

OUTLOOK 2008

ALL-STAR PANEL HIGHLIGHTS EVENT IN SAN JOSE: “Outlook 2008,” a panel discussion of the Bay Area market for construction in the coming year and jointly produced by AGC and McGraw Hill Construction, will be held Wednesday, **Feb. 6** from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. at the Corinthian Event Center in downtown San Jose. The speakers include: **Clifford Ham**, principal architect, State Judicial Council, Office of Court Construction; **J. Stuart Eckblad**, director of design and construction for the UCSF Medical Center; **Damir Priskich**, director of development for Westrust; and **Cliff Brewis**, senior director of editorial operations and economist for McGraw Hill Construction. For more information or to reserve your spot, download the [event flier](#) or contact **Rachel Morris** at (925) 827-2422.

AGC-CALTRANS DISTRICT 4 LIAISON

COMMITTEE GOING STRONG: The AGC-Caltrans District 4 Liaison Committee meets quarterly to discuss issues and opportunities for improvement for both owner and construction companies. It complements the statewide AGC-Caltrans meeting that meets quarterly in Sacramento. The industry co-chair of the Bay Area committee is **Brian Stopper** of R&L Brosamer, who is joined by Caltrans Deputy District Director for Construction **Bob Finney**. Recent agenda topics have included Owner-Controlled Insurance Programs, constructability reviews, prompt responses to bidder inquiries and equipment rental rates. The next scheduled meeting is set to take place on Friday, **March 14** from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Caltrans District 4 Construction Field Office in Richmond. Questions about the committee should be directed to **Russell Snyder** at (925) 827-2422.



Industry and owner representatives, including Dave Niece from FCI (back to camera), tackle important industry issues at a recent AGC-Caltrans District 4 Liaison Committee meeting.

BAY AREA BRIEFING

Page 2

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

CYPRESS MANDELA JOB- TRAINING PROGRAM: Bob

Schwab from Mitchell Engineering was the keynote speaker at the Jan. 18 graduation ceremony in Oakland for the Cypress Mandela Pre-Apprenticeship Job Training Program in Oakland. Schwab commended the graduates for their dedication, and noted that “opportunity knocks, but temptation leans on the doorbell.” AGC, Caltrans and many other partners help fund the program to train young adults in the skills needed to succeed as a construction trade worker. Since its formation in 1993, the program has graduated more than 1,600 young people from the 16-week program.



Attending the Jan. 18 Cypress Mandela graduation ceremony in Oakland were, from left, Caltrans District 4 Chief Deputy Director Dan McElhinney, Bessie Papailias, compliance officer with the Port of Oakland, and Bob Schwab with Mitchell Engineering.

CALTRANS CONTRACTOR OUTREACH

EMERYVILLE EVENT FOCUSES ON 880 WORK: Caltrans District 4 will hold a subcontractor and small business outreach event on Thursday, **Feb. 14** at the Woodfin Suites Hotel, 5800 Shellmound, Emeryville from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The goal is to publicize the contracting opportunities surrounding the 880 improvement project at 5th Avenue, which includes replacing and modifying ramps and other work. For more information, call **Brian White** of Caltrans at (510) 286-5825.



Tyrrell

WELCOME ABOARD

TYRRELL JOINS AGC STAFF: **Charmaine Tyrrell** recently joined the AGC staff in Northern California as membership manager, and her duties include helping to recruit new members in the Bay Area. AGC met its membership growth goals statewide for 2007, and is planning for another successful year in 2008. Tyrrell comes to AGC from the Building Industry Association, where she was well-known and respected within the construction industry. She is a lifelong resident of Stockton, where she lives with her husband and daughter. She will be splitting time between AGC’s West Sacramento and Concord offices. Because she’s often on the go, the best way to reach her is by her mobile phone: (209) 981-9558.

BAY AREA BRIEFING

Page 3

WORKZONE SAFETY

DOUBLE TRAGEDY: At the Jan. 18 graduation ceremony in Oakland of the latest Cypress Mandela Pre-Apprenticeship Program, a moment of silence was held in memory of **Djuan Bush**, 24, of Oakland, who died late last year. Bush, a 2004 graduate of the Cypress Mandela program, was hired by Caltrans as a maintenance worker in 2005. He died as a result of injuries sustained when he was struck by a motorist while repairing guardrail in Dublin. The tragedy underscored the importance of reminding motorists to drive safely in highway work zones. A public awareness campaign spearheaded by Caltrans, [Slow for the Cone Zone](#), is gaining renewed importance.

REBUILDING A BRIDGE

ACC MOVES FORWARD ON 680: Now that AGC member Kiewit Pacific has finished the glorious new bridge on the 680 freeway between Benicia and Martinez, AGC member American Civil Constructors is proceeding with a joint venture contract to rehabilitate the former northbound lanes of the old Benicia-Martinez bridge and add a bike lane. The AGC Industrial Relations Department-North recently conducted a pre-job meeting at the jobsite for ACC on the \$22 million project. The new \$1.2 billion, 11.6-mile long bridge built by Kiewit opened last August and immediately eliminated one of the worst traffic bottlenecks in the Bay Area. It features dedicated “FasTrak” electronic toll collection lanes, which allow commuters to zip past at freeway speeds, and a futuristic-looking toll plaza.



ACC Project Manager Eck Senivongs (left) and AGC Contract Administrator Cherri Smith inspect the 680 bridge project in Benicia.

MEMBER NEWS

WALTER & PRINCE, LLP: Longtime AGC North Bay District member The Walter Law Firm of Novato has changed its name to Walter & Prince, <http://www.walterlaw.com>/LLP. The phone number, (707) 431-7900 and address remain the same.