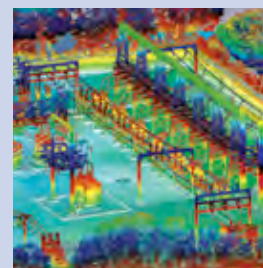
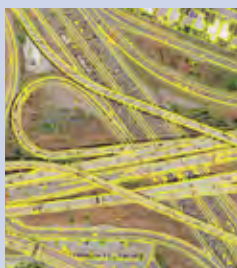
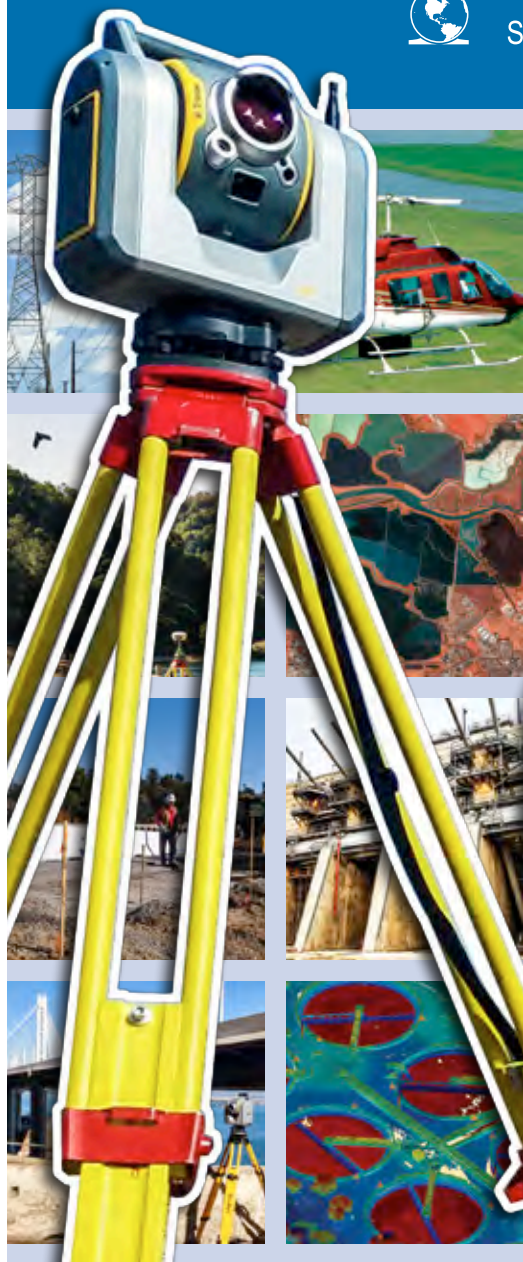
### FACILITIES

- Highway
- Roadway
- Bridge
- Bike & Pedestrian
- HOV Lanes
- Interchanges / Direct Connectors
- Diverging Diamond Interchanges (DDI)

### SERVICES

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As a long-time member of ACEC California, Towill celebrates our current and past ACEC CA Engineering Excellence Awards. We are grateful for our project's recognition, and look forward to continuing to contribute to the future of engineering and surveying.

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# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

## Focusing our work by engaging on state ballot initiatives



Brad Diede  
Executive Director  
ACEC California

**ACEC CA** California's leadership and advocacy team work hard to represent the engineering and land surveying professions both before the California State Legislature and various state agencies. At times, our efforts are needed to protect our accomplishments in other ways. During the 2018 election cycle, it was critical to focus our work by engaging with state ballot initiatives designed to improve California's aging transportation and water systems. That is why ACEC California was involved in broad coalitions of businesses, labor organizations, city and county governments, and elected officials to support Propositions 1 and 3 and oppose Proposition 6.

ACEC California actively worked to support and fund the successful passage of Proposition 1, the Veterans and Affordable Housing Bond Act

of 2018, which provides \$4 billion in bond funds for low-income and affordable housing projects throughout the state. We also stood in step with a broad coalition to support Proposition 3, the Water Infrastructure and Watershed Conservation Bond Initiative, but unfortunately the initiative did not pass.

Proposition 6 was designed to roll back billions in annual state funding to help repair and revitalize roadways and bridges across California. I am pleased to report that ACEC California members, combined with our ACEC Minuteman Fund, contributed \$2.7 million to help defeat Proposition 6—reassuring the state's commitment to restoring our transportation infrastructure.

At the federal level, ACEC California made great strides by contributing to the ACEC Federal Political Action Committee (PAC). Every year, ACEC

members across the country make personal contributions to the PAC, money which is used to support congressional candidates who understand our professions and stand with us on our issues. Because California has so many congressional representatives, our state member organization has a high threshold to reach in regard to the amount raised, and we are extremely appreciative of our members' contribution. In 2018, our members individually contributed more than \$63,000—a new record for ACEC California federal PAC contributions!

While 2018 was a whirlwind of a year, most striking to me is the confirmation that as an organization, we are at our best when our members are engaged and speaking with one voice, and when we are working cohesively with allied partners and organizations. Our legislative wins this past year were the result of an intentional effort to partner and co-sponsor legislation with the American Institute of Architects, California Council, with our member firms closely involved. Similarly, our election successes were the result of our members stepping up to contribute and engage in the hard work of campaigning and coalition building. I'm looking forward to furthering these efforts as we move into 2019 with a new legislature and administration. If we keep this going, there isn't anything we can't accomplish. ■

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## MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

### Active members strengthen the profession

**2018** was a year of notable success — a year where we proved that when our membership activates and focuses on a mission, we are a force to be reckoned with.

Coming into 2019, ACEC California is riding a wave of unbelievable momentum, which was built through our recent legislative successes and significant member engagement. In the past two years, ACEC California passed major Duty to Defend reform, secured over \$50B in transportation funding, and then protected that funding by successfully defeating Proposition 6 on the

**Our legislative and policy successes, ballot victories and membership growth were born out of active membership working in conjunction with a qualified staff introducing new ideas to take ACEC California to new heights.**

November ballot. We extended the authorization for design professionals to organize as an LLP and lobbied for our industry to be included in the 20% pass-through exemption in the 2018 Federal Tax Plan. What's even better — ACEC California's membership experienced fantastic growth and surpassed pre-recession levels.

To ensure we build upon our recent successes, it is critical to remain engaged with elected officials and continue to tout the economic success stories of these huge policy wins. We must hammer home the message that private engineering firms play a vital, irreplaceable role in building some of the greatest, most innovative infrastructure projects in the world. From designing projects that help communities grapple with drought by creating more sustainable water delivery systems to helping cities design communities that incorporate more environmentally sound methods of transport, ACEC California members are pushing the envelope to meet the needs of a modern, evolving California.

The tremendous talent and world class vision of our members was again on display at the 2019 Engineering Excellence Awards in February. This event always gets me excited to be able to talk about these outstanding projects during our annual Legislative Visit Day. Legislative Visit Day — where design professionals pay individual visits to the



Christian Anger  
Membership Director  
ACEC California





Capitol offices of firms' state elected senators and assemblymembers. In 2018, the record member turnout at Legislative Visit Day demonstrated a strong presence at the State Capitol and effectively ensured our interests were represented.

I have no doubt that our members will seize the opportunity to become more involved this year and create new ways to elevate and strengthen the engineering and land surveying profession. Our legislative and policy successes, ballot victories and membership growth were born out

of active membership working in conjunction with a qualified staff introducing new ideas to take ACEC California to new heights.

ACEC California is most successful when our members are active and engaged. ACEC California is unrivaled in our advocacy for your profession, but we only remain successful through the combined strength and effort of our membership. In 2019, let's keep up the momentum and keep pushing for new heights. ■



At Legislative Visit Day, ACEC California members have the opportunity to tour the State Capitol, visit with their local elected officials, network with colleagues and learn about emerging policies that will affect their business.



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# STRATEGIC LOCAL OUTREACH

## Launching of QBS Champion Award Program



Jennifer Horne  
Policy Outreach Coordinator  
ACEC California

**AS** an association that represents over 1,000 engineering and land surveying firms throughout the state, ACEC California values the working relationships that have been developed over the years with industry partners. In 2018, ACEC California saw a number of collaborative successes thanks to the concerted efforts of ACEC California members and staff, along with agency partners.

Our Caltrans Liaison Committee continues to strengthen its working relationship with Caltrans and appreciates the opportunity to discuss issues important to the design professional industry. ACEC California is looking forward to continuing its efforts with Caltrans to ensure that California has the most qualified design professionals when planning for the future.

### Our Caltrans Liaison Committee continues to strengthen its working relationship with Caltrans and appreciates the opportunity to discuss issues important to the design professional industry.

As the new Policy Outreach Coordinator for ACEC California, I am eager to contribute to these efforts, especially as they relate to Qualifications-Based Selections (QBS). Prior to working for ACEC California, I was the Deputy District Director for a United States Congressman where I worked closely with a variety of public interest groups, organizations, and agencies at all levels of government on many issues. Having worked often with federal and state agencies to seek issue resolution on behalf

of constituents, I am looking forward to utilizing my skills and abilities here.

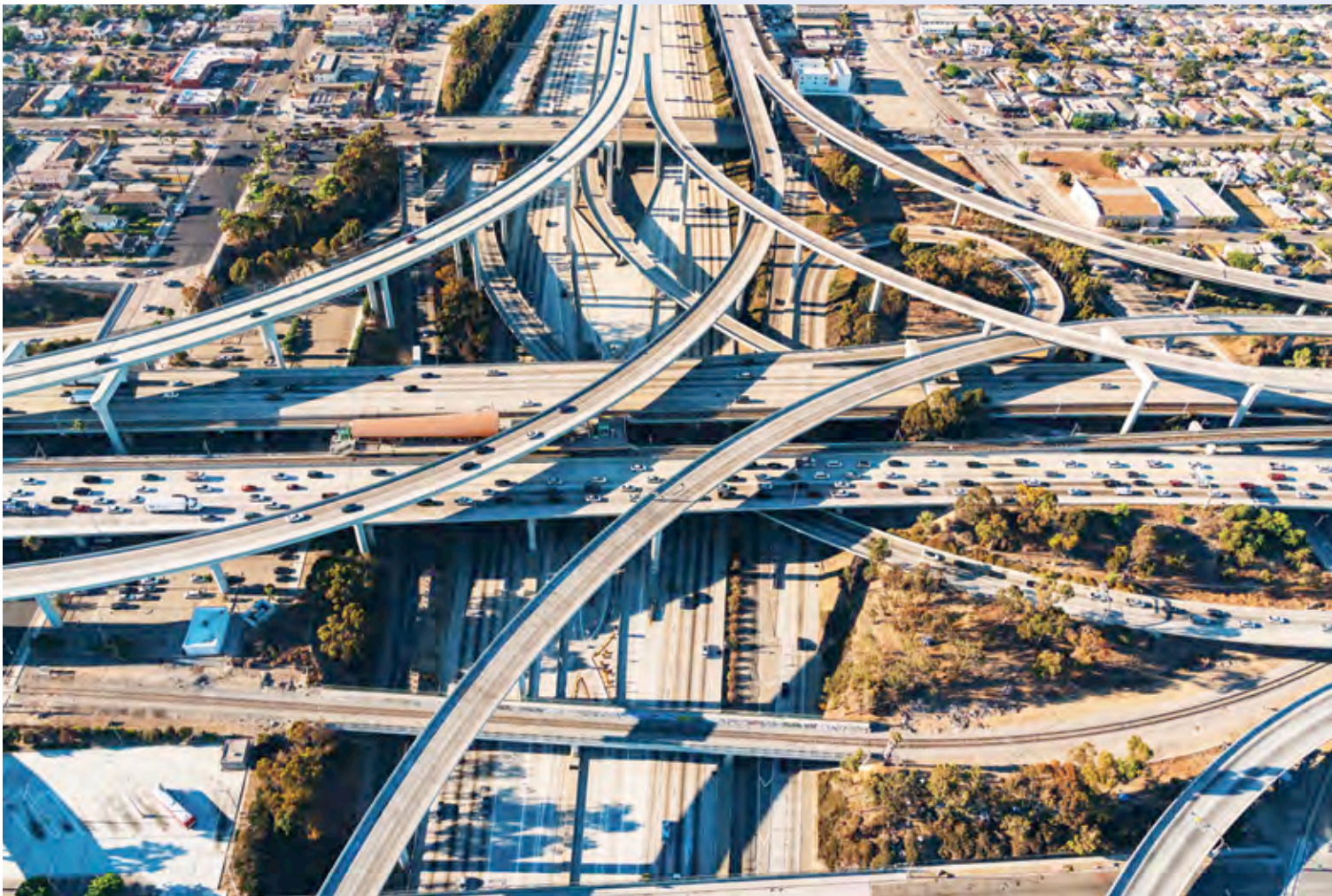
With SB 1 transportation funding still in place after the failure of Proposition 6, it is important to ensure that QBS is being properly implemented with the many public works projects that lie ahead in California. Because QBS promotes the safety and sustainability of California's infrastructure, ACEC California has spearheaded a campaign to equip members with an understanding of QBS law, and act as a resource to public agencies who may need assistance with the QBS procurement process. ACEC California has created informational primers on the process and benefits of QBS, and can provide materials on how to best procure professional services, evaluate the qualifications of design professionals, and prepare procurements in a way that best reflects the agencies goals for a successful project. Please reach out to ACEC California if you have questions regarding the QBS process, or if you would like to request the resources listed above.

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I am also excited to announce that in January, ACEC California launched its QBS Champion Award Program! This award program seeks to recognize public agencies that make exemplary use of the QBS process and acknowledge the importance of selecting the most qualified design professionals. The QBS Champion Award winner will be announced at ACEC California's Annual Engineering Excellence Awards event in February of 2020. For more information, please visit our website. ■

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# ENGINEERING EXCELLENCE AWARDS | 2019 HONOR

**EACH YEAR** ACEC CALIFORNIA honors engineering and land surveying firms throughout California with Engineering Excellence Honor, Merit and Commendation Awards. Of those recipients, ACEC California selects one firm to receive the Golden State Award. Honor Award winners are eligible to enter the ACEC National Engineering Excellence Awards competition.

Entries are accepted into one of 12 project categories: studies, research and consulting

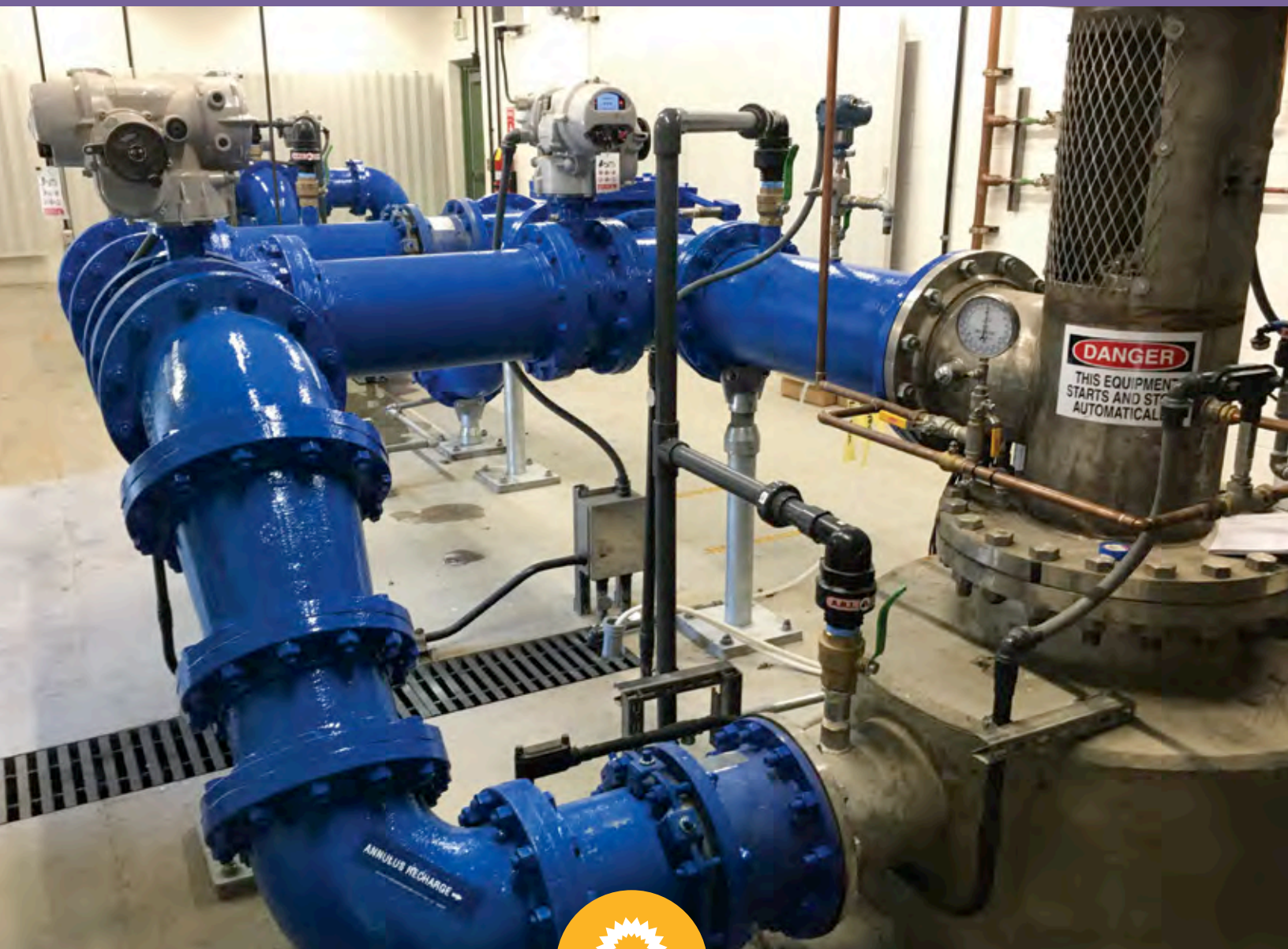
engineering services; building/technology systems; structural systems; surveying and mapping technology; environmental; waste and storm water; water resources; transportation; special projects; small projects; energy; and industrial and manufacturing processes and facilities.

Fourteen projects earned the prestigious Honor Award distinction, fifteen were recognized with Merit Awards, and eight Commendation Awards were granted. An awards dinner, which was a fundraiser for the ACEC California Scholarship Foundation 501(c)3, was held in San Francisco on February 7, 2019.

For more information and details about each project, visit [www.engineeringca.com](http://www.engineeringca.com).







CITY OF WOODLAND AQUIFER STORAGE  
AND RECOVERY WELLS #29 AND #30

Carollo Engineers, Inc.

"This year's Golden State Award winner is a **unique example of how innovation and modernization** can produce a water supply system that **fully utilizes a city's water rights while maintaining an economical price**," said Brad Diede, Executive Director of ACEC California. "We congratulate Carollo Engineers, Inc. and commend the City of Woodland for its comprehensive approach to addressing its supply needs during periods of high demand and drought."

For additional details about this project,  
visit [www.engineeringca.com](http://www.engineeringca.com).





# ENGINEERING EXCELLENCE AWARDS | 2019 HONOR







BKF ENGINEERS in Redwood City  
San Pablo Avenue Bike and Pedestrian  
Improvements in Albany

CAROLLO ENGINEERS, INC. in Fresno  
City of Fresno Southeast Surface Water Treatment  
Facility in Fresno

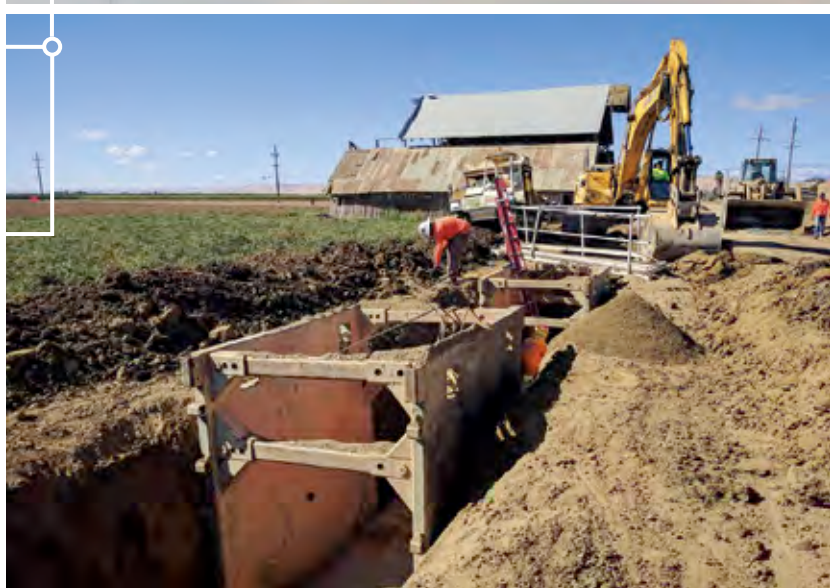




## ENGINEERING EXCELLENCE AWARDS | 2019 HONOR







**WOODARD & CURRAN** in Walnut Creek  
North Valley Regional Recycled Water Program  
in Modesto and Turlock

**SYSKA HENNESSY GROUP** in Culver City  
Palomar Community College, Maintenance & Operations  
Complex in San Marcos

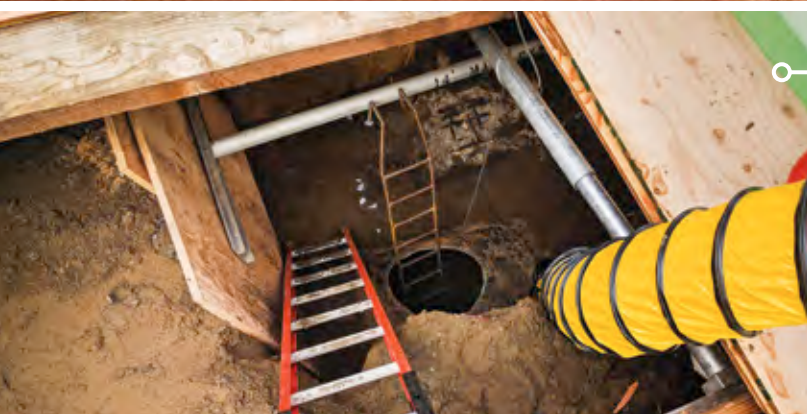
**GHD, INC.** in Santa Rosa  
Redwood Business Park Transportation Improvements  
and Talmage Road Interchange Project in Ukiah



## ENGINEERING EXCELLENCE AWARDS | 2019 HONOR

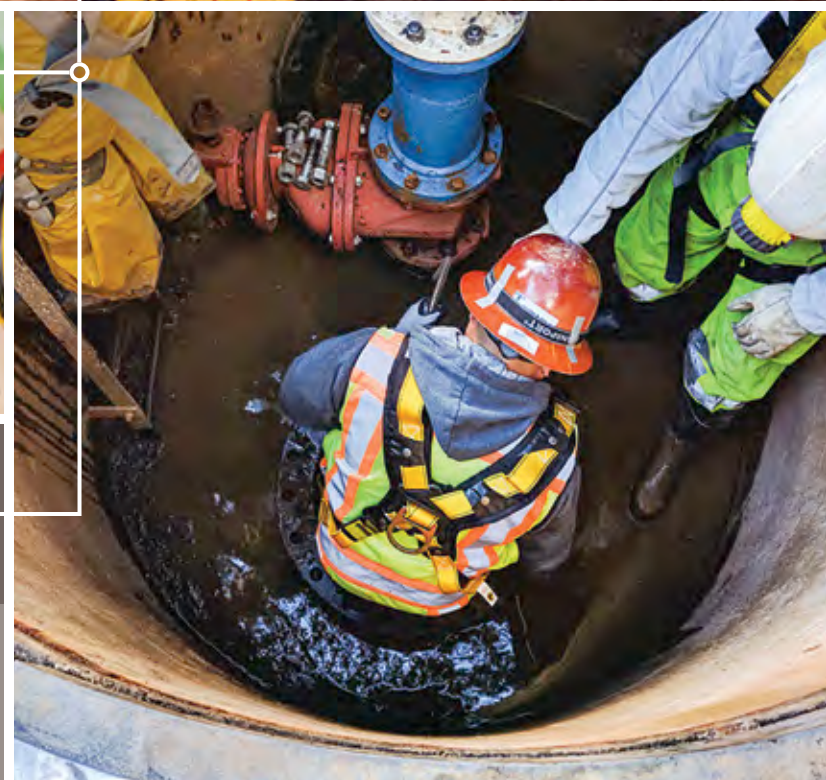






**TOWILL, INC.** in Concord  
San Francisco Public Utilities Commission  
San Andreas Pipeline No. 2 Replacement Study in San Bruno

**MICHAEL BAKER INTERNATIONAL** in San Diego  
San Diego County Regional Airport Terminal 2  
Parking Plaza in San Diego





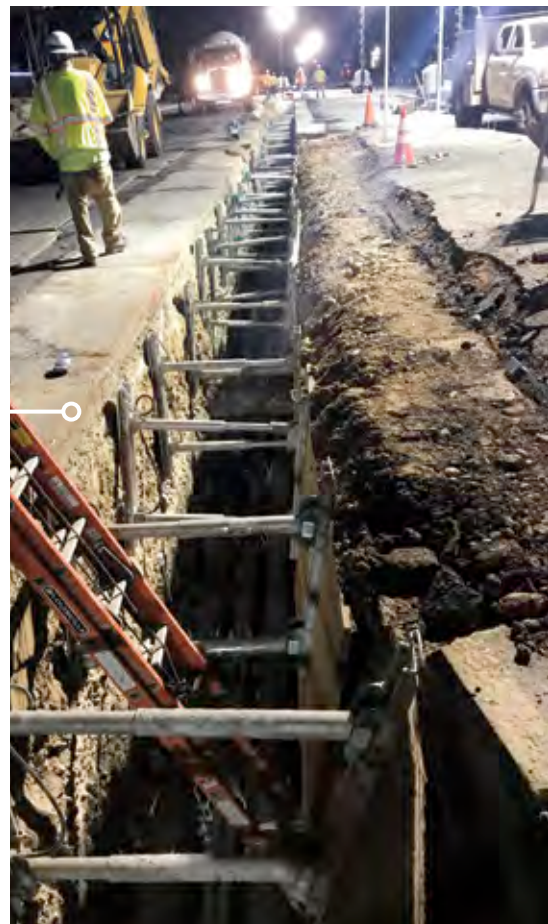






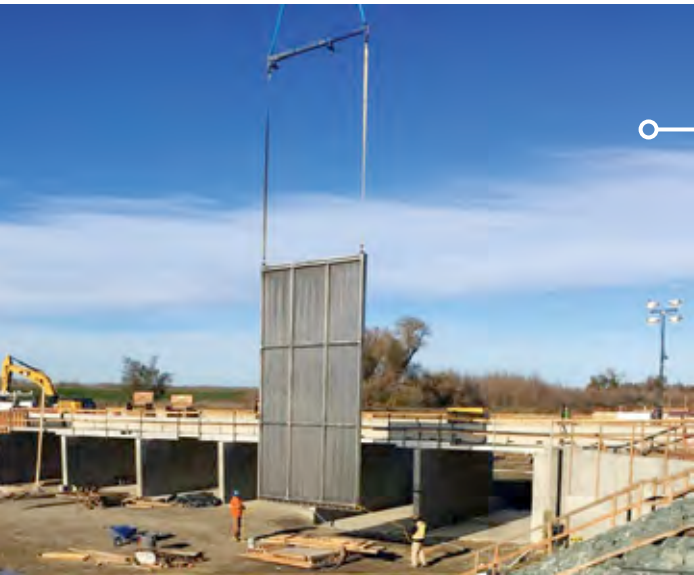
KOA CORPORATION in Orange  
Daisy-Myrtle Bike Boulevard in Long Beach

NV5, INC. AND SAN DIEGO GAS & ELECTRIC  
in San Diego  
Sycamore to Peñasquitos 230kV Transmission  
Line in San Diego





# ENGINEERING EXCELLENCE AWARDS | 2019 HONOR

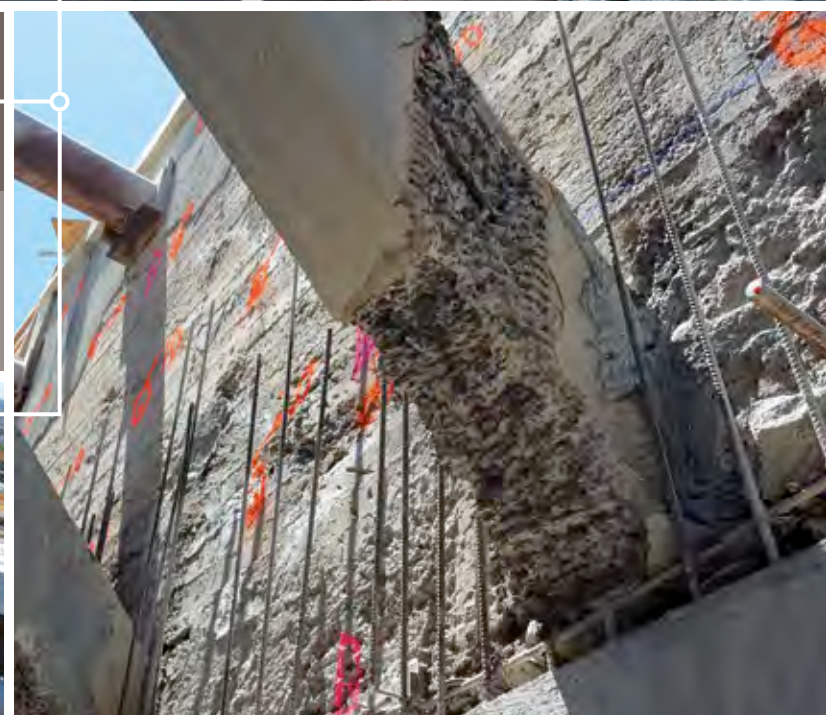






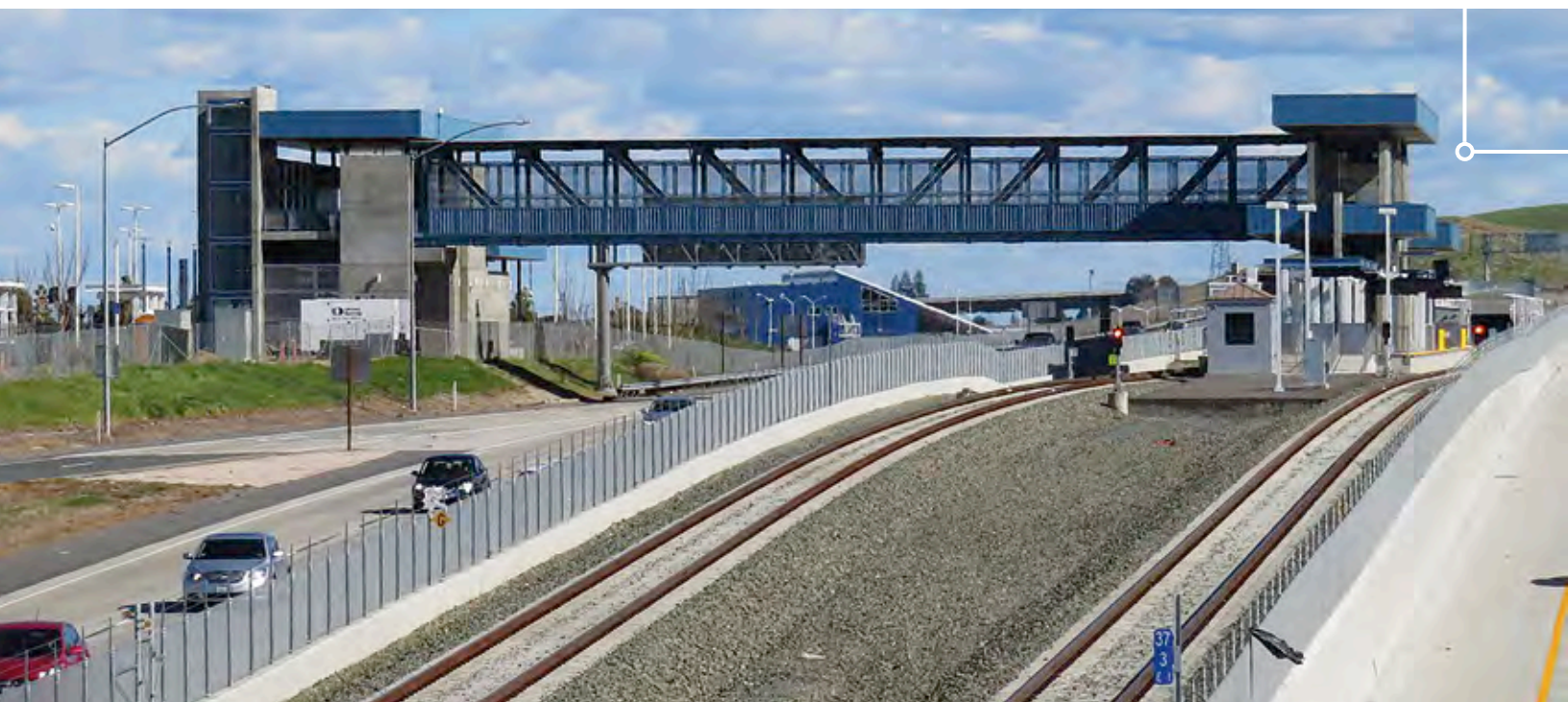
KLEINFELDER in San Diego  
Georgia Street Bridge Over University Avenue  
Rehabilitation and Seismic Retrofit in San Diego

KJELDSSEN, SINNOCK & NEUDECK, INC.  
in West Sacramento  
Wallace Weir Fish Rescue Facility in Woodland





## ENGINEERING EXCELLENCE AWARDS | 2019 HONOR







**CORNERSTONE STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING GROUP, INC.** in San Francisco

Seismic Retrofit and Modernization of  
990 Pacific Avenue Apartments in San Francisco

**MNS ENGINEERS, INC.; PGH WONG ENGINEERING, INC.; GHIRARDELLI; AECOM; STACY AND WITBECK/AMAROSO/MRS** in Santa Barbara  
eBART to Antioch: East Contra Costa Extension  
in Antioch and Pittsburg





# ENGINEERING EXCELLENCE AWARDS | 2019 MERIT



**AECOM TECHNICAL SERVICES, INC.** in Sacramento  
Critical Levee Repair Sites Rehabilitation Effort in California's Central Valley



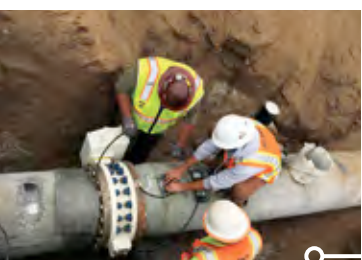
**ANDERSONPENNA PARTNERS, INC.** in Newport Beach  
Harrison Greenberg Foundation Roundhouse Aquarium Beautification in Manhattan Beach



**BERG & ASSOCIATES, INC.** in San Pedro  
North Santa Monica Boulevard Reconstruction Project in Beverly Hills



**DRAKE HAGLAN & ASSOCIATES, INC.** in Rancho Cordova  
11th Street East Tracy Overhead Bridge Replacement in Tracy



**HNTB CORPORATION** in Oakland  
Fairfield-Vacaville Train Station in Fairfield



**KIMLEY-HORN AND ASSOCIATES, INC.** in Sacramento  
Johnny Cash Trail Phase 2 in Folsom



**KOA CORPORATION** in Orange  
Grand Avenue Bike Lanes and Multipurpose Trail in Wildomar

**LCC ENGINEERING & SURVEYING, INC.** in Martinez  
BART Downtown Access Ramp & Lighting, Project No. 4096 in Orinda

**MICHAEL BAKER INTERNATIONAL, INC.** in San Diego  
Eastern Service Area Secondary Connection Project (ESA SCP) in San Diego County

**MICHAEL BAKER INTERNATIONAL, INC.** in Ontario  
Interstate 10 (I-10) / Jefferson Street Interchange Improvements in Indio

**MNS ENGINEERS, INC.** in Santa Barbara  
Elkhorn Road Emergency Storm Repair in Monterey County





**PROVOST & PRITCHARD CONSULTING GROUP** in Fresno  
Biogas Pipeline Project in Tulare County

**PROVOST & PRITCHARD CONSULTING GROUP** in Fresno  
Fulton Street Reconstruction Project in Fresno

**SHN** in Eureka  
Design, Renovation, and Reconstruction of Wet Utility and Roads Infrastructure in Scotia

**SYSKA HENNESSY GROUP** in Culver City  
San Diego International Airport, New Federal Inspection Station in San Diego

## ENGINEERING EXCELLENCE AWARDS | 2019 COMMENDATION

### **AECOM**

SFO Runway 10R-28L Overlay and Reconstruction and Taxiways  
F2 and S Project in San Francisco

### **BKF ENGINEERS**

San Jose Large Trash Capture in San Jose

### **INFRASTRUCTURE ENGINEERING CORPORATION**

North Bay Pump Station Project in Lake Arrowhead

### **KENNEDY/JENKS CONSULTANTS**

Land Outfall Replacement Project in Cardiff

### **KIMLEY-HORN AND ASSOCIATES, INC.**

Hotel Nia @Menlo Gateway in Menlo Park

### **SA ASSOCIATES**

New Nitrate Removal Treatment Facility and Reactivation  
of Well No. 2 in Glendale

### **SANDIS CIVIL ENGINEERS SURVEYORS PLANNERS**

Ronald McDonald House at Stanford in Palo Alto

### **T.Y. LIN INTERNATIONAL**

State Route 178 Widening Project in Bakersfield



## GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS UPDATE

### Opportunities & challenges in Sacramento



Tyler Munzing

Director of Government Affairs  
ACEC California

**WITH** new funding streams flowing into the state's transportation, housing, and water resources systems, California truly is in a new era of infrastructure. Notwithstanding this renewed commitment to building, the Golden State however has a new Governor and the subtleties of the 2019 State Legislature have yet to be identified. It will definitely

be a big policy year, as ACEC California continues to strengthen political relationships and navigates through several hot-button policy issues.


**2018** saw several key victories for ACEC California in the Legislature and the ballot box, none greater than the defeat of Proposition 6

in the November general election.

Another \$4 billion one-time was approved to fund veteran and affordable housing, as was a \$4 billion bond for parks and water infrastructure. Moreover, several local transportation ballot measures succeeded.

#### Other legislative accomplishments included:

- Senate Bill 920, sponsored by ACEC California and in coordination with the American Institute of Architects, California Council, which extended the sunset until 2026 for engineers, land surveyors, and architects to form and conduct business as limited liability partnerships;
- Senate Bill 1262, which authorized Caltrans to use the Construction Manager/General Contractor project delivery method without limit;
- Assembly Bill 2654, which expanded the use of design-build in Orange County; and,
- Senate Bill 961, which permitted Enhanced Infrastructure Financing Districts to issue bonds to finance affordable housing developments near transit stations.



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**2019** brings with it both opportunities and challenges, chief among them ACEC California's priority proposal to clarify the intent of Government Code 1090. Increasingly, design firms that contract with public agencies are being precluded from





participating in subsequent phases of work if they had any involvement in an earlier phase. As a result, clients are denied access to the most qualified professionals, consultants are forced to choose to withhold proposals for early phases, and projects are subjected to delays and increased costs. ACEC California's advocacy team is pursuing a legislative fix in partnership with the American Institute of Architects, California Council and seeks your timely feedback if you have been subject to a Government Code 1090 matter in the past.

**Also hot on our radar this year:**

- Assembly Bill 5, which seeks to codify the California Supreme Court's *Dynamex* decision that obfuscates the relationship between California employers and millions of independent contractors, increasing the cost of doing business in the state and limiting workers' choice;
- A proposed effort to extend the sales and use tax on goods to services, which would increase the cost of design professional services to our clients and, by nature, hit the poorest Californians the hardest; and,
- Increased opportunities for public agencies to contract-out work to design firms as ample funding for infrastructure has finally materialized.

**It will definitely be a big policy year, as ACEC California continues to strengthen political relationships and navigates through several hot-button policy issues.**

Having worked in the State Capitol for the previous nine years before joining ACEC California, I can tell you how important it is to know your legislators and have them know you and the critical work that you do. I have witnessed first-hand the success of ACEC California's advocacy efforts in the past, and I am excited to continue your legacy. ■



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**13 MONTHS**  
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77% OF ALL PROJECTS  
UNDERPERFORM

**75% MISS**  
75% OF ALL  
PROJECTS MISS THE  
ORIGINAL DEADLINES

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69% OF ALL PROJECTS GO 10%+  
OVERBUDGET WHILE PROFIT  
MARGINS DECREASE 3% <sup>2</sup>

**65x INCREASE**  
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<sup>1</sup> NAVIGANT CONSTRUCTION FORUM

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<sup>3</sup> THE SOCIAL ECONOMY: UNLOCKING VALUE AND PRODUCTIVITY THROUGH SOCIAL TECHNOLOGIES. MCKINSEY

<sup>4</sup> ARC DOCUMENT SOLUTIONS. NEWFORMA PROJECT DATA

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## SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

**THIS YEAR, ELEVEN STUDENTS RECEIVED SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS — FIVE GRADUATE STUDENTS AND SIX UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS. IN ALL, THE SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION AWARDED A TOTAL OF \$52,000 IN SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS. HERE'S WHAT A FEW OF THEM HAVE TO SAY:**



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— **TAHRIMA ALAM** | ACEC California  
CA State University, Fresno

“

ACEC California has **TRULY MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR ME TO FURTHER MY EDUCATION** with a large portion of the financial burden taken off my shoulders. I think, as a student, feeling financially secure is very important to my ability to focus on my education, and **ACEC CALIFORNIA HAS MADE THAT POSSIBLE.**

— **SAMANTHA WHETTEN** | ACEC California  
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Dear ACEC California, Thank you for selecting me as one of the recipients of the ACEC California Scholarship. **I AM HUMBLLED TO HAVE BEEN CHOSEN** for this award knowing that there were many qualified applicants.

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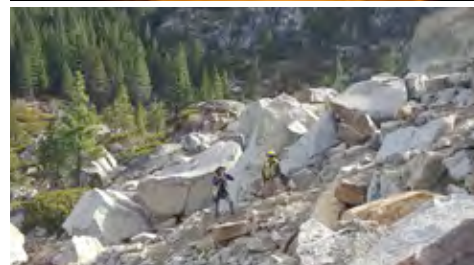
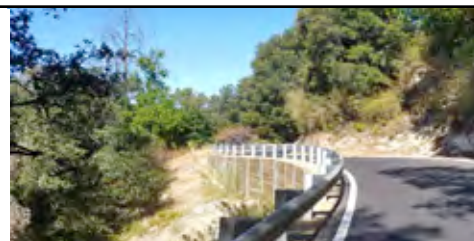


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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS | 2019

**15-16 MAY** WED - THURS

### Legislative Visit Day & Board of Directors Meeting

SACRAMENTO, CA  
THE CITIZEN HOTEL

- Legislative Visit Day & Reception (Wed)
- Board of Directors Meeting (Thurs)

**24-26 JULY** WED - FRI

### Leadership Training and July Board Meeting

LONG BEACH, CA  
WESTIN HOTEL

- Leadership Training (webinar) (Wed)
- Board of Directors Meeting (Thurs & Fri)

**2-4 OCT** WED - FRI

### Annual Strategic Summit & Board of Directors Meeting

NEWPORT BEACH, CA  
BALBOA BAY RESORT

- Board of Directors Meeting (Wed)
- Annual Conference Events (Thurs-Fri)

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