

EAST BAY-S.F. HOLIDAY LUNCHEON

INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS ARE

HOT TOPIC: Assemblyman **Mark DeSaulnier**, D-Martinez, a member of the Assembly Transportation Committee, said the state must put infrastructure bond money to work “as quickly and as efficiently as possible” to maintain public confidence in government. Speaking at AGC’s joint East Bay-San Francisco holiday luncheon Dec. 7 in Alamo, DeSaulnier called project delivery of projects financed by a 2006 infrastructure bond an “absolute imperative.” **Jim Bourgart**, deputy secretary for the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency, also said Caltrans and the Schwarzenegger administration is committed to improving transportation as quickly as possible.



Assemblyman Mark DeSaulnier addresses AGC members as BT&H Deputy Secretary Jim Bourgart looks on.

‘SNEAK PEEK’ AT CALTRANS JOBS



CALTRANS ADDS PROJECT PREVIEW TO WEB: Caltrans District 4, which serves the San Francisco Bay Area, has added to its website a “sneak peek” of upcoming projects. Construction Chief **Bob Finney** said the goal is to provide as much advanced planning time for contractors who may wish to bid on the work. Follow the link to the [Caltrans District 4 website](#) for more information, or call Finney at (510) 286-5896.

RISK MANAGEMENT

SEMINAR TO BE HELD IN EMERYVILLE: Legal strategies to manage risk will be the topic of a seminar being produced by McGraw Hill Construction on Thursday, **Jan. 17** from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. at the Hilton Garden Inn in Emeryville. Guest speakers include **Mike O’Brien**, senior vice president and general manager for Turner Construction in Northern California, and San Jose Public Works Director **Katy Allen**. AGC members who attend the breakfast seminar will receive a 25 percent discount. For more information, view the [event flier](#) or contact **Laurie Foster** of McGraw Hill at (206) 378-4701.

BAY AREA BRIEFING

Page 2

NORTH BAY HOLIDAY LUNCHEON

ANTI-BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

NOTED: Former Air Resources Board Chairman **John Dunlap** blamed the current atmosphere of “arrogance” by regulators as contributing to onerous new regulations adopted over the summer to clamp down on off-road diesel emissions. Dunlap, speaking at the Dec. 12 AGC North Bay District holiday luncheon in Rohnert Park, urged contractors to be sure they are in compliance with the new regulations lest they face painful fines. Another featured speaker, Healdsburg Mayor **Lisa Wittke Schaffner**, outlined the local political landscape in Sonoma County and said business interests “are in trouble” in the 2008 election cycle. Former Santa Rosa Mayor **Sharon Wright**, a candidate for county supervisor, also attended and thanked AGC for its endorsement of her candidacy. The event, titled “Who Killed the Construction Industry?” was made possible by the generous sponsorship of [Marsh Risk & Insurance Services](#).



Attendees at the AGC North Bay holiday luncheon included, from left, former Santa Rosa Mayor Sharon Wright, AGC Board Member Bill Currie of Shamrock Materials, Bruce Okrepkie of ABD Insurance and Financial Services, Healdsburg Mayor Lisa Wittke Schaffner, AGC Board Member Walt Johnson of K.G. Walters Construction and John Dunlap. Not pictured: Jeff Prevost representing event sponsor Marsh Risk and Insurance Services.



Fracisco

WELCOME ABOARD

FRACISCO JOINS AGC STAFF: **Kristen Fracisco** recently joined the AGC Concord Office staff as district secretary for the Santa Clara and Monterey districts, replacing **Cherri Smith**, who was promoted to Contract Administrator/Office Manager for the Industrial Relations Department-North. Fracisco is a graduate of California State University, Chico, with a bachelor’s degree in communications and a minor in event planning. She previously was an intern at a New York event planning company, and in 2007 was assistant general coordinator for the Gold Cup major league soccer tournament.

SAVE THE DATE

CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY FORECAST TO BE HELD IN SAN JOSE: “Outlook 2008,” a panel discussion of the market for construction in the coming year and jointly produced by AGC and McGraw Hill Construction, will be held Wednesday, **Feb. 6** at the Corinthian Event Center in San Jose. For more information or to reserve your spot, contact **Rachel Morris** at (925) 827-2422.

BAY AREA BRIEFING

Page 3

AGC CARES

AGC SUPPORTS ANNUAL 'TOYS FOR TOTS' CAMPAIGN: AGC members donated a truckload of toys and presented a check to a representative of the U.S. Marine Corps on Dec. 7 to support the annual "Toys for Tots" drive to provide toys for needy children. Generous AGC Bay Area members made the contribution during the annual holiday luncheon at the Round Hill Country Club in Alamo. AGC is recipient of the Marine Corps Reserve "Commanders Award" for its annual support for the holiday fundraiser. AGC East Bay Chairman **Blaise Fettig** of Vortex Marine Construction, Inc. made the presentation on behalf of AGC members at the annual holiday luncheon at the Round Hill Country Club.



AGC East Bay Chairman Blaise Fettig of Vortex Marine Construction, Inc. (left) presents a check to U.S. Marine Corps Staff Sgt. Brian Banko to benefit the "Toys for Tots" holiday charity.



Pictured, from left, at the Nov. 1 check presentation are: Mike Thomas from Hartnell College; John Bosio from Salinas Steel Builders and Monterey Bay District Chairman; Catherine Escobar from Escobar & Escobar Concrete Construction; AGC Workforce Development Director Sabrina Watts; AGC District Manager Phil Varni; Phoebe Knight Helm, interim president of Hartnell College; and Aaron Johnson of the Hartnell College Board.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

HARTNELL COLLEGE GETS A BOOST: AGC's Monterey Bay District and AGC's Education Foundation recently presented a \$10,000 check to support the career technical education program at [Hartnell College](#). AGC members have taken a leadership role in supporting programs at the high school and community college level throughout the state that encourage young people to pursue careers in the construction industry. The check presentation took place at the Hartnell College campus in Salinas and several dignitaries were present.