



BAY AREA BRIEFING

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(925) 827-2422

BAY PLANNING COALITION

LEADERSHIP HEARS BAY ISSUES: The San Francisco Bay Area District Board welcomed Bay Planning Coalition Executive Director **Ellen Johnck** to its July 14 meeting in Oakland to hear the latest about the group's efforts to protect commerce, recreation and the environment in and around San Francisco Bay. The BPC is a respected organization that for the past 25 years has, among other things, spearheaded efforts to coordinate with a myriad of agencies to ensure that the bay is dredged and remains open for commerce. For more information on the BPC's activities, visit their [website](#) or contact **Ellen Johnck** at (415)397-2293.



AGC District Board Co-Chair Blaise Fettig of Vortex Marine Construction (left) welcomes Johnck to the AGC board meeting.

EAST BAY BBQ

DELICIOUS FOOD, AIR QUALITY ON MENU: The San Francisco Bay Area District will hold a BBQ/General Membership Meeting and mixer on Wednesday, **Sept. 10** from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. in Oakland. The event, generously hosted by new AGC member [TEC Equipment](#) of Oakland, will feature BBQ chicken and tri-tip, and feature experts from the local air quality district to discuss how the latest diesel-engine emissions regulations will impact the industry. For more information, view the [event flier](#) or contact **Rachel Morris** of AGC at (925) 827-2422.

NORTH BAY PUBLIC WORKS

UPCOMING PROJECTS PREVIEWED: A few seats are still available for the AGC North Bay District "Public Works Briefing" breakfast, which will be held on Tuesday, **Aug. 5** at 7:30 a.m. at the Doubletree Hotel in Rohnert Park. At the informal session, AGC members will be able to hear directly from public works officials and ask questions. Agencies to be represented include the City of Santa Rosa, Sonoma County, the Sonoma County Water Agency and the North Bay region of Caltrans. For more information, download the [registration form](#) or contact **Rachel Morris** at (707) 526-0645.

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WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

CYPRESS MANDELA TRAINING

CENTER: AGC past President **Mark Lindquist** of 1701 Associates stopped by the Cypress Mandela Training Center in Oakland on July 29 to deliver a \$25,000 donation, courtesy of the AGC Education Foundation. The contribution follows a May 29 fundraiser where many AGC member companies and others donated a total of \$32,000 to the pre-apprenticeship program. Since 1993, the center has trained 1,492 adults in various skills to prepare them for construction industry jobs, and has a 90 percent placement rate. For more information, contact Cypress Mandela Executive Director **Art Shanks** at (510) 208-7350.



Mark Lindquist (left) joins Art Shanks at the Cypress Mandela Training Center in Oakland.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

HOLIDAY DINNER DANCE: Don't miss out on the year's most festive gathering of construction leaders in the Bay Area – the annual AGC Bay Region Holiday Dinner Dance. This year's formal affair will be held **Dec. 6** at the opulent Palace Hotel in the heart of the downtown San Francisco shopping and entertainment district. Back by popular demand is singer **Allison Sharino** and her all-star band. Table reservations and exclusive sponsorships are now being accepted. For more information, contact **Kristin Fracisco** at (925) 827-2422.

PUBLIC WORKS NIGHT

CTC COMMISSIONER TO SPEAK: California Transportation Commission member **Jim Earp** will be the featured speaker at AGC's fall Public Works Night, to be held Wednesday, **Sept. 17** at 5 p.m. at the Hilton Garden Inn, 1800 Powell Street in Emeryville. Representatives from various public agencies will be on hand to preview upcoming work. Earp, who is also the executive director of the California Alliance for Jobs, will discuss the state of highway funding and what that means for contractors. This event is being held in partnership with the Construction Management Association of America, Northern California chapter. For more information, view the event [flier](#) or contact **Rachel Morris** at (925) 827-2422.



Earp

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SF REFORMS ADVANCE

SUPERVISORS ENDORSE CONTRACTING IMPROVEMENTS:

At the urging of AGC, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors on July 8 approved a package of reforms intended to cut away some of the red tape that has chased many contractors out of the city. The reforms, long championed by AGC members, amend Chapter 6 of the city's administrative code to reduce retention, add design-build flexibility and give general contractors input into the design process. Mayor **Gavin Newsom** praised the vote, saying in a [press release](#): "This contracting reform legislation will make it easier for the most qualified firms to bid on our most important projects and help ensure better cooperation, payment processing and fiscal accountability once they're awarded." The package of reforms was carried by Supervisor **Carmen Chu**, who added: "With the passage of this legislation, we are able to remove some of the bureaucratic hurdles that come with working with the city. The result will be more bidders on city work and more money saved for the city."



Chu

CONTRACTORS WANTED

HISPANIC CHAMBER INVITES CONTRACTORS: The Hispanic Chamber of Commerce holds their annual convention this month in San Francisco, and they are inviting contractors to participate in various events. On Thursday, **Aug. 14** from 11 a.m. to noon there will be a panel discussion about how firms may become suppliers or first-tier subcontractors. A subsequent event will take place Friday, **Aug. 15** from 10:30 a.m. to noon and will bring potential suppliers together with contractors. For more information or to participate, contact **Sophia Garcia** with the [Hispanic Chamber of Commerce](#) at (916) 444-2221, or via e-mail: sophia@cahcc.com.

EXCAVATION SAFETY

FREE TRAINING IN ANTIOCH: A "Safety Awareness for Excavators" seminar will be held Thursday, **Aug. 28** from 9 a.m. to noon at the Prewett Family Park & Community Center, 4701 Lone Tree Way in Antioch. The training, which includes a free lunch, is sponsored by USA North, the California Public Utilities Commission, CalOSHA and the State Fire Marshal's Office. For more information or to register, call **Jamie Moreno** at USA North at (925) 798-9504, ext. 6.

SWPPP

STORM WATER TRAINING: To help members stay on top of the many regulation changes that cover the management of water runoff from construction sites, AGC will sponsor a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program (SWPPP) [training class](#) on Thursday, **Aug. 7** at the offices of Hensel Phelps Construction, 226 Airport Parkway, Suite 150 in San Jose. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m., and the class begins at 8 a.m. For more information, contact Kristin Fracisco at (925) 827-2422.

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MATERIALS

AGC PUSHES FOR SONOMA COUNTY MINING EXTENSION:

As part of an ongoing effort to preserve and enhance local supplies of construction materials, AGC members testified July 8 before the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors in support of Syar Industries' request to amend its Aggregate Resources Management Plan and extend its surface mining operation. The operation has been running for years, and numerous studies and mitigations have been conducted. AGC members argued that shutting down the facility will result in great inconvenience, higher construction costs and additional pollution from increased truck and barge traffic. All those additional costs amount to a hidden tax on all county residents, AGC argued. Upon hearing the testimony, the Board postponed action on the matter until sometime in August. For more information, contact **Russell Snyder** at (925) 827-2422.



Many construction industry representatives were on hand July 8 to support Syar Industries' surface mining permit extension before packed hearing of the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

YERBA BUENA ENGINEERING & CONSTRUCTION: The new and improved AGC of California website now includes a "[Member Spotlight](#)" of AGC member companies that are demonstrating leadership in the industry. This month's profile is of San Francisco Bay Area District member Yerba Buena Engineering & Construction, which has worked on numerous high-profile jobs recently. Visit the [AGC website](#) to stay current on the latest construction industry news, events, AGC services and more.