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# Embracing the Disruption and Opportunities That New Technology Brings

**T**echnology continues to move at a pace that is disrupting every industry in our economy, and construction is no exception.

While technology, especially artificial intelligence (AI), is impacting labor forces in other industries across the globe, the construction industry is seeing opportunities for efficiencies with our workforce, not a full replacement of our people.

This can be viewed as a good thing in recruiting workers into our profession, but we continue to see a need for the construction industry to implement and use technology — to create ways for our workers to be more productive without having to just “work harder.” The old adage of “work smarter, not harder” is what technological advancements do for our people and our jobsites.

And the next generation entering our workforce expects this. They expect to have access to the tools that will allow them to be more efficient, safer, and where possible, less taxing on their physical bodies.

As an industry, we must push ourselves to recognize the benefits of technology and embrace the opportunities it offers our people and organizations.

This also means acknowledging that it will disrupt our current habits and will challenge our colleagues who must learn new systems and processes and adapt to new ways of working.

To succeed, the construction industry must overcome its current thinking that a dichotomy between the past and the future is at stake. We must be willing to transition now and not “wait it out.”

*Construction Dive* has stated that by 2031, over 40% of the current construction workforce will retire. We cannot wait till 2031 to make this transition. Technology is moving and evolving at an ever-increasing pace, and we must become more comfortable with it now so we can move faster and embrace the opportunities it will offer our industry both today and in the future.

The construction industry will always be essential. And as an essential industry, we must engage with the evolving tools available to us so our workers can build a stronger, better California. 🌞



*Peter Tateishi*

Kindest Regards,  
Peter Tateishi, CEO



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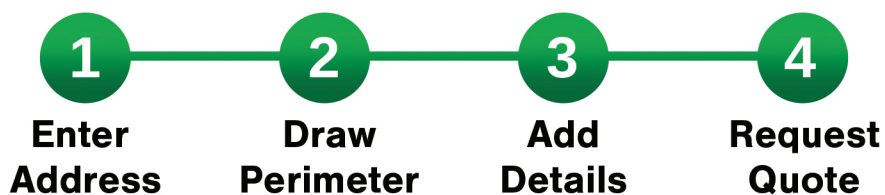
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Legislative turnover creates both risk and opportunity for the construction industry, particularly as California continues facing pressure to modernize infrastructure, expand housing production, and prepare for major statewide investments ahead of the 2028 Olympics

# California's 2026 Open-Seat Legislative Shuffle

BY FELIPE FUENTES

California's 2026 legislative cycle is producing an unusually large number of open seats in both the State Senate and Assembly, creating one of the most fluid political environments Sacramento has seen in years. While the June primary narrowed the field, the real contests now shift toward the November general election — where labor, business, environmental groups, and regional coalitions will compete to shape the next Legislature.

For the construction industry, these races matter. Open seats often mean new committee leadership, changing relationships, and less predictable voting patterns on issues ranging from California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) reform and housing production to transportation funding and workforce policy.

## Why So Many Open Seats?

The biggest driver remains California's term limits. Legislators are limited to 12 total years in the Legislature, prompting a constant rotation of members between

the Assembly, Senate, local offices, and statewide campaigns.

But this year, ambition is accelerating the turnover. Several incumbents are leaving early to pursue congressional seats, statewide constitutional offices, county supervisor positions, or other opportunities.

## Open Seats at a Glance

In the Senate, there are eight open seats. Thirteen in the Assembly. Several open-seat races are expected to become major political battlegrounds heading into November. Specifically:

### Senate

- SD-10 (East Bay) – Open due to Aisha Wahab's congressional run.
- SD-24 (West Los Angeles) – Ben Allen termed out.
- SD-40 (San Diego County) – Brian Jones termed out.

### Assembly

- AD-35 (Central Valley) – Competitive

agricultural and logistics region.

- AD-42 (Ventura/West Valley) – Jacqui Irwin termed out.
- AD-72 (Coastal Orange County) – Diane Dixon running for Orange County Supervisor.

Many November contests will feature candidates from the same party because of California's top-two primary system. In several districts, the defining question will not be Democrat versus Republican, but rather moderate versus progressive.

## The "Musical Chairs" Effect

Sacramento observers often describe California politics as a game of musical chairs, and 2026 is proving the point. Rather than leaving politics altogether, many legislators are simply moving from the Assembly to the Senate, from the Legislature to Congress, or into local and statewide offices. That migration creates a ripple effect throughout the Capitol. Committee chairs change. Leadership pipelines shift. Relationships reset.

For industries like construction that rely on long-term engagement with policymakers, turnover matters almost as much as partisan control.

### What This Means for Construction

Although Democrats are expected to retain strong majorities in both chambers after November, the ideological makeup of those caucuses remains uncertain.

Several races could influence how aggressively the Legislature will pursue permitting and CEQA reform, housing streamlining efforts, transportation funding priorities, and workforce development policy.

Southern California and the Central Valley are also poised to gain influence through incoming members closely aligned with housing, logistics, and infrastructure issues—an important opportunity given that both houses are

currently led by lawmakers from more rural regions of the state.

For AGC of California members, staying engaged in the political process remains critical. Legislative turnover creates both risk and opportunity for the construction industry, particularly as California continues facing pressure to modernize infrastructure, expand housing production, and prepare for major statewide investments ahead of the 2028 Olympics.

### The Importance of Political Engagement

This election cycle also highlights the important role of industry participation in the political process. Through the AGC of California Political Action Committee (AGC PAC), contractors and industry leaders continue supporting candidates who understand the importance of infra-

structure investment, economic growth, and a balanced regulatory environment.

As new lawmakers arrive in Sacramento, those relationships and conversations become increasingly important. Open-seat elections are often where future committee chairs, legislative leaders, and statewide policymakers first emerge. The legislators elected this November will help shape California's approach to construction, infrastructure, and economic development for years to come.

Thanks again to the AGC PAC for providing the resources to have the construction industry's voice heard. 🙏



Felipe Fuentes

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# Q&A with Shobhit Baadkar

TITAN AEC CEO Shares Insights on How Technology is Disrupting the AEC Industry

BY CAROL EATON

TITAN AEC provided BIM services for LAX – ConRAC project. Photo courtesy PGAL Architects, AC Martin and PCL Construction.

Over the past two decades or so, rapid changes in Virtual Design and Construction (VDC) tools and technologies, including higher levels of Building Information Modeling (BIM) and, more recently, the growing use of artificial intelligence (AI), have disrupted how business is done in the Architecture, Engineering, and Construction (AEC) markets. This evolution in technology has helped boost productivity, quality, and, ultimately, the bottom line for AEC companies and the projects that they design and build.

In California, there are plenty of experts to help owners and AEC companies optimize technology usage on their jobs. But arguably no one is more qualified – or possesses a deeper understanding of VDC technologies – than Shobhit Baadkar, founder, CEO and managing principal of Los Angeles-based TITAN AEC.

Baadkar literally grew up learning about AEC-related technologies and how to leverage them to benefit the industry.

His dad, a mechanical design engineer for a Central California-based hydraulic pump and water filtration equipment manufacturing company, brought his son into work for early AutoCAD training when Baadkar was just a child in the 1980s. He quickly migrated to the front row and never shied away from asking questions of the instructor.

At 18, Baadkar built a website for an Autodesk reseller business, then went to work for that company while earning his bachelor's in economics from UC Irvine. After college, he joined Central Visual Information Systems, Inc. (CVIS), a technology services and



software integration firm. He launched the Los Angeles and San Francisco offices of CVIS before the company was acquired by Microdesk.

In 2010 Baadkar co-founded TITAN AEC with a clear mission: to guide and empower architecture, engineering, construction, and owner firms with cutting-edge technology solutions that enhance design, collaboration, and productivity.

Since then, TITAN AEC has helped clients of all sizes implement BIM, VDC, and Reality Capture, LiDAR, Autodesk software, and myriad other technology tools on projects that have included the West Aircraft Maintenance Area at Los Angeles International Airport (LAX), Intuit Dome, and NoMad Hotel in Los Angeles; Westfield Galleria in Roseville; and West Campus Center at Santa Barbara Community College, to name just a few.

Now several decades into his career, Baadkar is a widely respected AEC technology expert with numerous professional certifications and speaking engagements to his credit, including a recent well-received presentation at AGC of California's Emerging and Construction Leaders Academies Innovation Forum. He is also a regular guest lecturer on BIM at the University of Southern California's Viterbi School of Engineering.

Baadkar heads up business development and corporate strategy for TITAN AEC, an AGC of California professional member company. Two years ago, he spearheaded the launch of "BIMpulse," a community-driven platform that brings together professionals across BIM, VDC, digital construction, and emerging technologies sectors. Frequently drawing some of the biggest names in AEC tech, BIMpulse encourages attendees to share insights, foster collaboration, and explore how technology is transforming the way projects are designed, built and operated.



TITAN AEC provided BIM implementation services, including 3D modeling, clash detection and Autodesk training, for the Wilshire Grand project in Los Angeles. Image courtesy AC Martin and Turner Construction Company.

*California Constructor* recently spoke with Shobhit Baadkar and TITAN AEC Director of Marketing Chennie Sudana to learn more about the company, BIMpulse, and Baadkar's views on how VDC technology and AI are currently shaping the industry. Excerpts from that discussion follow.

**CALIFORNIA CONSTRUCTOR:** Sixteen years ago when you co-founded TITAN AEC, the first iPad had just rolled out, and I understand your company was an early adopter for their use on jobsites, right? Tell us about that.

**SHOBHIT BAADKAR:** We were helping a client with a skyscraper they were building in downtown Los Angeles, and we found out it would cost about \$20,000 for the paper set of plans. This

was around 2010, and Apple had just released its first iPad. We immediately decided, "Hey, let's put the PDFs of the plans on the iPads, because I'm not paying \$20K for this huge roll of plans that you have to throw over your shoulder and carry around the jobsite."

I think we bought three iPads at the time. It was very clunky to navigate, but we did it, and we really never looked back. I think it was when the third-generation iPad came out that people started reaching out to us for help implementing them on other jobsites. Fast forward to 2018, when we worked on a project at LAX and bought 60 or 70 iPads for the field.

**CALIFORNIA CONSTRUCTOR:** What services does TITAN AEC typically provide to your AEC clients on their projects?



From left to right, Sudhir Patel (Senior Director at PM Technologies), Ravi Singh (Vice President of Growth & Development at PBS Engineers), Shobhit Baadkar (President & CEO at TITAN AEC), and Mario Trujillo (Senior VDC Manager at TITAN AEC) at an Aviation Mixer hosted by the Southern California Development Forum.



TITAN AEC provided modeling services for the electrical subcontractor on the Bottled Blonde building in Las Vegas.

**SHOBHIT BAADKAR:** It depends on what their needs are, of course. We get a lot of teaming companies where the firm our client is working with is already using Revit and needs help catching up. On the contractor side, we get a lot of trade contractors that need help with technology. They've checked the box (on the bid form) that said they have BIM capability, because they don't want to lose the job by saying no. Then, when they get the job, they call us.

We make the process as seamless as possible. We help them build the 3D model, make sure the model works, then deliver that BIM model with the accompanying shop drawing so then the team can go out and install it in the field.

**CALIFORNIA CONSTRUCTOR:** As a long-time BIM expert, you've seen the many ways it has evolved over the years. What changes are you expecting to see over the next decade or so in BIM and how companies use it?

**SHOBHIT BAADKAR:** It's going to continue to mature. People are going to use it without saying they're using it. A lot of customers, even when they don't have a BIM requirement, use it for drawing production. Revit helps them produce drawings faster



Several BIMpulse events focused on Revit 2027.

and reduces quality assurance time. For example, you don't have to go and count all the doors or make sure the doors on the building plan match the schedule, because that's all automated in BIM.

The other thing you're going to see with BIM is that people are going to start using AI to do renderings quicker and faster, linking the model to the schedule (4D BIM). And then 5D cost estimating, right? Everyone in this economy is cost-conscious. A lot of calls that we've been getting recently relate to how we

can reduce the cost or better predict our costs. That's where we have a data science tool called Constructalytica that basically handles all the analytics around cost, scheduling, and clash detection.

**CALIFORNIA CONSTRUCTOR:** Tell me about how and why you decided to launch BIMpulse two years ago, and how is it affiliated with TITAN AEC?

**SHOBHIT BAADKAR:** We officially launched BIMpulse in April 2024, and it is completely separate from TITAN AEC. We came up with BIMpulse because

so many people just wanted an avenue where they could come together to listen to true experts in the construction space, especially related to technology, and meet other people who are dealing with the same problems as they are.

It brings awareness to technology and how to implement it. It's just people having a beer and some food together, talking about technology with the guys who make it. We invite everybody who wants to learn. We have an open-door policy; as long as you're a professional, student, or faculty member in architecture, engineering, or construction, you're invited!

**CALIFORNIA CONSTRUCTOR:** What are some of the BIMpulse events you've held so far that were most popular?

**SHOBHIT BAADKAR:** We just did a launch with Autodesk earlier this month (May 2026). We did a four-city tour focused on what's new in Revit 2027. We launched in Los Angeles, and now we're doing things in Orange County, San Antonio, TX, and we're growing organically. We did a more construction-focused event with Revisto at Hensel Phelps' office, where the Revisto guys were there talking about their construction platform, their iPad integration in the field, and their new iPhone app. And then we worked with companies such as Chaos, which is a rendering engine that uses AI. That company acquired a small startup. After that deal officially closed, the next day Chaos was at a BIMpulse event talking about it.

**CALIFORNIA CONSTRUCTOR:** What is the biggest buzz that people are talking about now at BIMpulse - I'm assuming how AI is getting integrated into the industry?

**CHENNIE SUDANA:** AI is definitely the big draw right now, the biggest chatter, especially because so much technology is being automated with AI. People want to know how that affects them. A lot of the manual stuff can now be done with AI. I



AGC of California CEO Peter Tateishi (center) received the California Small /Business Champion Award, and TITAN AEC CEO Shobhit Baadkar (far left) received a Small Business Advocate Award from GLAAACC. Also pictured on awards night are Karen Nelson, AGC CA VP Foundation Operations, Darla Macomber, AGC CA COO, Talin Espinoza, Royal Electric, Kayla Montgomery, Sr. Advancement Manager AGC CA, Erin Volk, AGC CA Sr. VP, Workforce & Community Development, and Christina Thompson, GEC2 Inc.

## GLAAACC 2026 Awards Recognize Top Leaders From AGC of California, TITAN AEC, and Others

The Greater Los Angeles African American Chamber of Commerce (GLAAACC) celebrated the resilience and strength of small minority businesses, along with the corporations, elected officials and advocates who support them, at the 32nd GLAAACC Economic Awards on April 17, 2026 at the JW Marriott Los Angeles.

Among those honored were AGC of California CEO Peter Tateishi, who received the California Small Business Champion Award, and TITAN AEC CEO Shobhit Baadkar, who received the Small Business Advocate Award from GLAAACC.

As the largest AGC chapter in the nation, AGC of California plays a critical role in strengthening California's economy by shaping policy, enhancing industry collaboration and developing the construction workforce.

Following the presentation, GLAAACC Chairman Gene Hale announced the formation of GLAAACC's Construction Advisory Board (GCAB), a partnership between GLAAACC and AGC of California designed to connect partners and resources across the construction industry.

The Board's inaugural initiative, the Prime Pipeline Alliance, will establish a prime contractor ecosystem that provides small, diverse and emerging firms with direct access to mentorship, subject matter experts and key decision makers. Seven of the nation's leading construction firms are participating this year.



Shobhit Baadkar spoke on a panel at an industry gathering discussing the Landside Access Modernization program at LAX.

mean, it still needs humans to review and provide oversight, but AI is completely changing the industry very quickly.

**SHOBHIT BAADKAR:** People who are not adapting to change are being left behind. Which is why we invite them to come to BIMpulse. Instead of being led by fear, we invite them to come and ask the right questions and talk to other people who are dealing with the same issues. The point of BIMpulse is to be on the cutting edge of technology.

**CALIFORNIA CONSTRUCTOR:** Besides AI, what are some of the other leading issues people are talking about, particularly when it comes to technology integration?

**SHOBHIT BAADKAR:** A lot of it right now is how do we take the data into the field, right? Because the designers are designing it on their desks in the office and then print out a set of plans. But how do we leverage that model information in the field?

**CALIFORNIA CONSTRUCTOR:** Big data is in the news lately for its applications on projects. How do you approach it?

**SHOBHIT BAADKAR:** Our company has scanned 48 million square feet of projects – hospitals, airports, arenas, data centers, warehouses, adaptive reuse buildings, etc. And we actually have a data



The West Campus Center at Santa Barbara Community College project.

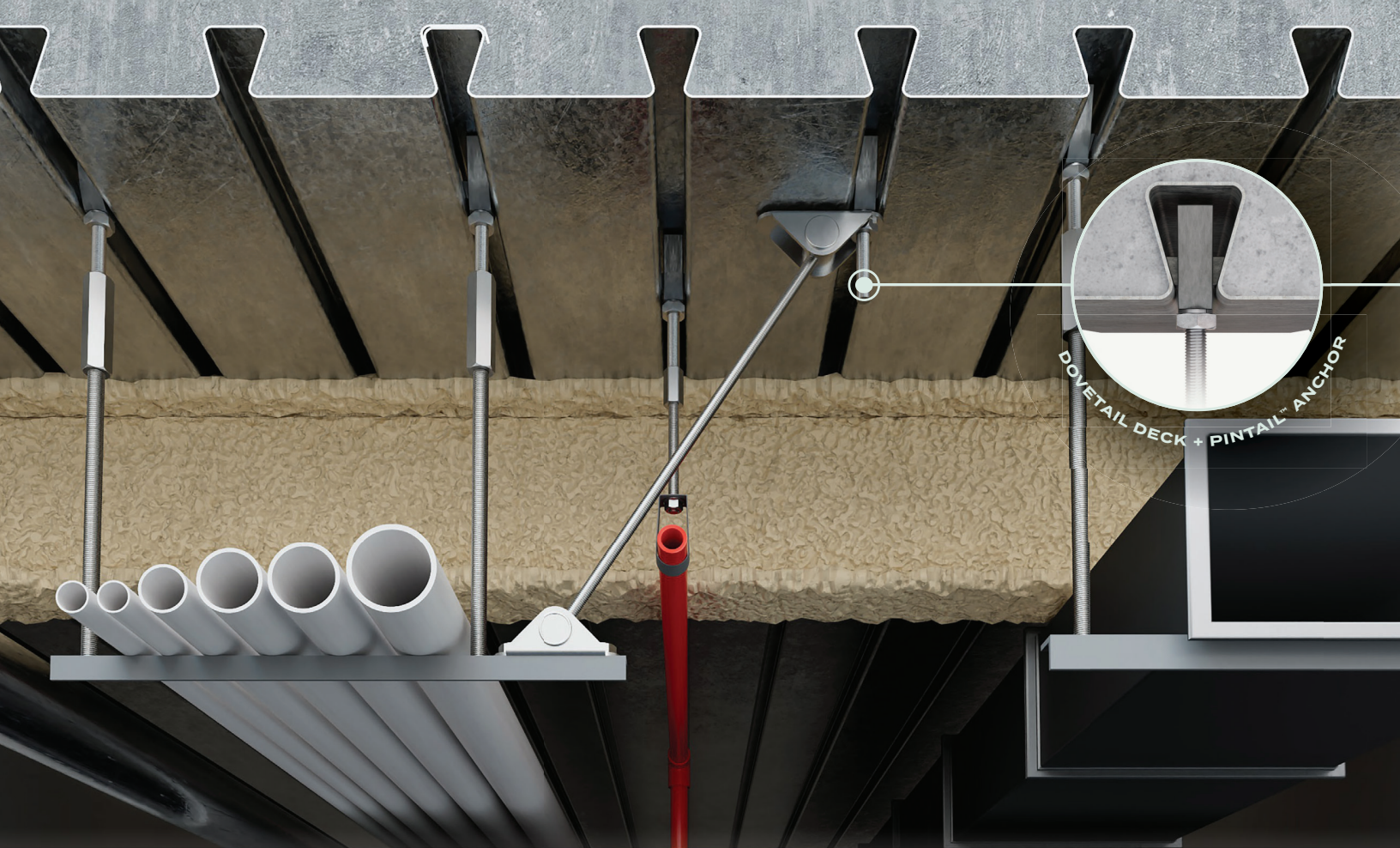
scientist here. Half his time is spent on projects building in these dashboards; the other half of his time is spent on research and development. Now he's also gotten into the AI space, looking at different AI platforms, whether it's ChatGPT, Claude, Perplexity, or Grok.

I feel like it's almost an arms race. There are a lot of firms that have mastered BIM and have said, "Okay, we've got the 3D modeling down, so what's next for us?" It's 4D, 5D BIM, and then data science and big data. And now we have customers saying, "Okay, we have all this data; how can we use it to make better decisions?"

**CALIFORNIA CONSTRUCTOR:** What excites you most about what you're doing and the way this industry is evolving with technology?

**SHOBHIT BAADKAR:** What excites me is that it's just something new every day, especially with AI. It feels like the things I spoke about at the AGC Emerging Leaders Conference (just a few months ago) are no longer valid. It changes so rapidly with AI that what happened two weeks ago is invalid today. So, what excites me is just to see technology come out and be advanced and people thinking about solutions, not trying to build the next Facebook or the next photo sharing app or something silly, but to build real things that will help us enrich our lives.

My guys (at TITAN AEC) get a very big kick out of being part of the AEC industry, taking their families to Intuit Dome or LAX, and being able to say, "I had a hand in that." Everyone on our team is proud of the work we've done in this industry. 🌟



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# Vibe Coding and the Future of Construction

How the Next Generation of Construction Professionals Will Automate Workflows, Find the Gaps, and Harness Their Own Data

BY BRIAN MELLO, VICE PRESIDENT OF MEMBER SERVICES, AGC OF CALIFORNIA

Construction doesn't have a software shortage. Between Procore, Autodesk, Bluebeam, Sage, Primavera, and dozens of other platforms, most firms have invested heavily in technology during the past decade. The problem isn't that the tools don't exist. The problem is the space between them.

Data lives in silos. A superintendent enters information into a daily log. A project engineer tracks the same data in a request-for-information (RFI) system. A project manager re-enters it into a cost report. An estimator pulls it into a

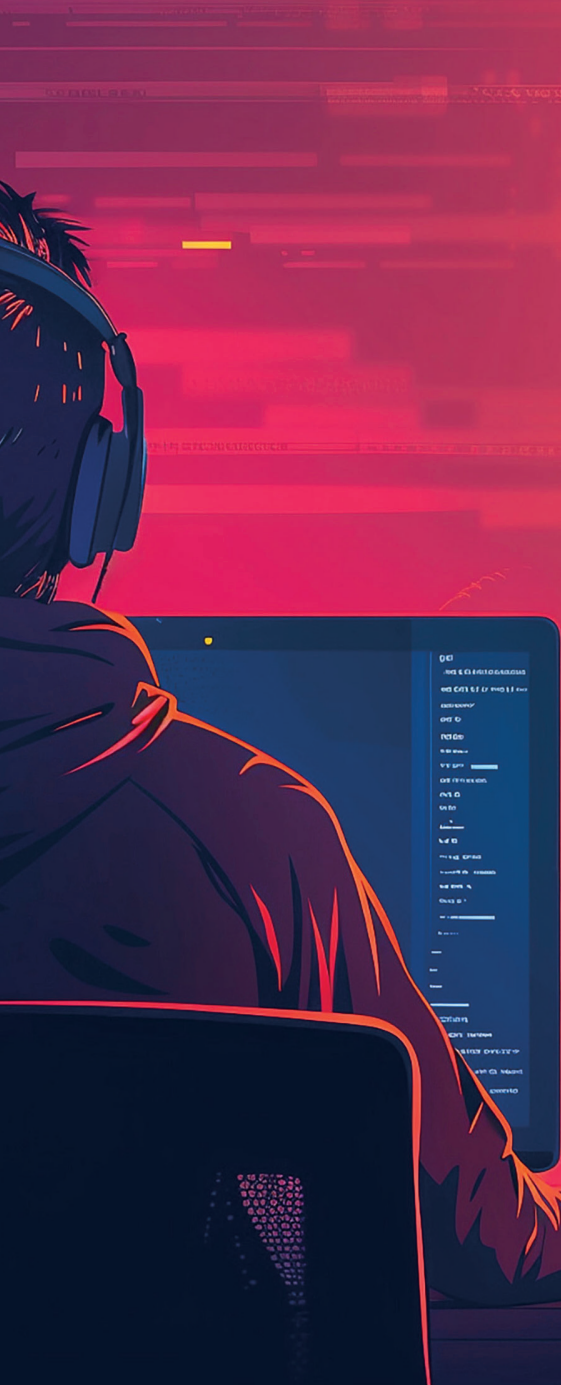
spreadsheet for the next bid. The platforms do their individual jobs well, but the connective tissue—the automation that should move information seamlessly from one system to the next, transform it, and eliminate repetitive work—is largely missing.

Companies such as Trunk Tools are already proving what's possible when artificial intelligence (AI) meets construction data. Their platform uses AI agents to scan drawing revisions, review submittals against project specifications, and provide field teams with instant an-

swers via a simple text message.

Suffolk Construction recently signed an enterprise agreement to deploy Trunk Tools across regions after field leaders saw meaningful time savings on every query. Procore has launched Agent Builder, which lets customers create custom AI agents using natural language to automate tasks such as drafting RFIs and generating daily log summaries.

These purpose-built solutions are powerful. But they address universal pain points that a vendor can build for. There is an entire layer of firm-specific, proj-



ect-specific automation that no software company can anticipate—because only you know how your company actually works. That’s where vibe coding comes in.

### What Is Vibe Coding?

In February 2025, Andrej Karpathy—a computer scientist, co-founder of OpenAI, and former head of AI at Tesla—posted a now-famous message on X outlining a new way to build software. He called it “vibe coding.”

“There’s a new kind of coding I call ‘vibe coding,’ where you fully give in to

the vibes, embrace exponentials, and forget that the code even exists.” — Andrej Karpathy, February 2, 2025

The concept is straightforward: instead of writing code in a programming language, you describe what you want in plain English—the way you’d explain it to a colleague—and an AI model generates working software. You test it, give feedback conversationally, and the AI refines the result.

By the end of 2025, Collins English Dictionary had named “vibe coding” its Word of the Year. By early 2026, surveys indicated that over 90% of U.S. developers had adopted some form of AI-assisted coding, and the global market for these tools was projected to reach \$8.5 billion.

But here’s what matters for construction: vibe coding isn’t just for software developers. It’s for anyone who understands a problem well enough to describe it. And if there’s one thing construction professionals know how to do, it’s describe operational problems with precision.

### How It Works (And Why It’s Easier Than It Sounds)

Reading about vibe coding can make it sound almost too simple. Describe what you want, and AI builds it? In practice, it really is that accessible, but the results depend entirely on how well you describe the problem. The AI is fast and capable. Your job is to be specific.

The process follows a simple loop. You start by describing what you need in everyday language—not in technical terms, but the way you’d brief a new project engineer. Something like, “I need a tool that pulls our open change orders from a spreadsheet, groups them by subcontractor, calculates the total pending cost exposure, and highlights anything over \$50,000.” The AI generates

a working version. You try it. You tell it what to fix, saying, “Add a column for days pending,” or “Make the chart a bar chart instead.” It revises. You repeat it until it works.

The platforms that make this possible range from beginner-friendly app builders such as Lovable, Bolt, and Replit (where you need zero coding experience) to more powerful tools such as Cursor, Claude Code, and GitHub Copilot for those willing to go deeper.

The key insight is this: the person building the tool doesn’t need to understand JavaScript, Python, or databases. They need to understand the problem. Your knowledge of construction workflows, trade coordination, and project controls is the most valuable input.

### Finding the Gaps: Where Vibe Coding Fits

Vibe coding is not about replacing your existing platforms. It’s about automating the work that lives in the spaces between them—the manual tasks, the custom reports, the data re-entry that nobody’s solved because it’s too specific to your firm for any vendor to anticipate.

The opportunities exist across every department in a construction company. Here’s a preview of where the gaps are widest:

#### ► Estimating and Preconstruction

Bid day is still a largely manual scramble. Subcontractor proposals arrive in different formats. Scope comparisons are done in spreadsheets built from scratch each time. Historical bid data sits in old files that nobody has time to analyze. Vibe coding opens the door to tools that automate proposal intake, normalize bid data for comparison, and mine your historical estimates for patterns that improve future pricing. This is one of the highest-value areas for automation.

► *Field Operations*

Field teams live in a world of schedules, lookaheads, and coordination. Yet the work of translating schedule data into actionable communication—texting the right foreman about the right activity at the right time, compiling meeting prep, tracking production against plan—is still largely manual. Simple automations that watch your schedule data and push targeted notifications could save hours every week. More sophisticated tools could track field production data against estimates and flag variances before they become problems.

► *Safety*

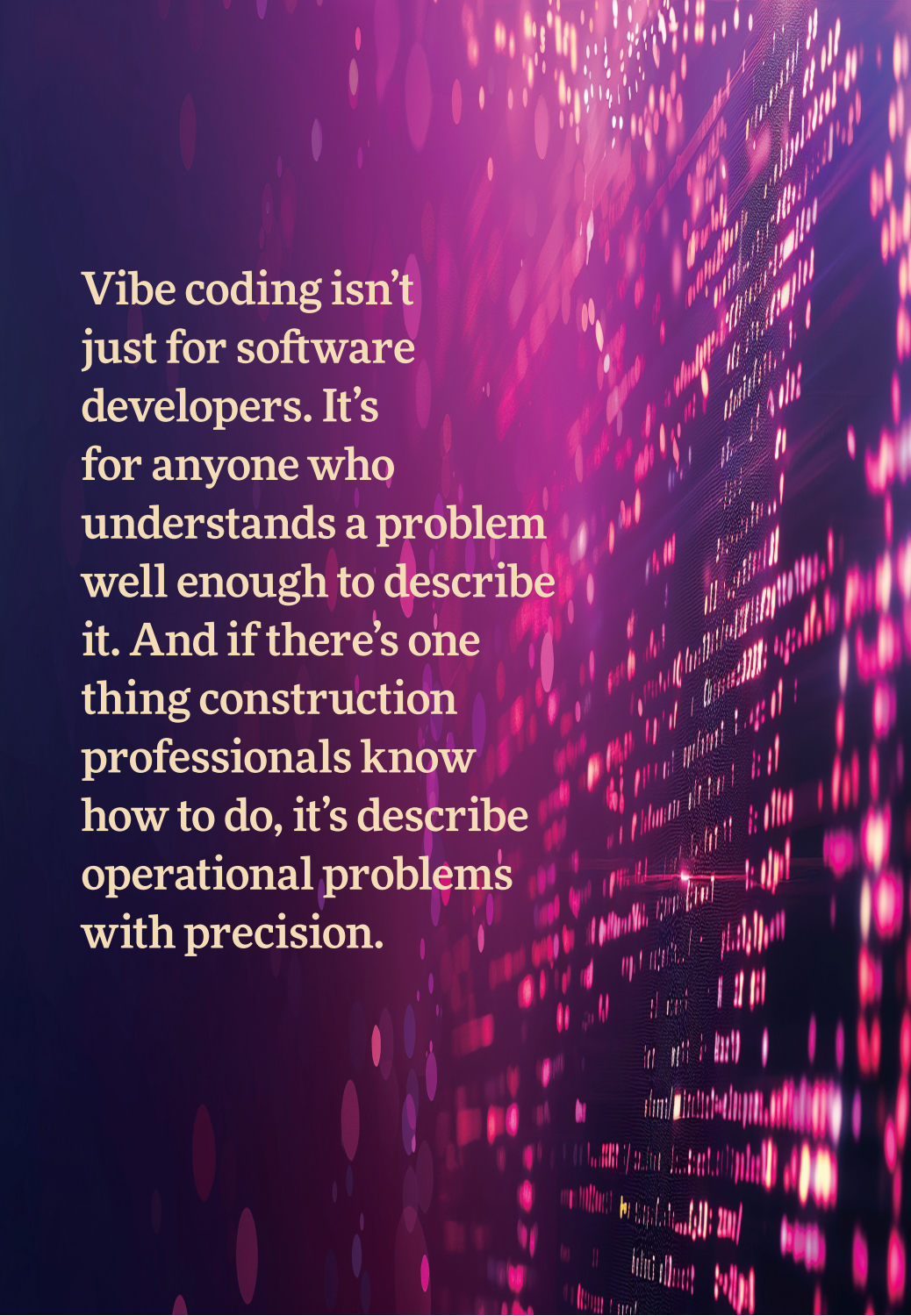
Most firms collect safety observation data, but analyzing trends across multiple projects—which trades generate the most near-misses, whether leading indicators are improving or declining, how your company compares to benchmarks—often requires manual effort that doesn't happen consistently. Vibe-coded analytics tools could process your safety exports and produce the cross-project insights your existing platforms don't offer out of the box.

► *HR, Payroll, and Workforce Management*

Construction human resources teams manage certifications, training records, apprenticeship hours, prevailing wage compliance, and workforce forecasting across systems that rarely talk to each other. The manual reconciliation between time tracking, payroll, and certified payroll reporting is a persistent pain point. These are exactly the kinds of firm-specific, data-heavy workflows where custom automation can eliminate hours of repetitive work.

► *Project Controls and Reporting*

Every firm has its own way of measuring project health—its own key



**Vibe coding isn't just for software developers. It's for anyone who understands a problem well enough to describe it. And if there's one thing construction professionals know how to do, it's describe operational problems with precision.**

performance indicators, earned value formulas, and format for executive summaries. But the reports that come out of the box from your software platforms are generic. Vibe coding lets you build the dashboards and analytics that reflect how your company actually thinks about performance, pulling data from whatever systems you use and presenting it the way your leadership wants to see it.

**The Next Generation**

The young professionals entering construction today are digital natives. They grew up with smartphones, they're comfortable with AI tools, and they expect technology to work intuitively. Many of them will encounter vibe coding early in their careers. The ones who combine that fluency with deep construction knowledge will have an extraordinary advantage.

Picture an assistant superintendent who notices the team spends hours every week manually compiling data from multiple systems to prepare for meetings with owners, architects, and contractors. Instead of accepting that as “just the way it is,” he describes the problem to an AI tool and has a working automation by the end of the afternoon. It’s not perfect on the first try, but after a few rounds of refinement, it saves the team real time every week.

Or consider a young estimator who builds a tool that takes historical bid results—win or lose, final numbers, scope breakdowns—and identifies which types of work and which markets have yielded the best hit rates. Her firm has been sitting on that data for years. Nobody had the time or the software skills to analyze it. Now she does.

These aren’t hypothetical scenarios. This is the direction the industry is heading. The construction professionals who thrive in the coming decade will be those who see technology not as someone else’s department, but as a tool in their own belt—right next to their hard hat and their experience.

**The Bottom Line**

The construction industry isn’t short on platforms. It’s short on the automation that connects them, the custom analytics that make the data useful, and the firm-specific tools that no vendor has a reason to build. Companies such as Trunk Tools and features such as Procore’s Agent Builder are leading the way with purpose-built AI to address construction’s biggest universal pain points. Vibe coding puts the power

to address everything else directly in the hands of the people who know the work best.

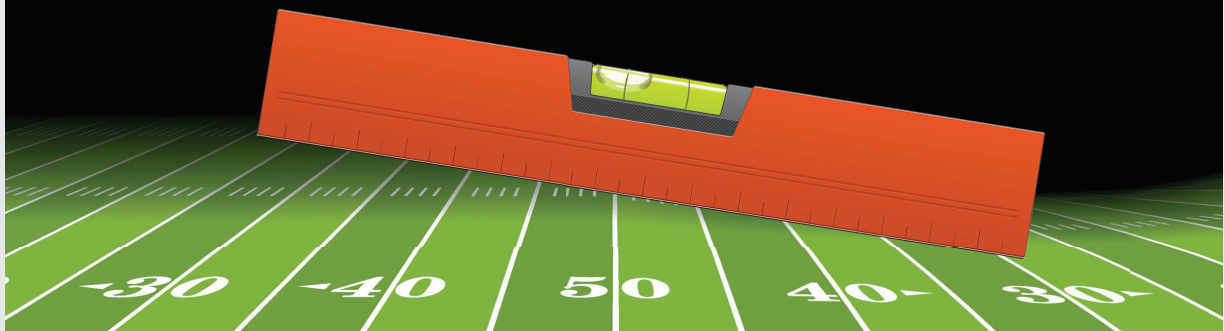
This is not about replacing construction professionals with technology. It’s about giving construction professionals a new capability: the ability to automate their own workflows, unlock insights from their own data, and build the exact tools their teams need.

The next generation of construction professionals won’t just use technology. They’ll create it. And the industry will be better for it. 🌟



Brian Mello

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# Jobsite to Balance Sheet

How Connected Equipment Data Is Transforming Construction Operations

BY ELIZABETH TORREZ, REGIONAL DIRECTOR, TENNA

Construction technology has made major strides in bringing equipment operations into focus. Contractors can now track where every machine is, how long it runs, when maintenance is due, and which crew is using it. For field and operations teams, that visibility has been transformative.

But the financial side of that equation has largely been left behind. Equipment billing, internal job costing, and asset-level profitability still largely depend on spreadsheets, operator-reported hours, and manual reconciliation processes that lag behind reality—and no one fully trusts. The operational data exists. The financial system just can't reach it.

For most contractors, these remain frustratingly difficult questions to answer accurately:

- How much did this asset actually cost to operate?
- Which projects absorbed those costs?
- Did the equipment generate profit or create margin erosion?
- Are internal billing rates accurately reflecting real usage?

A new category of construction technology is emerging to close this gap: telematics-powered accounting. This shift in construction financial management goes beyond integrations to connect live equipment data directly to financial workflows, so contractors can finally answer these questions in real time, with defensible numbers.

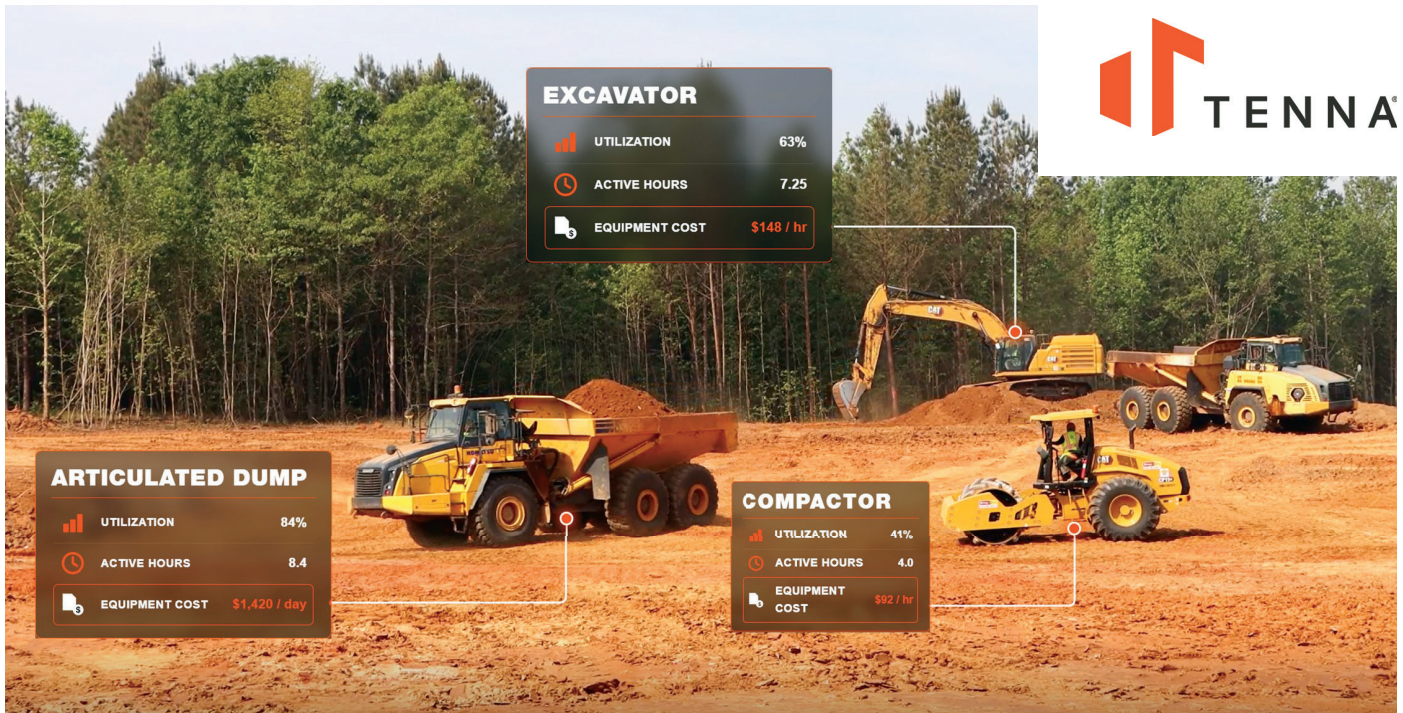
## The Gap Between Operations and Finance

GPS tracking and telematics transformed

how contractors manage equipment in the field. But that data has largely stayed in the field. When it is time to allocate equipment costs across jobs, product internal billing, or understand whether a piece of equipment is earning its keep, most contractors are still working from spreadsheets, paper logs, and end-of-week timecards.

The result is a gap that every construction organization recognizes: the shop bills the job based on what the operator wrote down. The project team disputes the hours. Finance reconciles the difference at month-end—or doesn't. The equipment's true contribution to project profitability never fully shows up on the books.

This isn't a small problem. Heavy civil contractors running large, equipment-in-



tensive projects can have dozens of machines moving between cost codes, jobs, and phases, each with a different rate, ownership cost, and utilization profile. Without a reliable connection between what the machine is actually doing and what gets billed to the job, those projects are essentially estimated.

### Operational Data is Financial Data

The core insight driving this new technology category is simple: the data that tracks what a machine does in the field is the same data that should drive how that machine gets costed to a job. Telematics already captures runtime, location, utilization, and status. Geofencing already ties machines to specific jobsites. Maintenance systems already roll up work order costs, parts, and mechanic labor.

What's been missing is the billing layer that connects all of that to financial workflows. With the right system, equipment activity can automatically drive:

- Internal billing to the correct job and cost code.

Telematics-powered accounting goes beyond integrations to connect live equipment data directly to financial workflows, so contractors can finally answer these questions in real time, with defensible numbers.

- Utilization-based rate application across asset classes.
- Real-time job costing tied to actual machine activity.

This eliminates the reconciliation cycle that costs finance teams hours every month, and it gives operations leaders something they've never had before: a real-time view of what each machine is actually costing each job.

The practical impact is significant. Idle assets can be reassigned before costs accumulate. Equipment-heavy jobs can be evaluated mid-project, not 60 days after closeout. Internal billing disputes between the shop and the project team get resolved by data. And mobilization costs—often the first thing to get lost in manual tracking—can be captured automatically and attributed accurately.

Over time, this data also reshapes how contractors think about their fleet. Which assets are consistently earning their keep? Which ones are underwater on three jobs

out of five? When does it make financial sense to retire a machine versus repair it? These questions can't be answered from a spreadsheet. They require a system that tracks both the operational reality and the financial outcome simultaneously.

### Where the Shop, the Field, and Finance Finally Agree

One of the most underappreciated costs in construction isn't a line item—it's the friction between departments. The tension is endemic to equipment-intensive contractors. Projects appear profitable on paper because equipment costs never fully make it to the job, rate sheets set years ago get applied inconsistently, and, when a project closes under budget, no one is entirely sure if it was well-managed or just under-billed.

Telematics-powered accounting addresses this at the source. When equipment activity automatically drives job costing, the shop, field, and finance all

work from the same data.

For large self-performing civil contractors—running multiple jobs simultaneously with shared equipment across cost codes—this kind of alignment isn't just convenient. It's the difference between knowing how a project performed and guessing.

### **Why ERPs Can't Solve This Alone**

Enterprise resource planning (ERP) platforms are the systems of record for construction financials. They manage job costing, WIP reporting, payroll, and forecasting. No one is suggesting replacing them. But ERPs were designed to record financial transactions—not to capture and contextualize real-time equipment activity at the jobsite level.


The data an ERP needs to do equipment job costing accurately—hours by machine, by job, by cost code, with the right rate applied based on utilization and status—has to come from somewhere. And the accuracy of the ERP is only as good as the processes feeding it.

Telematics-powered accounting changes that relationship. Instead of replacing the ERP, it feeds it, automatically supplying the operational context that turns a financial system of record into an accurate one. The result is an ERP that knows what actually happened on the job and can produce job costing reports that contractors can defend.


For organizations already invested in ERP integrations, this is additive, not disruptive. The telematics system becomes the operational layer the financial system has always lacked.

### **Asset Financials: A New Category for Construction**

Until recently, no software product connected telematics directly to job costing and internal billing. Tenna's Asset Financials is the construction industry's first



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Billing of owned equipment often relies on spreadsheets, manual hour reporting and laborious reconciliation processes.

telematics-powered equipment accounting and reporting tool—purpose-built to close the gap. It automates job costing and internal billing using live operational data. The result is accurate, real-time job-level cost and revenue attribution per asset, without requiring contractors to abandon their existing accounting systems or overhaul how they work.

The platform is designed to be terminology-agnostic and flexible. Contractors define how rates are applied, how values are interpreted, and whether numbers represent cost, revenue, or both—supporting the internal billing structures that already exist at their organizations rather than imposing a new model.

What this represents, broadly, is a shift from equipment tracking to equipment intelligence. The machine doesn't just tell you where it is and how many hours

it ran. It tells you what those hours cost, which job absorbed them, whether the rate applied was correct, and whether the asset is earning its keep across the fleet. Operational data becomes financial data—automatically, continuously, and defensibly.

### What This Means for Contractors

For large, self-performing civil contractors, the implications are concrete. Equipment represents one of the largest and most variable cost categories on any job. It's also the one category where the gap between what actually happened and what got recorded has historically been widest.

Closing the gap doesn't require a rip-and-replacement of existing systems. It requires a layer that connects the operational data contractors already have

to the financial workflows they already use. The contractors who make that connection first will have a clearer picture of which jobs are actually profitable, which assets are earning their keep, and where margin is being left on the table.

To learn more about Tenna's Asset Financials, visit <https://go.tenna.com/asset-financials-agc>. ☒



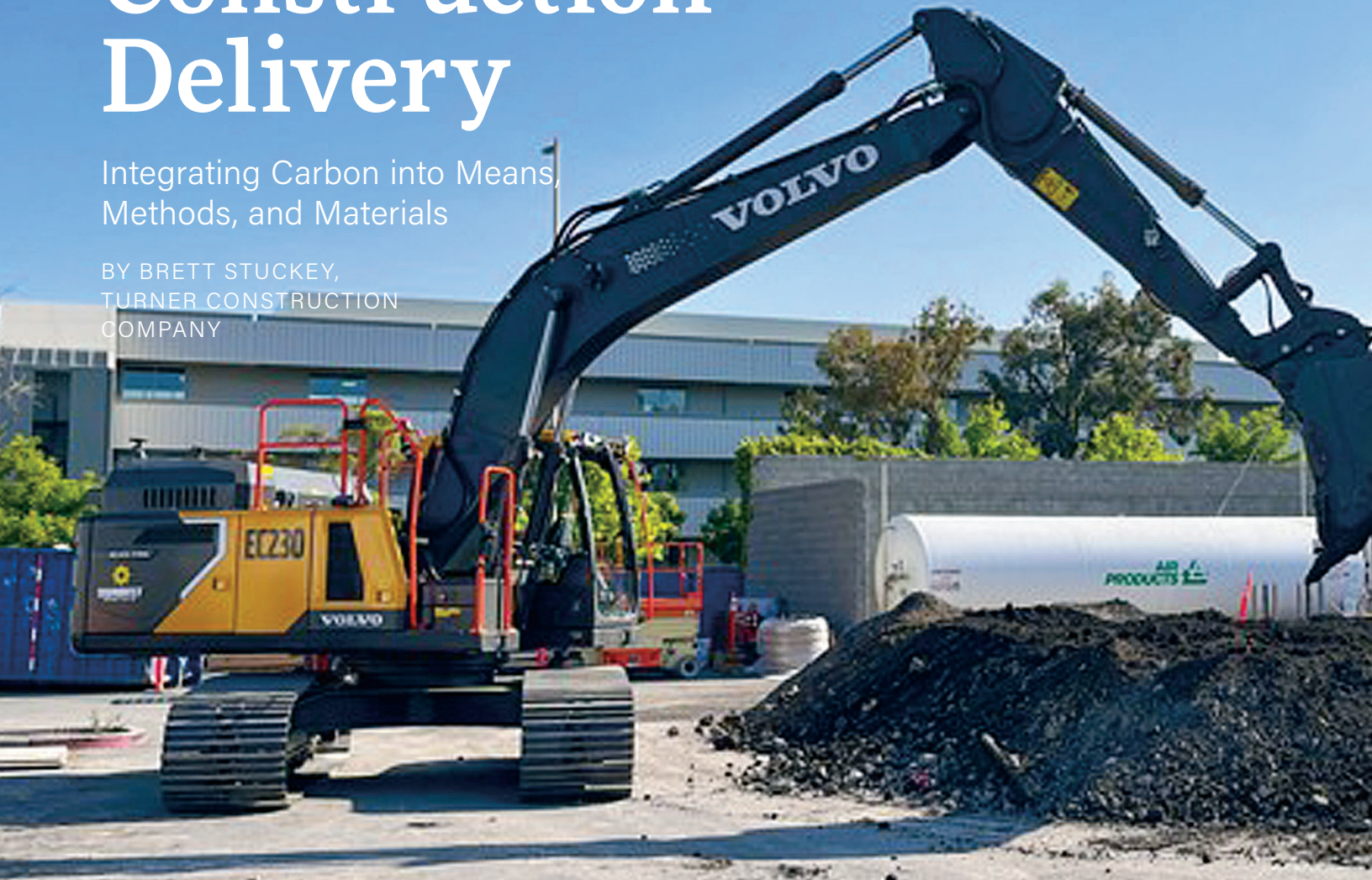
Elizabeth Torrez

Elizabeth Torrez is Regional Director for Tenna. With approximately two decades of experience in the construction industry, focused primarily on the California market, she is active in AGC of California and several other industry groups. To learn more about Tenna's connected safety solutions, visit [tenna.com/safety-compliance](https://tenna.com/safety-compliance).

# Reframing Construction Delivery

Integrating Carbon into Means, Methods, and Materials

BY BRETT STUCKEY,  
TURNER CONSTRUCTION  
COMPANY



The construction industry is making steady and measurable progress in understanding the carbon life-cycle of a building, and that growing awareness is influencing how projects are delivered.

While early efforts were largely focused on design, specifically on reducing A1-A3 emissions (as outlined in the accompanying graph), there is now broader recognition that meaningful carbon reduction also depends on how projects are pro-

cured, coordinated, and constructed. This shift presents a significant opportunity. By expanding the focus beyond design and into delivery, project teams can unlock practical, scalable strategies that align sustainability with cost, schedule, and performance.

Traditionally, specifications have been highly effective at defining performance, durability, and quality expectations. Today, they are evolving to include carbon considerations as well.

Although many specifications do not yet explicitly require embodied carbon reductions, the increasing availability of environmental product declarations and carbon-tracking tools is making it easier to integrate these metrics into project requirements. This creates a pathway for owners and design teams to translate sustainability goals into clear, actionable criteria that contractors and trade partners can implement.

But what happens when the specifica-



Turner rolled out pilot programs for electric excavators and electric skidsteers in 2023 and 2024, including this Volvo EC230 all-electric excavator. Photo courtesy Turner Construction.



## Supporting Recovery Through Reuse After LA Wildfires



BY MERSY MARADIAGA, SUSTAINABILITY MANAGER, TURNER CONSTRUCTION COMPANY

Following the devastating wildfires across the Los Angeles area in early 2025, a project team mobilized quickly to support nearby communities through a focused material donation effort.

In partnership with the client and local nonprofit ANEW, the team coordinated the salvage and distribution of furniture from an existing hotel, redirecting 59 tons of donated materials to families affected by the fires as well as to local shelters and housing organizations.

The effort required rapid site assessments, logistics planning, and coordination to ensure materials were carefully removed, stored, and distributed where they were needed most.

This effort helped save 99% of the furniture from ending in the landfill.

tions are scaled back to a Basis of Design type of criteria, and the details of carbon reductions, material selections, and materiality of a system are not well-defined?

### Leveraging Collaborative Design-Build to Identify Lower Carbon Solutions

Increasingly, select trades are being procured through the design-build delivery model. These trades often include curtainwall, along with other exterior

façade elements such as precast or metal panels, and GFRC (glass fiber-reinforced concrete).

The design-build approach for these unique systems is implemented to streamline coordination, manage risk, and improve efficiency. When carbon is introduced as an additional project priority alongside cost and schedule, the collaborative design-build structures should be leveraged to identify lower-carbon solutions early in the process.

Trade partners bring deep expertise in materials, fabrication, transport, and installation, and it is critical to ensure their design-build scope meets both design intent and sustainability objectives.

In Northern California, Turner Construction Company project teams, supported by the sustainability department, are collaborating with these design-build trade contractors during preconstruction meetings to confirm each is incorporating sustainability targets into their design and

procurement process. During design of the given system, the teams, along with designers and clients, meet to discuss several carbon management measures:

- Embodied carbon reductions, A1-A3
- Design optimization for material reduction, A1-A3
- Transportation emission reductions, A4
- Jobsite installation strategies, A5
- Packaging strategies, C3-C4
- Design for deconstruction, C4 & D

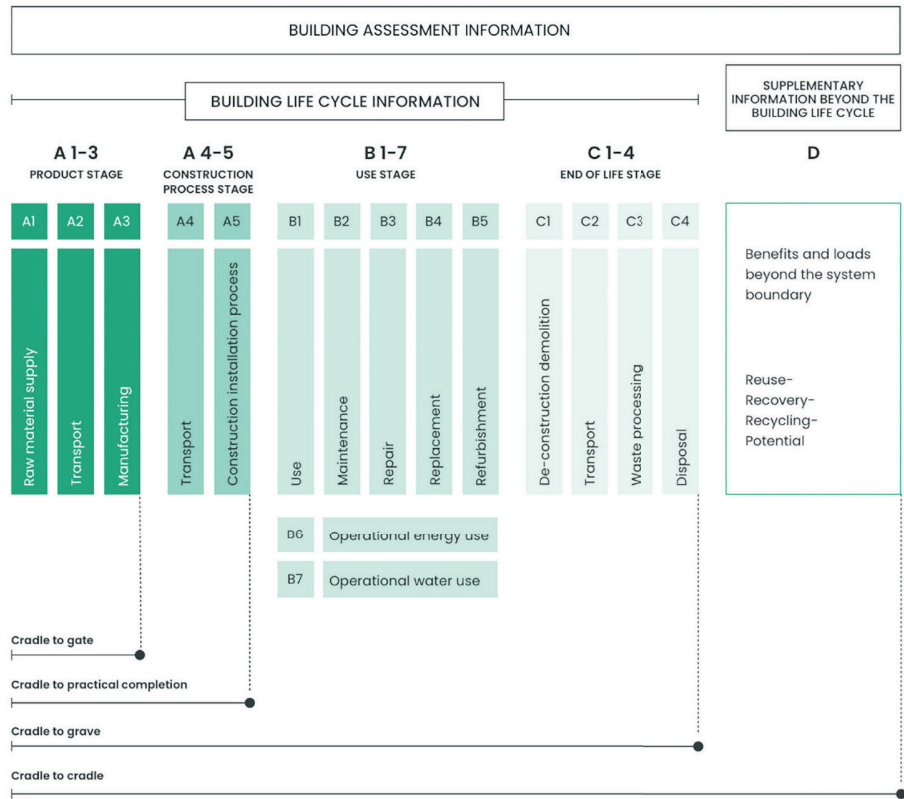
### Embodied Carbon and Design Optimization

Embodied carbon and design optimization discussions are focused and solution-oriented. The team evaluates material-specific opportunities to reduce embodied carbon, by reviewing Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs) of competing manufacturers. Exterior products—aluminum billets, glazing, aluminum or steel with coatings to protect against moisture and UV, and concrete panels—are heavy emitters on a per-unit basis.

By incorporating topics from the weekly design coordination meetings, material quantity considerations can be highlighted and the team aligned on messaging for subsequent coordination meetings. During this process, the team ensures these changes remain consistent with architectural design intent and performance requirements. This balance is critical, as it reinforces that sustainability and design excellence can move forward together.

### Transportation Emission Reductions

Transportation represents another meaningful opportunity for progress. Emissions associated with delivering materials to the jobsite typically account for between five and ten percent of a



Building Carbon Life Cycle Stages, courtesy of One Click LCA

building’s embodied carbon footprint. Although transportation decisions are often influenced by schedule and cost, the monthly meetings also introduce carbon as a consideration.

Switching the product’s transportation from truck to rail, or requesting renewable diesel for the trucks in lieu of diesel, can each have a meaningful impact on efforts to reduce the project’s A4 emissions. Similarly, if the variables of carbon, price, and schedule are all consistent, selecting manufacturing locations closer to the project site is another way to scale down transportation emissions.

### Jobsite Strategies

Jobsite equipment technologies have come a long way in a short time. Whereas pilot programs for electric excavators and electric skid steers occurred on Turner projects in 2023 and 2024 respectively, the industry now has access to a multitude

of electric equipment, including telehandlers, concrete finishing machines, boom lifts, and even 150-ton cranes.

While many trade contractors own their own equipment, discussing electric options—or at a minimum, hybrid—is a great way to lower both the carbon and particulate matter floating around the jobsite. California’s renewable diesel requirement for off-road equipment has had a profound impact on A5 emissions in the California construction industry. The next frontier, and a place where our state can again lead the industry, is via widespread adoption of electric equipment.

The preconstruction meetings with our trade contractors and superintendents are used to confirm the scope of daily activities, power requirements, and charging logistics required to provide our sites an opportunity to implement these new electric technologies.

# Embodied Carbon Legislation (BCCA): Three Best Practices for Project Success

BY JACOUB YOUNES AND MERSY MARADIAGA,  
TURNER CONSTRUCTION COMPANY

## 1. Verify Compliance Early in Design

Confirm during design that specified products meet BCCA Global Warming Potential (GWP) limits and have compliant Type III Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs). Early verification helps avoid redesign, procurement delays, and cost impacts caused by limited availability of compliant materials. Project teams should also identify the applicable BCCA thresholds, align with the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ), and account for manufacturer EPD lead times.

## 2. Establish Clear Compliance Processes Before Procurement

Successful BCCA implementation requires defined responsibilities and consistent review procedures. Incorporate BCCA requirements into contract documents, trade partner onboarding, and submittal workflows. Align all project requirements—including BCCA, LEED, and owner criteria—to the most stringent GWP thresholds and ensure all stakeholders understand compliance expectations before materials are purchased.

## 3. Verify Materials Throughout Construction

Compliance does not end with submittal approval. Use tools such as EC3, EPD tracking matrices, and purchase order reviews to verify that procured materials match approved EPDs and manufacturing facilities. Regular coordination among contractors, consultants, and trade partners helps identify issues early and prevents noncompliant materials from being installed in the field.

### Material Packaging Strategies

Material packaging and handling is another area where incremental changes are yielding positive results.

Standard practices have long prioritized reliability and protection of materials in transit. Now, many teams are building on that foundation by exploring ways to reduce waste and improve efficiency.

Reusable packaging systems and optimized material deliveries are helping to minimize jobsite waste while maintaining high standards of quality and safety. Many curtainwalls and precast panels have the potential for shipment in reusable steel

bunkers in lieu of wood crates. Plastic shrink wrap can be replaced by steel banding or reusable tarps, if planned appropriately.

If wood crating must be used, the project team can request more dimensional lumber be used, so as to salvage those pieces for distribution to reuse centers like Urban Ore in Berkeley, or your local Habitat for Humanity ReStore.

### Design for Deconstruction

Interest in design for deconstruction is also growing. While it has not yet become a standard requirement on most projects,

it is increasingly considered as part of long-term asset planning.

By considering how materials can be disassembled and reused at the end of a building's life, project teams are laying the groundwork for a more circular construction economy. Early steps, such as documenting material assemblies and considering connection strategies, can provide valuable information for future reuse.

The ideal goal is to be able to reuse the system in its whole form; however, allowing the system to be deconstructed into individual constituents for appropriate recycling or reuse is the more likely scenario, and becomes the most likely path to avoiding landfill. The preconstruction meetings discuss the development of disassembly drawings or procedures to be shared in closeout documentation for the building owner's future use.

As building owners continue to seek lower carbon solutions for their buildings, it is clear that siloed conversations and words on a BOD can only get the industry to a certain point. Incorporating the entire supply chain—client, designer, GC, trade partners, vendors, and logistics companies—to challenge the status quo presents great opportunities for our industry.

As contractors managing design-build projects and design-build scopes, we are contractually given agency to make an impact. It is critical, then, for our industry to use that agency to think beyond the linear process, discuss potentially innovative solutions, and scale up our ability to drive down emissions. ☘



Brett Stuckey

Brett Stuckey is Regional Sustainability Manager for Turner Construction Company's NorCal region.



The 2025 SUB Basics cohort

# AGC’s SUB BASICS Academies Helping Small and Under-Represented Businesses Beat the Odds in California

BY CAROL EATON

**W**hether it is navigating accounting and cashflow or understanding the ins and out of estimating, surety, or insurance issues, small and underrepresented (SUB) businesses face formidable odds when it comes to long-term success in California’s highly competitive construction industry.

Recognizing the critical challenges that SUBs face – as well as the important role they play in the state’s economy and

construction industry – AGC of California has placed a heavy emphasis on finding ways to help them not only survive but thrive in this market. This commitment is especially important given that only about 44% of construction-related businesses survive beyond five years, and just 43% remain in business after 10 years.

AGC of California’s Small/Under-represented Business Development program offers an array of educational, networking, and mentorship oppor-

tunities for SUBs throughout the year. New in 2025, they partnered with the Sacramento Asian Pacific Chamber of Commerce’s Regional Small Business Utilization Center (RSBUC) to host the SUB BASICS Academy – a free, 8-week hybrid training program designed for small business subcontractors in the Greater Sacramento Region.

## **New Tools, Knowledge and Connections**

More than two dozen small and under-represented businesses participated in that program, walking away with new tools, knowledge, and connections to grow their business along with a certificate of completion. Each of the nine sessions featured expert instruction from general contractors and industry professionals and opportunities for real-time networking, GC matchmaking, and technical assistance.

Similarly, this year in Southern California, AGC of California partnered with



2026 SUB Basics participants during a session.

◀ Anoush Jackson-Sattler (center) with her SUB Basics certificate, pictured with Bernadette Austen, Regional Small Business Utilization Center, and Chris O'Connor, AGC of California senior vice president, Government & Industry Affairs.

the Greater Los Angeles African American Chamber of Commerce (GLAAACC) on a 10-week hybrid training program, designed to strengthen and support small and underrepresented construction businesses across Southern California. That program was offered free of charge to a select group of 40 applicants, thanks to the AGC of California partnership with GLAAACC. As an added benefit, the course included direct networking opportunities with AGC general and specialty contractors upon completion.

Both the 2025 and 2026 programs provided vital education and tips for SUBS on essential business topics, including banking and surety, accounting and cashflow, safety, insurance and contracts, strategic growth, human resources, and estimating.

### Multiple Benefits for Micah Electric

Anoush Jackson-Sattler, co-owner of Micah Electric Company in Oakland, was one of the participants in the 2025 SUB BASICS Academy, which took place in the Sacramento area last year from July 22 to September 16, 2025. She said the training she received helped her with many aspects of running and growing Micah Electric Company and led to the company becoming an AGC of California member.

Jackson-Sattler founded Micah Electric Company with her husband, Micah, over a decade ago. Serving the greater East Bay Area and starting out with just a few crew members, the company initially focused on mostly residential electrical work, from knob and tube removal and full home rewires to smart home projects.

“Nearly a decade later, we’ve become a full-scale electrical company with a

strong infrastructure and over a dozen full-time employees,” she commented. “While we have plenty of residential and smaller commercial work to keep us busy, I was searching for connections and a stronger network within the contracting industry. Enter NAMC Nor Cal (National Association of Minority Contractors) and AGC!”

Being part of AGC of California’s first SUB BASICS Academy “was an invaluable experience,” said Jackson-Sattler. “The class format provided an opportunity to drill down on a focus area, led by an expert in the field. One of my favorites was our class on creating competitive bids, taught by Jen Evers from Turner Construction. Jen gave us mock bids from three different contractors, and in small groups, we had to determine the most competitive bid for the project. Easier said than done! I left the class more confident in my bidding process and with inside information on how to be more competitive.”

She noted that since graduating from the SUB BASICS Academy, “we’ve bid and completed our first Prevailing Wage project - something I wouldn’t have attempted without the support of AGC’s staff and my colleagues I met in my Academy class.” 🌟

## Call to Action

AGC of California encourages all small and underrepresented businesses in the California construction industry to explore the many SUB opportunities it offers, including the upcoming Small Business Construction Expo (SBCX) scheduled for August 28, 2026 in Southern California. For more information about the next event, contact Nasim Adeli at [AdeliN@agc-ca.org](mailto:AdeliN@agc-ca.org).



# AGC of California Advocacy in Spotlight at 2026 Legislative Day

**A**GC of California members from across the state gathered in Sacramento on May 5–6 for the 2026 Legislative Day & PAC Fundraising Dinner, bringing contractors and policymakers together for two days of advocacy, engagement, and industry discussion.

Held at The Sutter Club, the program featured remarks and discussions with key legislative leaders, candidates, and policy experts on the issues shaping California’s construction industry, including infrastructure investment, workforce development, procurement, permitting, and the state’s broader economic outlook.

A centerpiece of the event was AGC of California members’ participation in Capitol office visits, where members met directly with 40 members of the California State Legislature to discuss industry priorities and legislation impacting con-

struction throughout the state.

These meetings provided lawmakers with direct insight into the challenges and opportunities facing California contractors while reinforcing AGC of California’s role as a leading advocate for the construction industry in Sacramento.

The AGC of California PAC Dinner & Legislative Reception further strengthened those relationships, providing attendees the opportunity to engage with 10 members of the Assembly and Senate.

Legislative Day remains one of AGC of California’s most important advocacy programs, helping ensure the construction industry maintains a strong and credible voice at the State Capitol.

For more information on AGC of California advocacy efforts, visit [www.agc-ca.org/what-we-do/advocate-for-the-industry/](http://www.agc-ca.org/what-we-do/advocate-for-the-industry/). ☎



**1** AGC Legislative Day attendees gathered on the Assembly Floor.

**2** Peter Tateishi, AGC of California CEO, addresses Legislative Day attendees, flanked by Geoff Lister, Guy F. Atkinson Construction, LLC, and AGC CA President Ryan Aukerman, Griffith Company.

**3** A panel of business leaders, including Dan Dunmoyer, President & CEO, California Building Industry Association; Kent Kauss, Regional Vice President, External Relations, Sempra Energy; and Jennifer Barrera, President & CEO, California Chamber of Commerce, discussed the state of business in California.

**4** California Treasurer and Lieutenant Governor candidate Fiona Ma gave a keynote address.

**5** Mike Madrid (second from right), a nationally recognized political commentator, author, and a keynote speaker at the AGC Legislative Day, is pictured with top AGC of California leaders, including (from left) Henry Nutt III, Southland Industries; Allison Otto, Otto Construction; Peter Tateishi, AGC CA CEO; and Ryan Aukerman, Griffith Company (AGC CA President).



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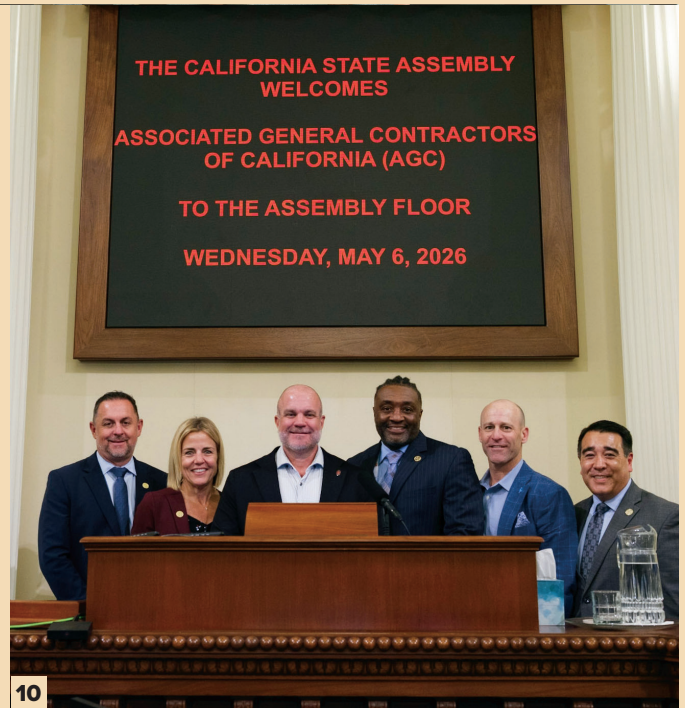
6 Assembly Minority Leader Heath Flora addressed Legislative Day attendees.

7 Dina Kimble, Royal Electric, Darla Macomber, AGC of California, Elizabeth Torrez, Tenna, Kelley Cowan, S+B James Construction, Brooke Chappell, Chapco Construction, LLC, and Allison Otto, Otto Construction, at the Legislative Day reception.

8 Donald Roland, Granite Construction, Robert Dugan, CalcIMA; and Pat Kelly, Granite Construction (right) with Assemblymember Juan Carrillo (second from right).

9 At a Capitol visit with Senator Dave Cortese (center) are, from left, AGC of California Advocate Felipe Fuentes; Dustin Darby, Parsons; Sarah Tacker, Shimmick Corporation; Senator Cortese; Sarah Zaharia, Acciona; Henry Nutt III, Southland Industries; and Kyle Stansbury, Across Crushed Concrete.

10 AGC of California leadership on the Assembly Floor included (from left) Brandon Pensick, Ferreira Construction Company; Allison Otto, Otto Construction; Ryan Aukerman, Griffith Company; Henry Nutt III, Southland Industries; Geoff Lister, Guy F. Atkinson Construction, LLC; and Peter Tateishi, AGC of California.



10



**SSH Joint Venture Wins Newest Foothill Gold Line Project**

The Foothill Gold Line Construction Authority recently awarded the construction manager contract for the 2.3-mile Pomona to Claremont A Line Extension to SSH Joint Venture, a team comprised of Skanska USA Civil West California District Inc., Stacy and Witbeck, Inc., and Herzog Contracting Corp.

The contract is the second of two major contracts now awarded to deliver the Pomona to Claremont A Line Extension. Parsons Transportation Group, Inc. was awarded the contract for design/engineering services earlier this year.

The Pomona to Claremont extension will add a new Metro A Line station in Claremont and continue the eastward expansion of one of the longest linear light rail lines in the world. The project is expected to improve transit connectivity throughout the San Gabriel Valley and provide direct rail access to Claremont Village, the Claremont Colleges, new residential developments, parks and other regional destinations.

Following the initial 18-month preconstruction phase, the buildout phase is expected to take approximately four years to complete.



**Griffith Company Awarded Key Transit Job from Los Angeles Metro**

Los Angeles Metro recently awarded Griffith Company the Vermont Bus Rapid Transit BRT Corridor Project. To be accomplished via CMGC project delivery, the project is on an accelerated track to wrap up in time for the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

The 12.4-mile BRT line will run along Vermont Avenue between Sunset Boulevard and 120th Street and include 26 new bus stations with enhanced shelters, increased lighting, safety improvements and real-time bus arrival information. The project will improve bus speeds, reduce passenger travel times by up to 24% and increase reliability for all buses on route.

As one of LA County’s busiest transportation corridors, the project is estimated to create over 4,800 jobs, generate over \$95 million in tax revenue, and serve over 66,200 transit riders each day.



**McCarthy Tops out Gilead Sciences Facility in Bay Area**

McCarthy Building Companies, Inc. (McCarthy), recently celebrated the topping out of the New Technical Development Center (NTDC) at Gilead Sciences’ headquarters in Foster City, marking a major construction milestone with the completion of the building’s structural frame.

McCarthy is undertaking the project in collaboration with design partners DGA Architects, Salas O’Brien Structural Engineers and civil designer BKF Engineer.

An array of project partners, leaders and field teams gathered on site to mark the topping out ceremony in which the final beam is placed to bring the structure to full height. The five-story, 180,000-square-foot facility will support Gilead’s technical development operations. ☼



# Construction Workers Gather for Mental Health Standdown

BY TERESA KENT, AGC OF CALIFORNIA SR. COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING MANAGER

Conversations around mental health took center stage on May 22 as AGC of California and Teichert Construction hosted the 2026 Mental Health in Construction Media Day & Standdown during Mental Health Awareness Month.

Construction workers, industry leaders, labor representatives, transportation officials, and mental health advocates came together near the Placer Parkway project at Highway 65 for honest conversations about the mental and emotional challenges many in the construction industry face every day.

"Safety in construction goes beyond hard hats, safety glasses, and fall protection. It also includes the mental and emotional well-being of the people behind the work," said Mary Teichert, president and chief executive officer of Teichert Inc. "The men and women building our roads, bridges, schools, and



communities every single day also carry stress, fatigue, injuries, and personal struggles that too often go unseen."

"Construction zones demand constant awareness, communication, and teamwork. When workers are distracted or struggling silently, it can impact not only the individual, but everyone

around them. That's why creating a culture where people feel supported is so important to overall jobsite safety," said Jeremy Peterson-Self, deputy division chief of construction at the California Department of Transportation. "Open conversations around mental health can make a real difference."

Mental Health Media Day is part of AGC of California's ongoing initiative to help the construction industry create supportive work environments by providing tools, training, and access to mental health resources.

By spotlighting these resources during Mental Health Awareness Month, the association aims to encourage more open conversations across job sites and reinforce the connection between

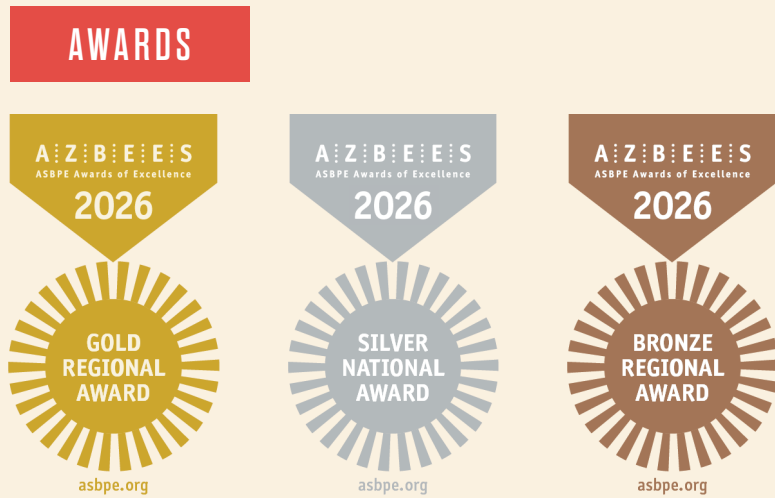
# When workers are distracted or struggling silently, it can impact not only the individual, but everyone around them.

mental well-being and overall safety. "Changing the culture around mental health starts with conversations like these," said Darla Macomber, chief operating officer of AGC of California. "By continuing to bring awareness, resources, and support to jobsites across California, we can help build a safer and stronger industry for everyone."

AGC of California's Mental Health Initiative continues to engage contractors, workers, and jobsite leaders in proactive efforts to build a stronger culture of care throughout the industry. ☘



Resources and tools are available at the AGC of California Mental Health Initiative.



## California Constructor Wins National, Regional Azbee Awards



California Constructor magazine was honored to receive both national and regional recognition from the American Society of Business Publication Editors in its 2026 Azbee Awards of Excellence competition.

The Azbee Awards honor the best in B2B media, recognizing outstanding work by business, trade, association and professional publications across 59 categories.

California Constructor received a National Silver Award as well as a Pacific Region Gold Award in the Q&A Category for the article, "De-Stigmatizing Mental Health Q&A with Mario Noriega," which ran in the May/June 2025 issue.

"This article hit all the right notes and set the tone," one Azbee judge commented during the live virtual awards program. "The content was great, and there were some solid ideas to use as takeaway." Another commented, "Thoughtful questions, sidebar and photos add depth to the story."

A second content piece, "Transformative Affordable Housing in San Francisco," (in our January/February 2025 "Inspiring the Industry" issue) received a Regional Bronze Azbee award in the category of "All Content - Case Study."

As one of the most competitive awards programs for B2B media, the Azbees highlight editorial, online, and design excellence within print media, email newsletters, and digital publishing. In 2026, More than 740 entries were judged by 83 experienced B2B editors, freelancers, designers and journalism professors.

Thank you to our readers and advertisers for continuing to support AGC of California's award-winning publication! ☘

## Calendar

### July 23, 2026

"Hackers & Slackers" Golf Tournament at Birch Hills Golf Course, Brea

### August 27, 2026

Southern California Region Hot Summer Night at Puesto Anaheim

### August 28, 2026

Small Business Construction Expo (SBCX) at the Hilton Anaheim

### August 31, 2026

Bay Area Region Clay Shoot at Birds Landing Shooting Sports, Birds Landing

### September 11-13, 2026

Legal Advisory Committee Retreat at The Lodge at Torrey Pines, La Jolla

### September 21, 2026

Delta Sierra District Golf Tournament at Granite Bay Golf Club, Granite Bay

### October 6-9, 2026

CONSTRUCT Annual Conference at Grand Hyatt Indian Wells

### October 23, 2026

Tri-Counties District Golf Classic at River Course at Alisal, Solvang

### November 19, 2026

Women Build California Summit at McCarthy Building Companies, Inc., Newport Beach

### November 19, 2026

San Joaquin District Forecast Dinner at Sunnyside Country Club, Fresno

### December 4, 2026

Bay Area Region Holiday Luncheon at Pinstripes, San Mateo

### December 4, 2026

Riverside/San Bernardino District Holiday Dinner at the Mission Inn, Riverside

### December 11, 2026

Eureka-Shasta Holiday Gathering & BOD Meeting at LuLu's Establishment, Redding

### December 11, 2026

Southern California Holiday Party & Toy Drive at House of Blues, Anaheim

### December 14, 2026

Delta-Sierra Holiday Board Meeting & Happy Hour, location TBD

### December 16, 2026

Tri-Counties Holiday Luncheon, location TBD



## CONSTRUCT 2026 — SAVE THE DATE!

**Get ready for the California construction industry's most anticipated event, happening October 6-9, 2026.** Presented by PlanHub, this year's conference will take place at the Grand Hyatt Indian Wells Resort & Villas, surrounded by stunning mountains and swaying palm trees. It's the perfect backdrop to learn, network, grow, and build your legacy with us!

Join construction professionals from across the industry to exchange ideas, discover innovations, and take part in our exciting networking opportunities. Highlights include engaging sessions and Owner Showcases, the CONSTRUCT Expo, AGC Student Chapter Career Fair, and amazing networking opportunities!

With our dynamic speakers and unmatched opportunities to build relationships, this year's CONSTRUCT is designed to elevate your career in construction.

**Explore premier sponsorship and exhibitor opportunities.** Get in early to connect with future clients and showcase your brand to industry leaders. Leverage your team's value and potential so you can do what you do best: **CONSTRUCT A LEGACY.**

**Don't miss out on the chance to explore everything the conference has to offer. Learn more and register at [www.agc-ca.org/sites/construct2026/](http://www.agc-ca.org/sites/construct2026/).**

# Turn RFIs into ROI!

Research shows that contractors receive about 10 RFIs for every \$1 million spent on a project. They cost money, delay projects, and cause legal and other risks.

What if you could get a 5X-10X return on investment by reviewing construction documents in advance?

Catch mistakes, omissions, and other potential problems before they reach the field. You'll save money, eliminate hassles, sleep better at night, and achieve that ROI on your next project.

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## What Construction Stakeholders Say About Design and Coordination Reviews

### **Contractors:**

"You are going into a project blind without proper design coordination."

### **Construction Consultants for Developers:**

"An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."

"These reviews help all parties – the owner, contractor, design team, architect, and engineers."

### **Architects:**

"We know what we want in our heads when we communicate that idea in our drawings. Another set of eyes helps evaluate if we made it clear."

### **Engineers:**

"An additional set of eyes reviewing the plans is always valuable."

"We are often so rushed that we don't have time to do all the quality control we would like. But we are so close to it we probably wouldn't see all the errors."

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