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The 2026 Women Build California Summit and the Educators Build California Summit drew industry and education leaders from across the state who shared a common purpose: to connect, collaborate, and expand opportunities for learning and growth within California's construction industry.

BY CAROL EATON

ON THE COVER: A Cypress Mandela Training Center pre-apprenticeship tour of Turner Construction's Berkeley Gateway project

Our Lasting Legacy: The People We Mentor, Develop and Inspire

As I write my final President's column, I've spent some time reflecting on what has always made our industry so remarkable. While construction is often defined by the roads, bridges, water systems, schools, and infrastructure we build, our greatest achievement has always been the people we develop along the way.

California's construction industry faces an increasing demand for skilled professionals, and meeting that challenge requires more than attracting new talent—it requires investing in people throughout their careers. Workforce development isn't simply an industry priority; it is essential to the future of every contractor, every project, and every community we serve.

One of the most important ways AGC of California fulfills that responsibility is by supporting career growth at every stage of the construction profession. Through leadership development, safety education, technical training, project management education, and networking opportunities, AGC of California helps individuals build meaningful careers while developing the next generation of industry leaders. When we invest in people, we strengthen our companies, our workforce, and the future of California construction.

One of the best examples of this commitment is CONSTRUCT, AGC of California's premier annual conference. CONSTRUCT brings together contractors, owners, designers, public agencies, educators, labor partners, and industry leaders from across California to exchange ideas, address emerging challenges, and share solutions that move

our industry forward. Every time we gather, I'm reminded that the greatest strength of AGC of California isn't the projects we build—it's the willingness of our members and industry partners to collaborate and to invest in one another.

Griffith Company has long believed in that mission. We proudly support

industry but also successfully enter and remain on those career pathways through expanded supportive services that remove barriers to employment and promote long-term career success.

As my term as President comes to a close, I remain optimistic about the future of our industry. The projects

Through leadership development, safety education, technical training, project management education, and networking opportunities, AGC of California helps individuals build meaningful careers while developing the next generation of industry leaders.

CONSTRUCT through sponsorship, active engagement, and by encouraging employees at every level to attend, learn, and engage with their peers across the industry. I have always viewed CONSTRUCT as one of the most valuable opportunities to strengthen relationships, exchange ideas, and invest in the future leaders of California construction. When our companies invest in AGC of California and in one another, our entire industry benefits.

That same commitment is reflected in the continued evolution of Build California. What began as an effort to raise awareness about careers in construction has grown into a comprehensive workforce development initiative. Today, Build California is helping individuals not only discover opportunities in our

we deliver will always matter, but the people we mentor, develop, and inspire will be our lasting legacy.

Serving as President of AGC of California has been one of the greatest honors of my career. Thank you for the opportunity to represent this remarkable association and its members. Together, we are building far more than infrastructure—we are building careers, strengthening our communities, and preparing the next generation of leaders who will shape California for years to come. ☼

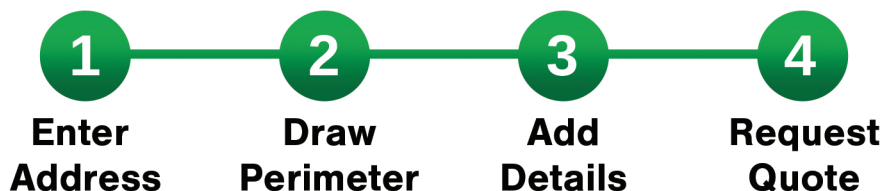


Ryan J. Aukerman
Ryan J. Aukerman,
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If passed, Proposition 45 offers the state infinite opportunities to expedite critical infrastructure for our schools, homes, and communities.

Yes on Proposition 45: Building a More Affordable California

BY FELIPE FUENTES

On November 3, 2026, Californians will once again have the opportunity to shape the future of their state in the upcoming general election.

Following the direct primary, which occurred on June 2, the General election will provide a resounding conclusion to many pivotal state races, among those the race for California's next governor. The election itself will also draw much attention from a variety of interest groups seeking to influence policy through heightened voter turnout and the state's ballot measure process.

Ballot measures often serve as a form of direct democracy, allowing citizens and proponents to propose new laws or constitutional amendments directly to their electorate of other Californians, bypassing the traditional legislative process. Measures on the upcoming November ballot include, among others, efforts to make permanent the temporary high earners tax, enact a one-time billionaire's tax, audit new tax spending, grant housing and research bonds, and,

importantly, expedite environmental reviews.

Proposition 45 Boosts Opportunities for Contractors

Among the many ballot initiatives that will be presented in November, AGC has taken a strong supportive position of the essential Proposition 45, a measure for advancing affordability efforts by streamlining infrastructure projects. As builders of infrastructure, this proposition has the potential to boost project approvals, creating endless opportunities for contractors.

California's outdated systems for project approval are far too slow, driving up building costs that are then passed on to everyone—from renters to homebuyers to the state's electricity bills. Permitting delays themselves add more than \$75,000 to the cost of a new home and billions of dollars to the cost of necessary infrastructure. Even further, these delays exacerbate basic infrastructure challenges such as traffic congestion,

wildfire risk, aging hospitals, and overcrowded schools.

Proposition 45 primarily seeks to address California's cost-of-living crisis by cutting red tape that hinders essential projects from being built quickly, efficiently, and cost-effectively. The proposition delivers essential infrastructure to Californians by streamlining approvals and reducing costs for key projects, thus lowering the cost of living and improving quality of life.

The projects covered in Proposition 45 are essential tenets of many Californians' lives: housing, public health, water, education facilities, wildfire resilience, transportation, broadband and digital communication, and clean energy.

Speeding up the Project Approval Process

This streamlining is delivered through five key guardrails that would significantly speed up the approval process for specified infrastructure projects, manifesting in enforceable timelines for application completion assessment, environmental review certification, and final project approval.

Further, the applications must be assessed based on the laws at the time of submittal, and legal challenges must be evidence-based and issued in accordance with application timelines.

Additionally, the proposition enacts all these changes while maintaining the strength of California's environmental, tribal, and worker protections. Proposition 45 does not weaken or exempt projects from pre-existing environmental protections, nor does it diminish the state's strong labor standards.

Lowering Costs and Spurring Economic Activity

If enacted, Proposition 45 has the chance to enact tangible, positive change in

AGC of California has taken a strong supportive position of the essential Proposition 45, a measure for advancing affordability efforts by streamlining infrastructure projects. As builders of infrastructure, this proposition has the potential to boost project approvals, creating endless opportunities for contractors.

every Californian’s life. By eliminating the thousands of dollars associated with unnecessary permitting delays, Proposition 45 will reduce the cost of housing. By removing delays in the construction of electric grid infrastructure and clean energy, Proposition 45 will lower electricity costs for working families.

By reducing overlong delays on public projects and keeping them on time and budget, Proposition 45 will protect taxpayers. By streamlining

project approval, it will create thousands of well-paying jobs and billions in economic activity. Proposition 45 is the path to a more affordable, more effective California.

It is imperative that the construction industry’s voice and votes are heard in support of this proposition. If passed, Proposition 45 would give the state unlimited opportunities to expedite critical infrastructure for our schools, homes, and communities.

This election cycle provides us the chance to choose leaders and legislation that will shape the future of our California. Spread the word: go vote!

For more information on Proposition 45, visit www.YESonProp45.com. 🗳️



Felipe Fuentes



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Build California Leverages Supportive Services with Industry Partners to Spur Construction Workforce Growth

BY CAROL EATON

Whether it's competitive wages and benefits, job security driven by high demand for skilled workers, or simply the satisfaction of delivering something tangible that can benefit their community, the construction industry offers plenty of incentives for those seeking rewarding, sustainable career prospects.

But some individuals—especially women and underserved populations—face major barriers that can prevent them from reaping the long-term benefits of a construction career. The lack of affordable childcare still ranks among the leading reasons women cite for leaving the workforce. Transportation to and from work, tool and equipment costs, and other

expenses pose additional roadblocks for workers just getting by while trying to complete an apprenticeship program or pursue other pathways into the industry.

Without addressing these issues, the industry's chronic workforce shortage problem will persist.

Build California has taken the lead in delivering viable solutions. Together with industry partners such as the Northern California Laborers Training & Retraining Center and the Southern California Laborers Training School, and backed by California Department of Industrial Relations' (DIR) Equal Representation in Construction Apprenticeship (ERiCA) grant, Build California is providing an array of supportive services solutions to

help participants successfully pursue and maintain construction careers.

ERiCA Grant Delivering Results

Last year, the DIR awarded AGC Construction Education Foundation a \$2.5 million ERiCA grant designed to support the nonprofit's mission in the areas of recruitment, childcare and workplace culture. This grant enabled the AGC CEF's Build California program to administer \$1.2 million in direct childcare stipends to support female, nonbinary and underrepresented pre-apprentices and apprentices, helping remove caregiving as a barrier to participation and retention.

Since launching the childcare program in January 2026, Build California has



served more than 60 apprentices (half of whom are women/nonbinary), and disbursed more than \$400,000 in funding to deserving applicants as of the time of this writing.

One of them is Sylvia Martinez, a third-period apprentice with Laborers Local 300 in Southern California.

“The childcare stipend has been really helpful; it helps me focus more on the training instead of stressing financially,” Martinez commented. “My daughter says she wants to be just like me when she grows up. I just try to do my best for them.”

Lisa Becerra, chief of staff for the Laborers Training School, said the partnership they forged with Build California to support their apprentices has been groundbreaking. Beyond offering childcare stipends, the ERiCA grant scope will also include key efforts in recruitment and retention for women and individuals from historically underrepresented populations, as well as support efforts to foster more inclusive workplace cultures.

“In the simplest terms, the ERiCA grant has been an absolute blessing,” she commented. “It has expanded opportunities for women in construction by reducing barriers such as childcare costs. It strengthens women’s participation in construction when we can provide supportive services, mentorship, and inclusive workplace practices. Through

“In the simplest terms, the ERiCA grant has been an absolute blessing. It has expanded opportunities for women in construction by reducing barriers such as childcare costs. It strengthens women’s participation in construction when we can provide supportive services, mentorship, and inclusive workplace practices.”

– Lisa Becerra, Laborers Training School Chief of Staff



“Build California is not just job placements; we help with scholarships, childcare stipends, transportation costs, and internships. We’ve even helped people get their driver’s licenses. With this momentum that we are building, the bigger it gets, I can see a lot more people being successful in this industry.”

– Cecilia Palomera, Build California Supportive Services Manager



the outreach and culture component we have been able to host quarterly Women in Construction forums, and we provide resources and opportunities for mentorship, training, and a platform to discuss jobsite challenges.”

Success Stories

Becerra noted that the results are tangible and go well beyond engagement.

“Third period apprentice, Shelly Sharer, from the Bakersfield area, has shared that the childcare stipend has ‘turned her whole world around,’” Becerra said. “She is a single mother of five children who, prior to this grant and joining our program, was on welfare and living month to month.”

Sharer currently works for AWP Safety, performing traffic control work. “She is earning a living wage and has health benefits for herself and family,” said Becerra.

In another example, Becerra shared the success story of Sandra Molina, a sixth-period apprentice from the Los Angeles area who is currently working for Ace Fence Company.

“Sandra has shown nothing but grit and determination. She is also a single mother of three children and a second-time recipient of the ERiCA childcare stipend,” Becerra said. “She shared recently that her goal is to buy a home for her family. She worked around the clock on the Eaton Fire cleanup work, saved her money, and is very close to achieving her goal.

“Sandra shared with me that ‘I couldn’t have done it without all the support. I am so grateful for the ERiCA funding because it has made my load as a single mother a bit lighter,’” Becerra said.

“The ERiCA grant is critical for retention, recruitment, and continual support services,” Becerra added. “We were in dire need of this type of funding and are hopeful that it will continue.”

Building Momentum

For Build California, the childcare stipend program is a critical component of a “whole person” approach to workforce development that is only building momentum. It has allowed Build California to provide wraparound supportive services to eligible individuals statewide, according to Cecilia Palomera, Build California supportive services manager. Palomera brought a background as a lead case manager for nonprofits when she joined Build California in her current role in late 2025.

Initially, she was a little unclear how her work applied to the construction industry.

“When I started this position, I asked, ‘How does providing supportive services fit into construction?’” Palomera commented. “I was even skeptical about applying for this role because I thought, ‘I’m here to help my community and

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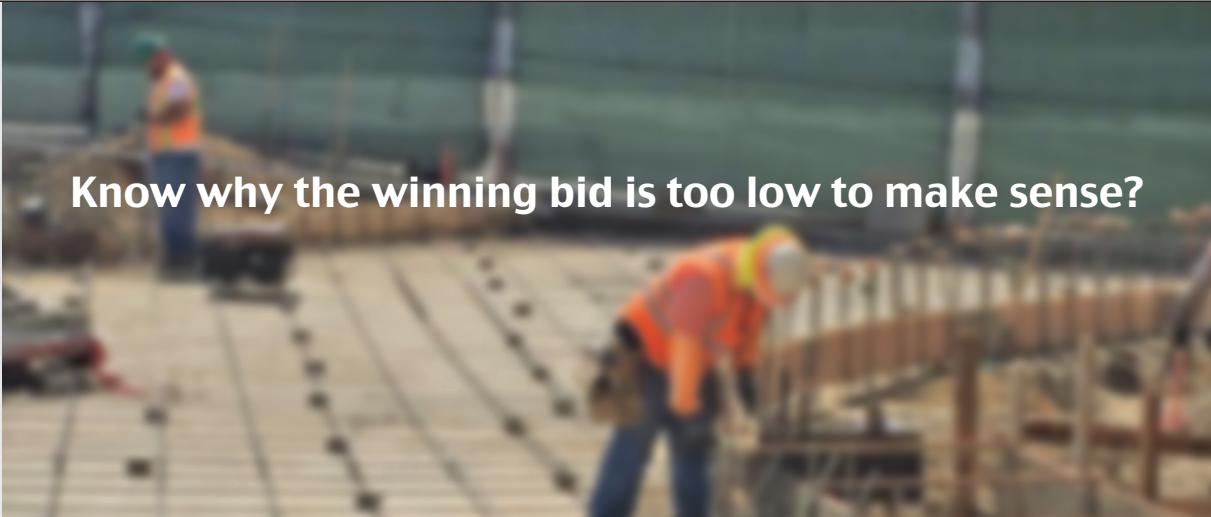
individuals in it. How do I do that in construction?’ Fast forward to seven months later, and it’s clear there is a big need for supportive services in this industry.”

Treating the Whole Person

That need extends beyond help with childcare, to include transportation expenses, scholarships to help pay for school and training programs, career placement, referrals to mental health support, and much more—whatever it takes to treat the “whole person” to support their journey

and unique needs as they make a home in the construction industry.

“Build California is a big brand that does so much, and people now are even more curious about what really is Build California,” Palomera said. “They learn we are not just doing job placements; we help with scholarships, childcare stipends, transportation costs, and internships. We’ve even helped people get their driver’s licenses. So, it’s all like this full circle moment. With this momentum that we are building, the bigger it gets, I



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can see a lot more people being successful in this industry.”

Palomera pointed out that ERiCA childcare stipends can be used not just for licensed daycares but also for nannies, enrichment programs, and more, giving more flexibility than other childcare assistance programs. “It allows them to be in a more stable place. They don’t have to decide, ‘What am I picking this month—a safe place for my children or food on the table?’” she noted. “So, it’s just bringing that peace of mind that allows them to focus on completing their apprenticeship program, and then the door will be open for them. We’re just kind of that little bump that helps push them in the right direction.”

Yuhi Aizawa Combatti, AGC of California director, workforce development, pointed out that providing a full complement of wraparound supportive services



offers a natural path for Build California to continue to grow and build momentum for the future.

“Being able to provide those resources and just signaling that our industry does care about the whole person, from

mental health to financial health to social services, and showing that we are able to connect them to resources that are available to them wherever they are—that has been a really big contributor to the success of our program,” she said. 🌱

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How AGC Programs Support Career Growth

BY CAROL EATON

As the construction industry in recent years has grappled with an aging workforce, a shortage of skilled workers, and a historical image problem that caused many to see it as a last-choice career option, the need to reshape public perception—and to better support construction professionals at every stage of their



The 2025 Emerging Leaders Academy group, including Baylee Bishop (second row center).



Branden Laptalo (front row, right) during his time with his SJSU AGC Student Chapter.

journey—has never been clearer.

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics data shows that approximately 40% of today's construction workforce will be approaching retirement by 2031, highlighting the importance of strengthening construction career path pipelines. While the median age of a construction worker is currently about 42, one in five is aged 55 or older.

The AGC Construction Education Foundation (AGC CEF) aims to change that paradigm as it focuses on its mission to inspire the industry to be a place where people belong, grow, and build lasting legacies. From the student learning construction management at a university

CONTINUED ON PAGE 15

Without this type of intentional investment in leadership development, the construction industry risks losing institutional knowledge, professional continuity, and the next generation of leaders.



Katelyn Moore (back, center) is pictured at an Emerging Leaders Volunteer Month event at a Sacramento Food Bank.

Branden Laptalo HENSEL PHELPS

Growing up in the rural Central Valley farm town of Newman, CA, Branden Laptalo knew next to nothing about construction when he came to San Jose State University (SJSU) 15 years ago to study civil engineering as a community college transfer student. He met AGC student chapter leaders at a campus career and club fair and decided to join the group to learn more about construction opportunities.

The first event he went to with the student chapter—a jobsite tour of a regional medical center project that Skanska was building in San Jose—convinced Laptalo that this was the career path for him.

“That is pretty much where I fell in love with construction,” he recalls. “I saw the action going on at that jobsite and how dynamic the field of construction was and immediately knew that is what I wanted to do.”

Laptalo jumped in with both feet, taking on leadership roles in the student chapter as vice president and then president during his senior year. It was through the AGC of California student chapter that he was introduced to Hensel Phelps, which hired him full-time after graduation.

Over 13 years, Laptalo has risen through the ranks at Hensel Phelps, alternating between field and office management positions, working primarily in the healthcare sector on projects for Stanford Health Care, Kaiser, and others. Currently he is project manager for a \$1.6 billion Kaiser hospital campus project in Sacramento.

As he grew in leadership roles within his company, Laptalo also embraced opportunities to grow within the industry by participating in networking, learning and leadership opportunities at AGC of California. He joined the Emerging

“I would definitely encourage people who are early on in their careers to participate and not shy away from those leadership roles, even though it can be challenging to manage your time while you are juggling work and building your resume in your own company. It opens up your network and gives you some experiences that you don’t normally have on a day-to-day basis.”

– Branden Laptalo, Hensel Phelps



Leaders (EL) (formerly CLC) early on and took an active role from the outset, advancing to EL Steering Committee Chair in 2021.

Knowing how he had personally benefitted from student chapter involvement, as EL Chair Laptalo leaned into student chapter outreach, organizing student jobsite tours and other activities. “I wouldn’t be in the construction industry if it weren’t for AGC of California, so I wanted to open the eyes of other students who are in the same boat as I was to show them that construction is a great field to be in,” he noted.

In addition to regular attendance at AGC of California’s annual CONSTRUCT conference, Laptalo participated in various AGC of California training programs, including a three-day leadership training program that offered a 360-review with feedback from coworkers, his boss and direct reports.

“It taught me about delegation and other things I’ve definitely used to grow my career and leadership skills,” he noted. “I keep (the feedback) on my desk

and reflect on those insights gained to this day.”

In 2026, Laptalo was elected to the AGC CEF Board of Directors, providing him with an opportunity to help shape the nonprofit’s work and network with industry colleagues, sharing insights and solutions on key issues they all face.

Participating in AGC of California leadership roles like EL and AGC CEF requires some extra time and sacrifice, Laptalo said, but is well worth the effort.

“I would definitely encourage people who are early on in their careers to participate and not shy away from those leadership roles, even though it can be challenging to manage your time while you are juggling work and building your resume in your own company,” he commented. “It opens up your network and gives you some experiences that you don’t normally have on a day-to-day basis. It gives you a glimpse into the industry’s future and helps you build connections. Ultimately, it’s going to make you a better builder and a better leader in the future.”

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

or a skilled trade in an apprenticeship program, to the emerging leaders rising through their company ranks, AGC CEF is committed to supporting construction professionals throughout their careers by providing training, networking and leadership development opportunities.

Without this type of intentional investment in leadership development, the construction industry risks losing institutional knowledge, professional continuity, and the next generation of leaders.

AGC CEF understands that the colleagues that professionals meet in their first 10 years often become the partners, clients, and collaborators of their next 30 years in the construction industry. Cultivating those connections is part and parcel of the services and value it brings.

In this article, we spotlight three young leaders who exemplify how AGC CEF programs support career growth across the California construction industry. Their stories provide insight into the diverse pathways into construction careers and the ways that AGC CEF accelerates professional development through mentorship, leadership training, industry connection opportunities, and more.

Investing In Leadership Pays Off

AGC of California's leadership academies are helping construction companies strengthen their workforce, improve retention, and prepare the next generation of leaders. Contact Kendra Bilo at BiloK@agc-ca.org to learn more and get your team involved.



A Shared Commitment to Developing Next Generation Leaders

BY RYAN AUKERMAN, GRIFFITH COMPANY PRESIDENT
AND 2026 AGC-CA PRESIDENT

One of the investments I'm most proud of as 2026 President of AGC of California is the organization's continued commitment to developing the next generation of industry leaders.

This year, our Emerging Leaders Academy and Construction Leaders Academy have more than doubled in size compared to last year, reflecting both the demand for these programs and our industry's commitment to growing talent from within.

Griffith Company was an early believer in both academies, sending multiple team members through each cohort because we've long recognized that leadership development isn't a one-time investment, but an ongoing commitment to our people and the future of our company. As our industry continues to evolve, the companies that will thrive are those that intentionally invest in developing leaders who can build high-performing teams, adapt to change, and position their organizations for long-term success.

At Griffith Company, investing in our people has always been one of our core values because we know that when individuals grow, companies grow with them. It's encouraging to see that same commitment embraced across AGC of California membership, as more companies recognize that developing future leaders is one of the smartest investments we can make for the long-term strength of California's construction industry.



Ryan J. Aukerman

Ryan J. Aukerman,
President, AGC of California

Baylee Bishop

GRANITE CONSTRUCTION

Baylee Bishop was well acquainted with the construction industry before she decided to pursue a degree in construction management at Chico State. Her dad was an operating engineer for 35 years before retiring in 2024, so Bishop essentially grew up around the industry. She was drawn to a construction career herself, not only because of the financial independence it afforded, but also because of the teamwork and problem-solving skills required to build a successful project.

“Problem solving is a very big part of who I am inside and outside of work, and I’m also a big people person, so the team aspect has always been very important to me,” she commented. “Bringing (those skills) to work and making an impact for the team is awesome. When you’re on a project, it’s much more fun to collaborate and get the work done together.”

Bishop already had two high school construction internships under her belt by the time she headed off to college, and she continued to gain experience interning with Teichert and Flatiron during college before joining Granite Construction full-time after graduating in 2023.

While in school, she participated in the AGC student chapter and was heavily involved with the Associated Schools of Construction competition in Reno. That is where she met and connected with individuals from Granite, so joining the company’s Reno office was an easy choice. She later transferred to Granite’s Sacramento office and is currently a project engineer on the Highway 49 Grass Valley project.

Bishop has found plenty of opportunities to stay connected and continue honing her leadership skills through AGC of California programs as a young professional. The first in her company to participate in the AGC of California

“One thing I find very special about every AGC of California event, especially on our Steering Committee, is the amount of experience there is in one room when we’re all together,” she said. “It’s amazing to see what we can do if we all put our heads together and really make things happen.”

– Baylee Bishop, Granite Construction



Emerging Leaders Academy, she formed lasting bonds with peers from other companies who also opted to learn in-person (rather than virtually) at the AGC of California headquarters one day each month.

She graduated from the 12-month program in December 2025 and continues to reflect on what she learned and the relationships she formed.

“The people you’re going through the program with are people you’re going to see throughout your career, so it’s really awesome to get to make those connections early,” she said.

“The content of the program is great too,” she added, pointing to the DiSC® assessment tool, used to measure an individual’s communication styles and personality traits, as particularly valuable. “It really helped me understand myself, the way I react to things, how I learn, and how to better respond to others. Overall, it made me have a stronger leadership mindset.”

Participants walk away with new knowledge, increased confidence, and

a binder full of coursework materials that Bishop said she continues to draw upon in her work. “Whenever I’m having an issue, I know exactly where to flip to in the binder for the tools that can help me work through a conflict or reflect on different strategies,” she said.

Also, through AGC of California, Bishop has been involved in the College to Construct (C2C) mentor program, and she has been a regular at the annual CONSTRUCT conference, starting as a student chapter attendee and continuing as an Emerging Leader. She was recently appointed to the AGC of California Emerging Leaders Steering Committee, where she is excited to make a difference and work with industry colleagues to elevate the committee’s work.

“One thing I find very special about every AGC of California event, especially on our Steering Committee, is the amount of experience there is in one room when we’re all together,” she said. “It’s amazing to see what we can do if we all put our heads together and really make things happen.”

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Katelyn Moore BUZZ OATES CONSTRUCTION

It may not have been the most obvious career move when Katelyn Moore decided to pivot from an eight-year career as a paralegal into a project development role at a Sacramento development company, followed a year later by a move into a development project management role for Buzz Oates Construction. But she will be the first to tell you that her only regret is that she didn't start her career in the construction industry much earlier.

"I always thought of construction as a 'man's world,' just dirt and heavy machinery, but had I known about the opportunities in this industry—especially for women—I would have made this move much earlier," she said. "I wish someone had told me about it when I was in college. I look back and know my path got me here for a reason."

Moore earned her business degree in college and was building up her resume in the legal field (and even contemplating law school) when she realized she was ready for a career change in 2018. After "falling into" the development role at Domas Development in Sacramento, she seized the opportunity to move over to the construction side a year later after being introduced to Buzz Oates Construction.

Over the past eight years, she advanced to her current role as senior development project manager, where she primarily focuses on the preconstruction aspects of projects, including land entitlements and permitting. Moore said she loves the flexibility to manage and work in an office, but "still be able to get out there and literally kick the building that you helped create and see it come to life. I find that really rewarding."

Coming into the construction industry, she found that there were plenty of transferable business skills between her legal job and project management, as well

"I always thought of construction as a 'man's world,' just dirt and heavy machinery, but had I known about the opportunities in this industry—especially for women—I would have made this move much earlier. I wish someone had told me about it when I was in college. I look back and know my path got me here for a reason."

– Katelyn Moore, Buzz Oates Construction



as ample resources and opportunities for on-the-job learning in construction if you're willing to ask questions and learn from your mistakes.

"I try to instill into newer team members coming into our company that there's no such thing as a dumb question," she said. "If you need an answer, there's a resource, and you can always find it. It's just knowing what question to ask and who."

Among the leading resources Moore has tapped for her own continuing education, networking, and leadership development opportunities is AGC of California. At the urging of David Claveau, senior vice president at Buzz Oates Construction, who served on AGC's Delta Sierra District board, Moore applied to fill a position on the Emerging Leaders Steering Committee. It turned into a now two-year stint that she said has been "extremely fulfilling."

"It's really one of those positions that you get out of it what you put into it," she noted. "It fit into my career journey in general to grow and expand my net-

work. What I've found most rewarding is the people and connections I've made through the Committee and the team at AGC."

Additionally, she's participating in the Construction Leaders (CLA) Academy as part of the 2026 cohort, served as a panelist during an ELSC quarterly forum sharing her journey into construction, and took advantage of mentorship opportunities through AGC's College2Construct (C2C).

Those mentoring opportunities have been especially impactful, Moore said, with one highlight being the mentee she was paired with in the C2C program.

"I assumed I'd be assigned to a younger student getting ready to finish college, but instead, my mentee was actually changing careers and had gone back to community college in San Francisco," she explained. "She was raising young kids, so I could really relate. My kids are a little older now (10 and 7), but I was able to give her meaningful advice about juggling being a full-time working mom in this industry, sharing how I've been successful and how to prioritize both." ☘



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Inside of AGC CEF's 2026 Industry Summits – and Why They Matter

BY CAROL EATON

More than five dozen companies, 150-plus individuals, and 63 educators and career counselors representing 14 different California schools and non-profits came together for two unique AGC Construction Education Foundation (AGC CEF) Summits in 2026, demonstrating the power of cross-sector connection and engagement to support construction career pathways and industry education and growth.

The 2026 Women Build California Summit on March 11 in Santa Clara and the Educators Build California Summit, held at the Southern California Laborers' Training Center in Azusa on April 29, drew industry and education leaders from across the state. Their common purpose: to connect, collaborate, and expand opportunities for learning and growth within California's construction industry.

Both inaugural events by AGC CEF were supported by the California Department of Industrial Relations' ERiCA grant and other AGC industry partners.

JJ Albanese Shows Commitment

Contractor Joseph J. Albanese, Inc. was one of the AGC of California member partners that stepped up to sponsor the Women Build California Summit. President and CEO Phil Albanese said it was an easy decision to participate, given the company's strong support for women in the construction workforce.

He credits Melinda Berge, a senior project manager at the company who is an active member of the AGC of California South Bay District Board and on the Emerging Leaders Steering Committee, for sparking his interest in the event.

"Melinda deserves a lot of credit as she has become a passionate advocate

for our industry and more particularly women's deservedly growing role in the built world," Albanese said. "She knew supporting women in construction matters to us. Over the last 15 years here at Joseph J. Albanese, I have been amazed at the increased interest from women wanting to be in the industry and the impact women have made with our team. Hosting the summit was a no brainer; I am proud of the work Melinda and our team did to make it a successful day."

Their objective in supporting the summit was simple, Albanese added. "We wanted to get the right people in one room: industry leaders, employers, unions, and the advocates doing the work to open doors for women in construction."

He noted that it went even better than expected. "People made real connections and had conversations that mattered, and it pulled together a network of people who care about changing things. The whole industry wins when talented women can build a career here, in the field or in the office."

Attract, Develop and Retain Women in the Workforce

Dome Construction, another event sponsor, is also a strong and active AGC of



ABOVE: The Laborers Training School and AGC of California received official California Assembly and State Senate recognition for the Educators Build California Summit. ON FACING PAGE: Participants at the Educators Build California Summit earlier this year.

California member and Construction Education Foundation supporter. According to Melissa Berg, director of inclusion, culture and engagement at Dome and current chair of AGC's Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging steering committee, the summit served as a powerful reminder of the need to attract more women into the construction workforce.

"I think there's still somewhere around 11% of women in the industry, and just about 3% in the trades," she said. "It's still a very important industry to have a space for women to go to and be able to get mentored and have a network. So, continuing to shine light on the fact that we're not there yet, and there is still a serious pipeline shortage happening, is important. We're all going to need to not only focus on the pipeline but also learn to have more inclusive sites and workplace cultures. Any conference or summit like this where we can get the message out and get people to go back to their own companies with that message is great."

"Supporting the Women Build California Summit is an investment in the future of our industry and our team. Construction needs skilled, motivated people, and that means creating opportunities for everyone who wants to build a career in this business."

**– Phil Albanese, President,
Joseph J. Albanese**



In addition to plenty of networking time, the Women Build California Summit featured speakers, a data insights session focused on workforce trends for women in the field, and a session on creating and protecting inclusive workplace cultures, among other highlights.

Berge said the Summit's turnout was a major advantage, allowing for easier networking and connecting. "Some of the very large summits where you walk into those massive rooms with people from all over the country can be a bit intimidating," she said. "Having a summit where you can really connect or reconnect with people, have learning experiences within the network and talk about common issues and try to find solutions together is just really valuable."

'Ripple Effects' for Companies

The "ripple effect" for companies that demonstrate their clear commitment to workforce development and to investing in their employees by sending them to industry summits like these is also clear. Among the benefits: enhanced company

Call to Action

The next Women Build California Summit will take place in Newport Beach on November 19, 2026, and the next Educators Build California Summit will take place virtually on November 4, 2026. Learn more at www.agc-ca.org/event/women-build-california-summit-social/. Companies interested in participating in the Educators Summits are encouraged to connect with Yuhi Aizawa Combatti, director, workforce development (CombattiY@agc-ca.org), as planning begins for next year's in-person event. Strong engagement and positive outcomes are driving plans for expanded summit opportunities in 2027 as well.



The 2026 Women Build California Summit on March 11, 2026 in Santa Clara



Melinda Berge, Joseph J. Albanese senior project manager (left) speaking at the Northern California Women Build California Summit.



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culture, workforce retention, and expanded mentorship opportunities within the broader construction industry.

"Supporting the Women Build California Summit is an investment in the future of our industry and our team. Construction needs skilled, motivated people, and that means creating opportunities for everyone who wants to build a career in this business," Albanese commented.

"Women bring perspective, leadership, and problem-solving that make teams better. The more we encourage women to come in and move up, the stronger we all get. The growth of JJA, and the industry in general, stems from the talent of our people and the environment we create for that talent to flourish," he said. "The Summit created space to address both of these critical factors, and I am proud of the small role we played in it."

Albanese concluded, "The best part of our industry is the environment it provides for people to grow their careers. AGC of California's commitment to growing women's role in our industry is admirable and valuable."

Building the Workforce Through Education

The inaugural Build California Educators Summit, hosted at the Southern California Laborers Training School in Azusa, highlighted the growing momentum behind construction career education across the state. Representatives from the Inland Empire, Los Angeles County, Orange County, and San Diego County gathered to explore workforce pathways and strengthen connections between education and industry. 100% of the participants who came into the summit with minimal understanding of construction career pathways closed the gap entirely with their more knowledgeable peers by the end of the summit.

Throughout the day, participants

experienced three educational sessions, including a tour of the Laborers Training School, where they engaged in a variety of hands-on activities, a panel Q&A with specialty contractors on how to guide students who want to start union trades careers, and roundtable discussions with general contractors on leadership skills that help entry-level professionals thrive in the construction industry.

"The entire event was very valuable, but if I had to select one, it would be the presentation on understanding the construction career pathways and its visuals," said Norma Sanchez, with Bell Senior High School in Los Angeles Unified School District. "As a counselor, I meet many students who are interested in the trades but are not familiar with all the opportunities and

pathways that are available."

To extend the summit's impact, Build California distributed 60 Educator Toolkits filled with classroom-ready career exploration materials, apprenticeship resources, and outreach tools. These resources empower educators to introduce students to rewarding careers in construction long after the event has ended.

By equipping educators who collectively reach thousands of students each year, Build California is building a sustainable, statewide network of career advocates. This long-term approach embeds construction career awareness directly into schools and classrooms, helping ensure future generations are exposed to the opportunities available in California's construction industry. 🌱

"Having a summit where you can really connect or reconnect with people, have learning experiences within the network and talk about common issues and try to find solutions together is just really valuable."

- Melissa Berg, Director of Inclusion, Culture and Engagement, Dome Construction



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The Case for Construction Workplaces Where Women Can Thrive

BY MARK WOODITCH, HUB INTERNATIONAL



California's construction industry is hurting for workers. That's not an exception. The shortage is a national problem. But the shortage is arguably more severe in California than in other states due to various aggravations.

Most recently, there was stepped-up immigration enforcement in a state where 41% of its 922,000-plus construction workers are foreign-born. Another pressure is keeping up with the impact of catastrophic events such as last year's Palisades fire, which destroyed or damaged over 18,000 structures. Add in an aging workforce, a dearth of vocational training and candidates for it, and it is small wonder the industry's vitality is sapped.

In addition to its drive to promote vocational training, the industry should look to underrepresented populations

to fill the worker gap. Women are a logical target. Employers that understand their value, remove limitations, and nurture their talent will give themselves a competitive advantage.

Here are some starting points for promoting a more inclusionary environment for women and, ultimately, for all workers.

Why A Diversified Workforce Matters...And the Barriers

California actually has one of the better female inclusion track records in the United States, with 135,000 women, or 11% of the total, working construction as recently as 2022. However, the majority are in management and administrative roles; only 3% to 4% are skilled craftpersons. Only 3.5% to 4.7% of those in construction apprenticeships are female,

according to the California Department of Industrial Relations.

They are still underrepresented, though, to the detriment of companies' overall performance. Businesses with gender, ethnic, and cultural diversity outperform their peers, seeing as much as 2.5 times better cash flow per employee, 19% higher revenues attributed to innovation, and average earnings that are 19% higher before interest and taxes (EBIT).

Several barriers hold women back from getting started in construction and successfully growing their careers. In one industry survey by the National Center for Construction Education and Research, only 35% said their experience aligned with their company's stated commitment to supporting women; only 39% believed their employer took complete steps to advance a diverse and

inclusive workplace. Further, while 58% of respondents wanted to grow their careers, only 47% said their companies offered tailored career advancement programs.

Then, too, are the significant on-the-job challenges of sexual harassment and workplace violence. Nearly one quarter of female construction workers have reported frequent sexual harassment—which led to almost half leaving the industry.

Actions That Will Open the Doors To Women and Others

Here are some important considerations for moving forward:

Build an inclusive culture. It's critical to walk the talk, and that starts with leadership that sets the example. But it also requires a demonstrated commitment to a supportive environment, bolstered by policies and actions that matter. Update your employee handbook to reflect current laws and inclusive language. Establish multiple channels for reporting workplace concerns, including anonymous options. Implement mandatory anti-harassment and workplace violence prevention training for all employees.

Focus on worker safety. Of course, this is important to all employees, but there are nuances that too many construction firms may overlook. Personal protective equipment (PPE), for example, is key to a safety culture, but this isn't a one-size-fits-all proposition. Only 31% of women construction workers said their PPE was specifically designed for females. Oversized hard hats and work gloves and ill-fitting harnesses pose a safety hazard. Another exposure is tools and equipment that aren't designed

for smaller frames, which can lead to ergonomic injuries that are more common among women. Such risks can be minimized by investing in the right PPE, modernizing equipment and stepped-up safety training, improving productivity, reducing workers' compensation claims, and making the job more attractive to women.

Nearly one quarter of female construction workers have reported frequent sexual harassment—which led to almost half leaving the industry.

Reduce liability exposure. Construction firms that invest in properly fitting PPE for women, harassment-prevention training, and inclusive workplace policies aren't just doing the right thing—they're actively reducing their liability exposure. Workplace harassment claims, workers' compensation costs from ergonomic injuries, and the turnover-driven expense of constantly recruiting and onboarding new talent all show up on the balance sheet. Insurers are increasingly attentive to workforce practices when underwriting construction risks, and companies that demonstrate a proactive culture of safety and inclusion are better positioned to negotiate favorable coverage terms. The business case for inclusion is about both the revenue upside and managing the downside risks that erode profitability quietly and consistently.

Beef up benefits. A more robust benefits package aligned to individual workers' needs is a powerful draw to all workers, including women. Health benefits with lower deductibles and higher employer-paid premiums speak to the employ-

er's commitment to employee health. It's also key to fix benefits gaps. Often overlooked, for example, is the value of short- and long-term disability, offered by only 29% and 17%, respectively, of construction companies. This means women may not have employer-paid maternity benefits, which leads 63% of parents to leave their construction jobs.

Also important is the guarantee of pay equity and advancement opportunities.

The national conversation about trade education versus traditional college pathways has created new pathways to attract diverse talent. Women have an important place in construction, and such actions will be essential to nurture the next generation of female construction talent.

Developing a strong pipeline requires early engagement through awareness of career opportunities, internships, apprenticeships, and trade school partnerships, backed up by an authentic, top-down culture of inclusivity. ☘



Mark Wooditch

Mark Wooditch is the Los Angeles Orange County construction practice leader for global insurance brokerage Hub International. He spent 30 years at The Wooditch Company, Insurance Services, Inc., with a focus on commercial contractors. In 2023, the practice was sold to HUB.

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Owner Showcases are just one of the key highlights of this year's event, allowing participants to engage with and build connections with more than a dozen agencies and project owners from across the state, and meet top agency staff to learn more about their ongoing capital programs and upcoming bidder opportunities.

Other major highlights include an array of interactive panel discussions and sessions, the 2026 Construction Safety Excellence Awards, a Construction Expo, Student Career Fair, and a host of dynamic networking events throughout the four-day conference.

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TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

- Construction Education Foundation Board Meeting (CLOSED MEETING)

12:30 PM - 2:30 PM

- State Board & Annual Membership Meeting (AGC-CA MEMBERS ONLY)

12:00 PM - 3:15 PM

- Student Chapter Registration & Lunch (STUDENTS ONLY)
- Build Your Network: Speed Connections with Emerging Leaders (Part 1)

2:30 PM - 3:30 PM

- Kick-off Reception in the Expo (Hosted Happy Hour)

3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

- Opening General Session

5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

- Welcome Reception Sponsored by HCSS

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7

7:30 AM - 9:00 AM

- AGC Student Chapter Education Session (STUDENTS ONLY)
- Ready, Set, Interview: Mock Interviews with Emerging Leaders

7:30 AM - 9:00 AM

- Networking Breakfast in Expo

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

AIRPORT SHOWCASE

Join representatives from some of California's busiest airports for a discussion on current and future capital development programs, terminal improvements, airfield projects, and infrastructure investments.

WATER & UTILITY SHOWCASE

Industry leaders discuss major capital programs, emerging project opportunities, and the challenges and innovations shaping the delivery of essential utility infrastructure throughout the state.

- Panel Session | Safety

10:00 AM - 10:30 AM

- Networking Break in Expo

10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

- Panel Session | Fire Inspection Discussion: Hear directly from CalFire for a discussion on the Fire Inspection process, what common mistakes delay project close-outs, and what you can do to make sure the fire inspection process goes as smoothly as possible.

RAIL SHOWCASE

Learn how California's passenger rail agencies are advancing major transportation investments designed to improve mobility, capacity, and system reliability.

- Panel Session | Jobsite Security; Prevention, Detection, Response: A conversation on building a practical, layered defense against theft. Panelists share real-world case studies, emerging technologies, and the essential steps for reporting incidents effectively.

11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

- Networking Lunch in Expo

1:30 PM - 2:30 PM

- General Session sponsored by American Global
- Speaker: Macrina Wilkins, Director of Market Insights, Associated General Contractors of America (AGC)

2:30 PM - 3:00 PM

- Networking Break in Expo

3:00 PM - 4:00 PM

- Panel Session | Collaborative Build

3:30 PM - 4:00 PM

MARITIME SHOWCASE

Hear directly from California's leading maritime agencies as they provide updates on major capital improvement programs, infrastructure priorities, and upcoming construction opportunities shaping the future of the state's ports.

AIRPORT SHOWCASE

Explore capital improvement programs and long-term infrastructure plans driving growth at airports across Southern California.

4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

- Owners Reception & Expo Booth Crawl

3:00 PM - 4:00 PM

- Panel Session | Collaborative Build

8:30 PM

- After Party at the NEST

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8

8:00 AM - 10:00 AM

- Networking Breakfast in Expo

8:00 AM - 10:00 AM

- AGC Student Chapter Career Fair (STUDENTS ONLY)

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

- Panel Session | The Road to Revenue: Infrastructure Funding Strategies in California: This session will explore how construction industry coalitions have spearheaded efforts to advance funding measures, helping to build public support, and shaping policy to generate new revenue for critical transportation projects across the state.

RAIL SHOWCASE

This session will provide valuable updates on capital programs, procurement opportunities, and future construction activity within the rail sector.

- Panel Session | Build a Legacy, Not a Revolving Door: The Retention Imperative: The session explores the best practices of large general contractors who are pioneering

culture-based innovation, illustrating real changes that strengthened on-site belonging and retention, and why they worked.

10:15 AM - 5:15 PM

- AGC Student Chapter Interviews (STUDENTS ONLY)

11:00 AM - 11:30 AM

- Networking Break in Expo

11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

- Construction Safety Excellence Awards Luncheon: Join us as we recognize the companies and individuals who are setting the standard for safety excellence across California's construction industry.

1:00 PM - 1:30 PM

- Networking Break in Expo

1:30 PM - 2:30 PM

- Panel Session | Leading from the Middle: This session explores one of the most important—and often overlooked—realities in construction today: some of the industry's greatest influence comes from those navigating between the jobsite, the office, executive leadership, and frontline teams.

EDUCATION SHOWCASE

Join leaders from K-12 school districts, community colleges, and higher education institutions as they discuss upcoming capital improvement programs, procurement opportunities, and the priorities shaping educational construction across the state.

- Panel Session | Addressing the Human Side of Construction Safety – PerformancePlus + Total Wellness System

2:30 PM - 3:00 PM

- Networking Break in Expo

3:00 PM - 4:00 PM

- Panel Session | Two Worlds, One Pipeline: When Educators and Industry Work Together: This panel discussion brings together educators from K-12 and alternative education settings to share how they are bridging their worlds with the construction industry and opening young people's eyes to meaningful careers in construction.
- Panel Session | Utility: Join industry leaders and partners as they share programs, tools, and best practices designed to help small businesses access opportunities, build relationships, and succeed in the utility construction market.

EDUCATION SHOWCASE

4:30 PM - 5:30 PM

- General Session | 2026 Industry Politics and Policy – What Happened and What is Next: Panelists will discuss the political and policy trends driving developments at all levels of government, as well as the industry's ongoing advocacy efforts to influence outcomes.

6:30 PM - 11:00 PM

- AGC-CA Thursday Night Bash

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9

8:20 AM - 9:50 AM

- Golf Tee Times at Indian Wells Golf Resort



INSTALLATION & AWARDS GALA 2027

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AGC of CALIFORNIA

Submit Your Nominations for AGC of California's 2027 Constructor Awards!

AGC of California is accepting submissions for the 2027 Constructor Awards.

The Constructor Awards program recognizes the diversity and ingenuity of the construction industry by awarding the "best of the best" each year, highlighting both the challenges and successes of AGC of California member companies.

Only one prestigious "Constructor" sculpture is awarded in each category during AGC of California's Installation & Awards Gala, slated for February 5, 2027 at the Fairmont San Francisco. This prestigious black-tie event celebrates our industry's achievements over the past year at an elegant awards ceremony and installation of AGC of California's leadership.

The deadline to submit for the 2027 Constructor Awards is September 18, 2026.

Constructor Award categories this year include:

HEAVY CIVIL

Heavy civil projects are based on the total project amount at completion.

BUILDER

Builder projects are based on the total project amount at completion.

SPECIALTY AWARDS

To enter the Specialty categories, projects must have had a majority of the contract work completed by a Subcontractor or Contractor that holds a C License or where a C License category work is the prevalent scope of the contract. Specialty projects are based on the total project amount at completion.

AGC OF CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

The AGC of California Community Service Award honors AGC of California members or districts who have undertaken community service projects and builds for the betterment of the local community.

EXCELLENCE IN PARTNERING

The Excellence in Partnering category honors AGC of California members who accomplished their project goal through exceptional partnering.

In addition to the Constructor Awards, the 2027 Gala will include presentation of the AGC of California Achievement Awards, Construction Education Friend Award, Harry Eckstein 2026 Safety Professional of the Year Award and the Owner of the Year Award.



Team Named for CA High-Speed Rail's Track and Systems

The California High-Speed Rail Authority (Authority) Board of Directors recently approved the launch of the initial phase of the nation's largest track and systems installation efforts. The consortium of Kiewit, Stacy Witbeck, and Herzog will install the track, overhead contact system, train control, and communications infrastructure needed to transform the 119 miles of guideway completed in the Central Valley into an electrified high-speed rail system capable of speeds up to 220 mph.

The approval on June 1 follows completion of track installation at the 150-acre southern railhead facility in Kern County, which will serve as the staging and distribution hub for high-speed track and systems installation. The facility is now prepared to receive freight deliveries of rail and other long-lead materials directly procured by the Authority, enabling rapid deployment once work begins later this year.

The project's phased structure allows track and systems work to begin as soon as civil construction is completed in each segment, accelerating a seamless transition from guideway construction to electrified high-speed railway installation.

Currently there are 171 miles of the high-speed rail project under design and construction from Merced to Bakersfield. More than 80 miles of guideway are complete, along with 60 fully completed major structures and 30 more structures underway across Madera, Fresno, Kings, and Tulare counties. For the latest on the project, visit www.buildhsr.com.



San Francisco Event Rallies Support for Small Businesses

More than 100 individuals from public agencies, private firms, and other organizations, including AGC of California, came together at a San Francisco event on June 4, 2026, focused on elevating small and underutilized businesses.

The event by the national nonprofit organization Equity in Infrastructure Project (EIP) resulted in 16 entities signing the EIP pledge vowing to take steps to increase public contracting opportunities in their spheres for small and historically underutilized businesses. It also set in motion the coalition's efforts to operationalize the EIP's "Procurement for Prosperity: A Playbook" Best Practices recommendation.

Presenting sponsor Hub International, Port of San Francisco, the California High-Speed Rail Authority, Webcor Builders, and Swinerton were just a few of the entities that signed the pledge. Attendees participated in a workshop that examined the policies, practices, and programs needed to meet EIP goals.



Torrance Groundwater Desalter Expansion Project Underway

The Water Replenishment District and the City of Torrance celebrated a major milestone this June with a ceremonial groundbreaking for the Torrance Groundwater Desalter Expansion Project. Elected officials, community leaders, and funding partners gathered to mark the next phase of a transformative effort to convert brackish groundwater into a reliable local drinking water supply for the South Bay communities.

McCarthy Building Companies and Jacobs are progressive design-build partners on the project, which is designed to nearly double the capacity of the existing facility while addressing groundwater challenges in the region. The project strengthens regional water sustainability while advancing long-term groundwater reliability. ☺

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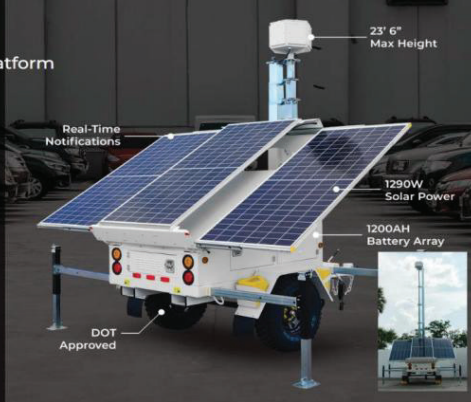
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Calendar

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

September 22, 2026

Q3 HR Forum, Virtual

September 24, 2026

Small/Underrepresented Business (SUB) Forum, Virtual

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

October 28, 2026

Build a Legacy™ Dinner at the Water Grill, Costa Mesa

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 8, 2026

Q4 HR Forum, Virtual

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

February 5, 2027

2027 Installation & Awards Gala, presented by Procore, at the Fairmont San Francisco

Editorial and Advertising Opportunities in *California Constructor*

Do you have a story about a new project, program, staff announcement or noteworthy company initiative you'd like to highlight in the *California Constructor* magazine? Please contact *California Constructor* editor Carol Eaton (carol@eatoncommunications.com) or Teresa Kent, AGC of California senior communications and marketing manager (KentT@agc-ca.org).

For information on advertising in *California Constructor*, reach out to publisher Al Rickard of Association Vision at arickard@assocvision.com.



CONSTRUCT 2026

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/.



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