



2023 PUBLIC WORKS OFFICERS INSTITUTE

Wednesday, March 8 – Friday, March 10
Universal City Hilton



Speaker Biographies

Daniel Acosta

I specialize in conceptualization, design and building fiber optic networks and infrastructure in the ROW. I am a Manager for Crown Castle located in Irvine, CA, I have 15+ years of experience in deploying fiber optic networks in both aerial and underground environments. I would be happy to discuss in detail about micro-trenching and how this methodology helps bridge the digital divide.

Ted Allen

Ted is currently the City Engineer for the City of Los Angeles, working in the Bureau of Engineering (Engineering) which is a part of the Department of Public Works. Ted grew up in nearby Whittier and attended UCLA, where he graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering in 1992. He obtained his California Civil Engineering license in 1997. Ted has spent his entire career within Los Angeles Public Works, mostly with the Engineering, but also including three years with the Bureau of Sanitation. Ted spent the first 20 years of his career working in all aspects of project delivery, including design, construction management, project management, financial management and contracting. For the subsequent eight years, Ted was the Deputy City Engineer over the Development Services Program, which includes all of the public right-of-way permitting and land development functions within Engineering, as well as the two divisions that oversee technology. This program issues over 20,000 permits annually and manages numerous web applications. In this role, Ted led Engineering's development of microtrench standards and updates to normal trench standards.

Joan Araujo

After a 30-year career in the health care industry with a focus on medical facility construction, Joan joined the Public Works Agency four-years ago. Serving as the Director of Central Services Joan's divisions include Fiscal Services, Health & Safety, Human Resources, Information Technology, Payroll, Public Outreach, and Strategic Management along with Real Estate Services for the County of Ventura. Joan is passionate about providing the best support possible for the Agency's operations departments so each can focus on their respective Engineering specialties and projects. Joan has a bachelors degree from Graceland University in Lamoni, Iowa and a masters degree from the University of St. Francis in Joliet, Illinois. She and her husband David have five grown children and reside in the city of Ventura. In her spare time Joan enjoys cooking and travel.

Jessica Bean

Jessica Bean has been with the State Water Resources Control Board for nearly a decade. During that time, she has worked to protect and improve California's water resources through the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, urban water conservation efforts, and the SAFER drinking water program. Jessica is a licensed California professional geologist with a master's degree in geology. She is also an expert writer with a background in communications and education. Jessica currently serves as the Assistant Deputy for Drought and Water Rights Modernization for the Board's Division of Water Rights.

Maxwell Blum

Maxwell Blum is a partner in Burke Williams & Sorensen's Oakland office. His practice involves representing public agencies in litigation matters, and providing advice on transactions, and compliance issues. Maxwell has worked on litigation cases involving environmental contamination, inverse condemnation, breach of contract, code enforcement, relocation assistance, and other issues. On the transactional side, Maxwell has helped clients draft leases, purchase and sale agreements, project labor agreements, and operations and maintenance agreements.

Maurice Chaney

Maurice Chaney is a strategic communication professional with more than 23 years of combined experience in both the public and private sectors. He is a Public Information Officer for the City of Roseville's Environmental Utilities—a suite of community-owned utilities for a community of 145,000—and manages communication, outreach and marketing. Before his role at Roseville, he served nearly seven years as a Media and Communication Specialist for Sacramento. He worked on large economic development projects, such as the new sports arena and digital communications and media relations for several departments. He also served Sacramento County in a similar role. Maurice's career started at a private consulting firm, Jones and Stokes (now ICF International), where he worked on local and statewide environmental public participation projects. During his career, Maurice has honed his issues and perception management, media relations, branding, social media, and digital communication skills. Maurice is a graduate from the University of California at Davis with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communication and a minor in Sociology.

Jennifer Coyle

As the founder and President of North Star, Jennifer Coyle supports individuals and teams as a coach, consultant and strategic thinking partner. Jennifer works with city teams in California and across the US, developing talent, expanding capacity on teams and helping departmental leadership align around goals and lead their teams to exceptional results. Jennifer has a bachelor's degree from Georgetown University, and coaching degrees from Harvard University, the University of Miami and Google. She is a member of ACE's prestigious Virtuoso coaching team, mentoring coaches in the US and internationally. ACE/Virtuoso is

dedicated to elevating the caliber of the global professional coaching industry towards excellence.

Deirdre Joan Cox

For over twenty years, Deirdre Joan Cox has practiced in the construction and public contracting field. Joan's practice involves representing public agencies in complex construction matters, including strategizing development and procurement approaches, drafting construction documents, including performance and payment bonds and parent guarantees, advising clients during the course of construction, claims review and analysis, and claims resolution, including mediation, arbitration, and litigation. She assists in the resolution of issues that occur at the intersections between funding, design, acquisition, and construction. She serves as special counsel to a number of local agencies and general counsel for the Olivehurst Public Utility District. She has extensive litigation experience in state and federal court. Her efforts, from a project's early stages through trial and beyond, allow public agencies to deliver public projects on time and on budget. Her experience includes multi-million dollar projects for cities, counties, and other municipalities, including hospitals, community college, school and special districts, and other commercial facilities in myriad bond funded projects, individual projects, and capital improvement programs. She has particular experience in lease revenue bond financing, Mello-Roos bonds, public private partnerships, and other financing mechanisms.

Dr. David Crohn

David Crohn earned his doctorate in 1992 from Cornell University in the Department of Biological and Agricultural Engineering. From 1992 through 2021 he served as a Cooperative Extension Waste Management Specialist in the Department of Environmental Sciences at the University of California, Riverside. His research emphasized the beneficial use of municipal and agricultural residues as soil amendments and fertilizers. Dr. Crohn is now Chair of the Board of Riverside Public Utilities which provides both water and electricity to city residents.

Gina Dorrington

Gina has been in the water and wastewater industry for over 20 years. She has worked her way up from a Laboratory Analyst to Environmental Compliance Inspector to Collection System Worker to Plant Operator. Gina has a Bachelor of Science degree in Soil Science from Cal Poly Pomona and holds State Water Certification of Grade V Wastewater Treatment Operator Certificate, Advanced Water Treatment Operation Grade 3, Water Treatment Operator Grade 3, Water Distribution Operator Grade 2, Collection System Maintenance Grade 2, Laboratory Analyst Grade 2, and an Environmental Compliance Inspector Grade 1. Gina has had experience in operating and managing water and wastewater infrastructure ranging from 100-year-old technology to advanced purification technology performing groundwater remediation for EPA superfund sites. Gina has also worked in the private contracting industry as a Regional Safety and Compliance Manager, overseeing water and

wastewater system compliance and safety. Gina has enjoyed working in Ventura since 2014 as the Wastewater Utility Manager becoming Assistant General Manager of Operations in 2019 and promoted to General Manager in 2022. The City of Ventura is currently moving forward on its Potable reuse project VenturaWaterPure to start producing drinking water in 2027.

Luis Estevez

Mr. Estevez has 25 years of local government management experience serving six different Cities much of that time in Public Works. For the past seven years Mr. Estevez has served the City of Placentia as the Director of Public Works and Deputy City Administrator. During that time Luis has led several major projects and initiatives such as working closely with the City's Fiscal Sustainability Taskforce and helping to successfully secure voter approval of the City's Measure U 1% Transactions and Use Tax. In addition, Luis lead the major elements of creating the Placentia Fire and Life Safety Department and contracted 911 ALS/Paramedic services as well as leading the City's negotiating team and implementation of the Placentia FiberCity Project. Mr. Estevez has delivered more than \$70 million in capital improvement projects throughout his career and has worked closely with numerous City Councils and local stakeholder groups to create consensus and solutions to quality-of-life concerns for the public.

Benjamin A. Fine, P.E.

Mr. Fine was hired by the City of Pismo Beach in November 2008 as an associate engineer and promoted to the City's Director of Public Works/City Engineer in January of 2013. Mr. Fine holds master's degrees in mechanical engineering and business administration as well as a bachelor's degree in agricultural engineering. He is a licensed civil engineer in the State of California with over twenty years of private sector and municipal engineering and management experience as well as seven years of teaching experience at the university level. He has experience in water resource management, land development, hydrology, drainage, budgeting, contract negotiations, traffic circulation, storm water management, construction management, contract management, and project management. Mr. Fine is the president of League of California Cities Public Works Department, chair of the County of San Luis Obispo State Water Subcontractors Committee, a member of the League of California Cities Transportation, Communication & Public Works Policy Committee and is a member of the American Society for Civil Engineers, WaterReuse Association, California Water Environment Association and the American Public Works Association. He served as the inaugural president of the Central Coast Chapter of WaterReuse Association and is a former chair of the San Luis Obispo Council of Governments Technical Transportation Committee. Mr. Fine serves as the City's technical advisor on the Northern Cities Management Area Technical Group and Zone Three Technical Group both of which help to manage the City's water supply in a cooperative manner with neighboring agencies. As Public Works Director for the City of Pismo Beach, Mr. Fine is responsible for the management, maintenance and construction of the water and wastewater systems, maintenance and construction of all public infrastructure which includes parks, beaches, water and sewer infrastructure as well as streets and public buildings. In addition to

his professional accomplishments and involvement, Mr. Fine coaches his daughters sports teams, and serves on the School Site Councils of Shell Beach Elementary School and Judkins Middle School. Mr. Fine is dedicated to public service and his profession.

Debaroti Ghosh

Dr. Ghosh has a PhD from the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, where her research interests included pavement materials. She worked at Minnesota Department of Transportation before joining NCE in 2018. After joining NCE in 2018, she has enjoyed working on hundreds of pavement design and management projects for local agencies and airports throughout California. Her particular interests include teaching agencies how to better manage their pavements and advocating for increased funding for local road maintenance.

Tim Goncharoff

Tim Goncharoff is an environmental leader well-known for innovative programs and policies. The recipient of many awards for his work, Tim is in great demand as a speaker and author. As a consultant, he specializes in zero waste, the circular economy, sustainability and resiliency planning. Previously on the staff of Santa Cruz County, Tim is a lifetime member of the County Engineers Association of California, an Advisor to the Board of the California Resource Recovery Association and President of the National Stewardship Action Council.

Julian Gross

Julian Gross is one of the nation's principal experts on community benefits in land use development and public infrastructure. For over 25 years, Mr. Gross has represented public entities and nonprofit advocates in contract negotiations, legislative and administrative drafting, and policy development aimed at improving land use development and public infrastructure, and advancing racial and economic equity. He has represented numerous public entities affordable housing developers in negotiation of project labor agreements covering over \$150 billion of construction work, and advancing multiple policy goals. He also represented SANDAG in negotiation of a Community Workforce Agreement to be used on large-scale, federally-funded infrastructure projects. Julian advised the City of Portland, Multnomah County, and Oregon Metro in negotiation of the groundbreaking Regional Workforce Equity Agreement, the only PLA in the country executed by multiple public entities. In addition, Julian has negotiated dozens of community benefits agreements (CBAs), initiating and refining an innovative contractual approach to resolution of challenging land used development issues, including in clean energy infrastructure development. He has also drafted numerous local hiring and contracting policies, and has worked on living wage policies, disadvantaged-business policies, and many other community economic development initiatives.

John Harvey

John Harvey is Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of

California, Davis, Director of the UC Pavement Research Center, and Director of the City and County Pavement Improvement Center. He is Principal Investigator for projects for research, development, and implementation for a wide range of pavement materials, design, asset management, cost, and environmental topics for the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), FHWA, FAA, CalRecycle, the California Air Resources Board, the Transportation Research Board, other state DOTs and industry. He is a professional civil engineer in California.

Jonathan Holtzman

Jonathan (Jon) Holtzman is a founding partner of Renne Public Law Group, and was previously a founding partner of Renne Sloan Holtzman Sakai LLP. Since 2005, and every year since, Mr. Holtzman has been named a “Northern California Super Lawyer.” Mr. Holtzman’s practice focuses on assisting government agencies maintain and expand public services through strategic consulting, negotiations, fact finding, arbitration and litigation. He specializes in addressing long-term structural issues relating to pensions, health benefits, retirement health benefits, civil service reform, and other means of attaining greater managerial discretion and effectiveness through collective bargaining and reorganization. He frequently speaks and writes on matters pertaining to municipal bankruptcy, ballot initiatives, interest arbitration, bargaining, fact finding, comparability, fiscal analysis for bargaining, and pension and retirement medical programs. Mr. Holtzman has experience in virtually all aspects of employment law and labor relations. His labor expertise encompasses negotiations, fact finding, mediation, grievance and interest arbitration, and litigation related to bargaining obligations. He is the author of Rutter Group’s California Practice Guide: Public Sector Employment Litigation Guide, the leading treatise on public sector employment issues. Mr. Holtzman also practices government law, including general advice work, drafting ballot and other legislative measures and initiatives, litigating issues of constitutional and statutory interpretation, and electoral matters. He currently serves as District Counsel to the Moraga Orinda Fire District.

Carmen Kasner

Carmen has more than 30 years of experience both as a private consultant managing all types and phases of public works projects. She has also been a contract City engineer for several beach communities where she helped drive projects to completion. She loves getting involved with the communities and the operations staff to make projects a success both in the use and function to the citizens and in the long-term operation and maintenance of those facilities. At Ardurra she is helping to grow the southwest region from the 250 people currently though attracting and developing the next leaders while serving clients.

Jeremy Lancaster

Mr. Lancaster has over 20 years of experience working on geohazards issues in the State of California and is a Licensed Professional Geologist and a Certified Engineering Geologist.

Jeremy has worked as a consultant in the private sector before coming to CGS in 2006. He has experience working on multi-disciplinary projects as well as performing geologic investigations including, pre- and post- wildfire burned watershed hazards assessment and evacuation planning, landslide mapping and mitigation, geologic mapping, wildlife habitat assessment, and seismic hazards investigations and mapping.

Elizabeth Lovsted

Elizabeth Lovsted has over twenty years of experience in water resources planning and conservation in California. She is currently a Water Resources Manager at the San Diego County Water Authority overseeing regulatory policy, integrated regional water management and conservation. She is the chair of the Water Use Efficiency Subcommittee for the Association of California Water Agencies, a member of the California Water Efficiency Partnership Board and serves as the Steering Committee co-chair for the California Data Collaborative. Elizabeth is a registered civil engineer in the State of California and has a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from San Diego State University.

Julie Lucido

Julie is the Public Works Director for the City of Napa. She has served in this role for the last 4 years and previously served as the Public Works Director and City Engineer for the City of Fairfield from 2016 to 2019. For the 15 years prior, Julie worked in Napa as an Engineering Manager and Project Manager for the Napa River Flood Control Project and for other high priority community projects for both the County and City of Napa. In 2017, Julie was appointed to the California Uniform Construction Cost Accounting Commission and is currently the Vice President for the Cal Cities Public Works Officers. Julie attended Chico State, is married to a public works engineer, has a sophomore at Cal studying engineering, and also has a senior finishing up high school in June.

Elizabeth Lovsted

Elizabeth Lovsted has over twenty years of experience in water resources planning and conservation in California. She is currently a Water Resources Manager at the San Diego County Water Authority overseeing regulatory policy, integrated regional water management and conservation. She is the chair of the Water Use Efficiency Subcommittee for the Association of California Water Agencies, a member of the California Water Efficiency Partnership Board and serves as the Steering Committee co-chair for the California Data Collaborative. Elizabeth is a registered civil engineer in the State of California and has a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from San Diego State University.

Sean Maguire

Sean Maguire is a registered civil engineer and was appointed to the State Water Resources Control Board in December 2018. Mr. Maguire has had a broad career both in both public

service and as an engineering consultant, which provides a valuable perspective of both the challenges facing a government agency and the needs of a broad array of water interests. Prior to becoming a board member, Sean worked for the State Water Board as a manager in the Division of Water Rights and Division of Financial Assistance. In the consulting sector, Sean worked with communities to address water supply challenges, and developed approaches to integrated water management to meet the needs of both water users and the environment.

Paul-Albert Marquez

Paul Marquez was appointed in his current capacity as the Caltrans District 7 Deputy District Director for Planning, Goods Movement and Local Assistance in March 2018. His responsibilities cover programs and planning in Los Angeles and Ventura Counties. Paul believes in the communication and coordination of planning and project development activities with all the appropriate transportation stakeholders, both internal and external to Caltrans, in order to develop the best possible transportation solutions to the public and residents of Southern California. The freeways in metropolitan Los Angeles are among the most congested in the nation, and this is compounded by the movement of goods through the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach, which uses the state highway system, the region's airports, and the railroad lines. Given this setting, sustainable multimodal transportation solutions are needed to ensure that people and goods are moved throughout the region to provide a safe and reliable transportation network that serves all people and respects the environment in Southern California. Paul manages a division comprised of four offices: 1) Multi-Modal System and Regional Planning, 2) Community, Climate and Modal Planning, 3) Projects and Special Studies, and 4) Local Assistance. In addition, multimodal corridor planning, sustainable freight planning, climate change, active transportation, and early engagement are key planning efforts that the division is focused on. The division plays a critical role in articulating the future vision of a brighter future for all through a world-class transportation network based on the Department's foundational principles of safety, climate, equity, and prosperity for communities. This lays the groundwork for sustainable transportation investments. The planning process involves working closely with our local and regional transportation partners, other Caltrans functions, other state and federal agencies, and the communities we serve to insure transparency and equity in planning decisions. Paul has been with Caltrans for 23 years, with much of his state service in Caltrans District 6 based in Fresno. He has worked in all areas of transportation planning in California's San Joaquin Valley. In addition, he has held several acting Office Chief positions in the Headquarters Division of Transportation Planning for the Regional Planning and Smart Mobility and Climate Change offices. Prior to coming to Caltrans, Paul had nearly 12 years of experience as a Planner for a local agency. He values relationships with local, regional, state and federal agencies, private entities, and communities to ensure Caltrans planning efforts provide value to transportation investments. Paul received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics and a Masters degree in City and Regional Planning from California State University, Fresno.

Peter Martin

Peter Martin is the Deputy Director, Water Resources for Santa Rosa Water where he oversees programs related to water resources including energy and sustainability, long-term water supply, recycled water and wastewater treatment/disposal planning, water use efficiency, and water quality.

Jean Miller

Ms. Jean Miller is a telecommunications professional with 25 years of GIS experience and over 10 years of experience in the operational and management of telecommunications technologies and services, with practical experience in network planning and engineering, network operations management and integrating telecommunications solutions to ensure customer expectations and satisfaction. She holds a degree in Geographic Information Systems. Jean has played a key role in the greenfield deployment of 40,000 miles of fiber optic networks. She offers a unique combination of knowledge, expertise and technical skills that is helping SiFi Networks achieve its business goals. As a seasoned Manager, Jean understands the importance of optimizing business processes without sacrificing personal connections with employees and external partners. She thrives on building strong relationships to ensure project success. Jean has worked for SiFi Networks since July 2022 as the Area Manager for the Mid-West Region.

Brian Olson

Brian Olson is a senior engineering geologist with the California Geological Survey in Los Angeles managing the Liquefaction Zoning Unit. His work with CGS over the last 13 years has involved geologic mapping in the western Antelope Valley; active fault evaluations of the Santa Monica and Hollywood Faults in west Los Angeles and the San Cayetano Fault in Ventura County; post-earthquake field response to the 2010 El Mayor-Cucapah, 2019 Ridgecrest, and 2020 Lone Pine Earthquake events; post-wildfire field response for both the 2018 Montecito debris flows and 2021/2022 Bond Fire burn area flooding; post-tsunami flooding response from the 2011 Tohoku-Oki earthquake and the 2022 Tonga volcanic eruption; and geotechnical report review of over 500 public school and hospital projects in California. Prior to CGS, Brian worked in private geotechnical practice as an engineering geologist performing geotechnical investigations for various public, residential, and commercial developments throughout southern California.

Robert Osborn

Robert Osborn joined the California Public Utilities Commission in 2012, and in January 2020 he became Director of the Communications Division. Prior to joining the CPUC, he worked for 20 years in the communications industry – both wireless and wireline – and helped launch one of the first commercial 3G networks in Japan. He also has startup experience in Silicon Valley. Robert has a Bachelor of Arts degree from UC Berkeley, and Master of International Affairs degree from the School of Global Policy and Strategy at UC San Diego.

Sebria Owens-Wilson

Sebrina Owens-Wilson is Metro's Regional Impact Program Manager for the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Department. Her team focuses on strategies to advance racial equity through Metro's policies, programs and investment across the region. Sebrina leads efforts on advance workforce equity, developing equity strategies and analysis for regional measures and bonds, and growing community access to decision making. Previously, Sebrina was the Campaign Director at the Partnership for Working Families where she led national campaigns and research focused on equitable development and workforce equity in industries including: construction, transportation, trucking, and solid waste. She holds a master's degree in International Studies from the University of Oregon and a bachelor's degree from Colorado College.

Joshua Pack

Joshua (Josh) Pack has a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from the University of California at Davis and a Master of Public Administration degree from the University of South Dakota. He has been practicing engineering in northern California for nearly 25 years and is a registered Civil and Traffic Engineer in the State of California. Josh is currently the Director of Public Works for the County of Butte (CA) and has been in that position since January 2021. Before Butte County, Josh was the Director of Public Works and Transportation at Calaveras County. In total, Josh has diverse experience spanning both city and county government agencies throughout northern California.

Lisa Petersen

Lisa has been working in the Bay Area since 1997 and has over 25 years of public works management experience. Since 2020, she has been serving as the Director of Public Works for the City of Pacifica, CA. In this position, she oversees the city's Engineering, Field Services and Wastewater Treatment Divisions of the Department. Lisa previously was the Assistant Parks and Public Works Director/Town Engineer for Los Gatos managing the Town's traffic, land development, capital improvements, street maintenance and transportation programs. During her time in Los Gatos, she helped develop the Town's multi-million dollar "Connect Los Gatos" bicycle and pedestrian transportation program. Additionally, she managed the Town's Historic Almond Grove concrete streets reconstruction project, which required extensive community participation and engagement. During her years in public works management, Lisa has managed and implemented key city master planning programs and overseen multi-million-dollar capital projects. Her experience in capital project planning, design and construction includes streets, parks, bridges, buildings, storm drain systems, sewer systems, bicycle and pedestrian projects and seawalls. She also worked as a pavement consultant, which included helping cities throughout the Bay Area substantially improve their street pavement conditions. Lisa earned a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from San Diego State University and has been a California Registered Civil Engineer for 30 years.

Jeff Pratt

Jeff became the Director of the Ventura County Public Works Agency in October 2008. In his capacity as the Agency Director, Jeff serves as the County Road Commissioner, the Chief Engineer of several special districts and the Executive Officer of the Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency. After a tour of duty in the Navy, Jeff worked at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration on “climate change”, as an engineer at a construction and a geotechnical firm, and for two cities and two counties. He prefers public sector employment because of the cradle to grave nature of project participation and for the last several years has specialized in water resources. Throughout his years of service, Jeff has responded to many emergencies including tornados, ice storms, windstorms, landslides, fires, and floods. He has demonstrated a passion and talent for process improvement and the elimination of inefficient, redundant, and/or wasteful practices. Jeff was trained as a structural engineer at Washington University in St. Louis, and has completed several graduate courses in public policy, public administration, and business management at the Universities of Missouri and Washington. He approaches public service with a unique perspective and a sense of humor.

Kristina Ray

Kristina Ray oversees communication and engagement for the City of Carlsbad, a full-service city of 115,000 located in coastal San Diego County. In this role she handles media relations, social media, crisis communication and public engagement for all city departments, including public works. Prior to joining the city, she was the vice president of a consulting firm specializing in public outreach and engagement for large public works projects. Both roles have fed her passion for demystifying local government and helping community members get involved in issues affecting their lives. Before focusing on government service, Tina worked in Washington, D.C., for two former White House press secretaries. Other experience includes working as a local columnist for a regional daily newspaper and an instructor of journalism and public relations at San Diego State University. Tina has a bachelor’s degree in communication from the University of San Diego and a master’s degree in communication from San Diego State University. She also has her certification in public involvement from the International Association of Public Participation.

Walter Rubalcava

Mr. Rubalcava’s is the Deputy Director, Water Resource Division at the County of Santa Barbara. His experience includes 5 years of private sector and 22 years with the County of Santa Barbara, Public Works Department. His experience includes design, project management and leadership positions within the Transportation and Water Resources (Flood Control) Divisions.

Andrew Salvesson

Andy has been working on potable reuse projects since 1998 and is part of teams implementing projects as small as <1 mgd and greater than > 200 mgd. Andy's work spans the United States with select expert support in Europe, the Middle East, Asia, and Australia. In 2007, Andy was named the WateReuse Association Person of the Year. In 2022, Andy was honored with the Bahman Sheikh Memorial Award from WateReuse for Innovation and Vision.

Heidi Sanborn

Heidi has been a leader in the industry for over 32 years working as a consultant, regulator at CalRecycle serving as Policy Advisor to the Chair 2000-2002, and advocate for producer responsibility and a circular economy as the founding director of the California Product Stewardship Council a 501c3 and the National Stewardship Action Council a 501c4. NSAC advocates for a Circular & Equitable Economy through Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) and other policies. In May 2020, Heidi was appointed by the California Environmental Protection Agency to the Statewide Commission on Recycling Markets and Curbside Recycling and was elected Chair by the 17 Commissioners at the first meeting June 24, 2020, and resigned July 1, 2022, at the end of her two year term. She has led coalitions to pass major EPR legislation in California including SB 212 (Jackson) in 2018, the first EPR bill for both medications and sharps in the US, and SB 343 (Allen) in 2021 to define what is recyclable and how the recycling chasing arrow symbol can be used, and SB 54 (Allen) 2022 the EPR for packaging bill. All these bills are first of their kind in the U.S.

Walter Tustin

Industry professional with 25 years of experience in the Federal funding sector.

Erik Updyke

Erik Updyke is a Specialist for the City and County Pavement Improvement Center at UC Davis, a Senior Pavement Preservation Engineer for the California Pavement Preservation Center at CSU Chico. Erik retired from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works after 36 years in the Road Maintenance, Design, and Construction Divisions. Erik was a voting member of the Greenbook Committee from 2000 – 2018, and APWA Co-Chair from 2005 – 2019. Erik has B.S. in Civil Engineering from the University of Maine, and an MBA from California State University, Long Beach. Erik is a Registered Civil Engineer in California and Professional Engineer in Maine.

Paul Valadao

Mr. Valadao holds extensive experience and knowledge of the project development process, policies and procedures of various agencies, design standards, capability of civil engineering computer software, roles and responsibilities of various project development team members, and timely involvement of relevant stakeholders. Mr. Valadao's primary role with Cal Poly is

Project Coordinator for Senior Design courses (CE 466, 467). Senior Design is the university's offering of a civil engineering capstone design classes consisting of multi-disciplinary student teams aimed at completing an integrated civil design project.

Lael Wageneck

Lael Wageneck, APR is the Public Information Officer for the Santa Barbara County Public Works Department which serves over 400,000 residents. He has over 15 years of experience in media production, public relations and public administration, and has presented at many conferences on topics from photography to ethics.

Ron Williams

Ron Williams, the “Leadership Whisperer,” is an internationally recognized speaker and trainer with more than forty years of experience in the public and private sectors. Currently he is the Vice President of Personal Services Plus, LLC. His insights on 21st-century leadership, employee engagement, and executive coaching make him one of the nation’s leading resources in understanding organizational and individual success and achievement. Ron has held many high-profile positions in his career, including as Chief of Staff for the District of Columbia’s Human Resources Department and General Manager of the Western Region for Nike. Ron created the Corporate Diversity department at Nike and was Nike’s Director of Training and Development. Ron has also worked with many federal government agencies helping them to develop programs to optimize their human capital.

Margot Yapp

Margot Yapp’s 30 years of expertise in pavement design and management lies in the intersection of research and implementation. The path began during Margot’s senior year of college with her honors project and continued through research she conducted while obtaining her master’s degree. Mentored by a nationally known pavement engineer at the start of her career, Margot met leading pavement researchers and learned practical aspects of applying research. Her experience includes numerous pavement related studies and projects for cities, counties and airports throughout California, Oregon, Nevada, Idaho, Hawaii and Texas. In addition to her extensive experience in transportation engineering, Margot has taught workshops on pavement management systems for the National Highway Institute and the Federal Highway Administration.