



“In the Works”

Striving to be the Leading Public Works Department Through Innovative Stewardship of Infrastructure and Environment

Stanislaus County
Public Works

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New from Transit — Integrated Technology Solutions

Submitted by Darla Moen

The Public Works Transit Division staff is eager to integrate smart, reliable and convenient Integrated Technology Solutions (ITS) throughout our service area in order to help our passengers reach their destinations and allow them control of their transit experience.

As part of our ITS, Transit staff is actively pursuing real time technology, also known as automatic vehicle locator (AVL). AVL systems are widely used in the transit industry as a way to track where buses are in the field. AVL systems feature two major parts: Global Positioning Systems (GPS) on board each bus that track the real-time location of the bus, and software that displays the location of the buses on a map for passengers view as well as dispatcher's facilitation of each route. This new technology will enable riders to use smart mobile devices to see the location of their bus and get an estimated time of arrival in real time at their fingertips. In addition, passengers will have the ability to text the bus stop number to a designated phone number and get real time arrival information as well. Stanislaus County Transit will also use AVL to automatically display the corresponding destination sign to each route.

Stanislaus County Transit will also implement automatic voice announcement (AVA) which will make fixed route stop announcements along the route. This is required under the federal Americans With Disabilities Act, making transit more accessible for everyone.

In addition, StaRT Buses will also be equipped with automatic passenger counters (APC). APC systems electronically count the number of passengers that board and alight at every bus stop allowing Transit staff to make informed decisions when planning route changes. The APC controller senses when the doors are open, counting passenger data and assigning the counts to a stop location which provides a wealth of usable data on ridership.

This advanced technology will allow drivers a one-point login to access ITS equipment on the vehicles including: fareboxes, automatic vehicle locators (AVL), next stop announcement systems, automatic passenger counters (APC), headsights, and cameras. It also provides relevant information, contributing to StaRT's goal of efficiency and improving the customer experience.



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"Health & Safety Byte" **Safety is no accident!**



Word of the Quarter **Charity**

Ethics Quotes
Felix Adler
“To care for anyone else enough to make their problems one’s own, is ever the beginning of one’s real ethical development.”



What are Crash Attenuators?

Submitted by Randy Avants

Crash attenuators (also known as a crash cushion) are mobile safety devices that are designed to protect road maintenance crews and emergency response personnel from vehicular impact by absorbing the colliding vehicle's kinetic energy. The crash attenuators are designed to compress and fold up in sequence to reduce the impact to both vehicles. (See photo on right). There are several different manufacturers that design and build them. Crash attenuators are made in two different styles/types. One is a trailer mounted version which is pulled by a host vehicle and the other is a truck mounted style that folds up when traveling.



Trailer mounted version



When the County's Safety Committee approved our request for funding of these units, Morgan Shop staff researched the different styles and manufacturers. In collaboration with our Road Operations division staff, Morgan Shop staff agreed on the "Scorpion" model. The decision was made to purchase three

Scorpion trailers and one Scorpion truck mount. All of the crash attenuators come with a programmable message board attached to the units.

Scorpion trailers are more versatile and can be towed by a host vehicle with a minimum 10,000 pounds gross vehicle weight (GVW) allowing Public Works to utilize the host vehicles for other uses when not pulling the crash attenuators. The truck mounted attenuator will be mounted on our four-door Peterbilt flatbed truck. In the future Morgan Shop staff will be researching and considering the purchase/design of "flag trucks" with a GVW that allows them to pull the Scorpion trailers also.

Truck mounted version



In an effort to protect our employees and the motoring public to the best of our ability, we are excited to offer the training and use of this equipment to all of our personnel at Morgan Road. Some of the uses we expect to see for these units are protection for our street sweeping crews who regularly sweep our bridges in the early hours before daylight. Additionally, we want to implement them into our pothole patching, centerline striping, surveying, and any projects that exist on major roadways that remain open to traffic.

A HUGE thank you to the Safety Committee and Morgan Shop staff for their assistance in the purchase, delivery, and installation of this important safety tool!

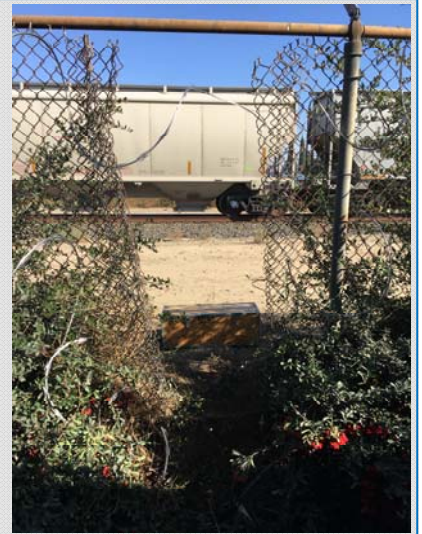


As of this writing, two of the units are in use. (See photo above of one of the units).

Break-ins at 1716 Morgan Road Submitted by David Leamon

During the first two weeks of December, the Morgan Road yard was broken in to multiple times over a week and a half, culminating in the weekend of December 9th and 10th. During that weekend it is estimated that the losses from the weekend were at least \$22,000 between theft and damage. As observed in the photo on the right, the pyracantha, concertina wire, and fence were all cut through neatly and workman-like as if they were not there.

Our secured lock up pole barn, had the locks broken off the gates and the trucks inside the area were rummaged through. The carpenter shop, where the electrical supplies were kept, was broken into and the locks snapped off. Keith Wilcox wound up welding the sliding doors shut to keep the burglars from burgling the goods contained within.



An improvised man door



Truck No. 1111—Burgled

In order to mitigate the losses in materials and time from repairing the damages we implemented a full-time guard at night by Ontel Security. The Sheriff's Department deployed some high tech cameras along the fence line where the break-ins occurred. To date, the perpetrators of the burglaries have not been apprehended.

Additionally, we are exploring the option of building a 10-foot high masonry wall along the east and south sides of the yard where the break-ins have occurred. No security system is 100 percent effective. The plan is to increase the difficulty and decrease the desirability of breaking into our corporation yard.

Great Partnership— Ladd Road Railroad Tracks

“Matt & Company,

I wanted to take a minute of your time today to say THANK YOU for your efforts and work on the Stewart and Ladd Roads railroad crossings. Your people on site were great, friendly and a joy to interact with. The process was efficient, effective and organized.

The paving is excellent!

Thank you for your willingness to work with our community efforts. I know it was a sacrifice and time consuming, but in the end, our neighborhood is a better place to live because of you and the employees of the Stanislaus County Road Division as a whole.

The people of the Del Rio Community are grateful to you for helping and assisting in this combined project.

Thank you,
Bret de St. Jeor
Del Rio Property Owners Association”



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Stanislaus Regional Transit

StaRT

Transit Division's website is:

www.srt.org

For route info call **StaRT** at
1-800-262-1516



Follow us on Twitter @dpwmachado

FLEX-ED

New Flex Schedules
Submitted by Amber Gomes

During the County's Annual Employee Engagement Survey, many Public Works employees expressed that working a flexible schedule would make their job more enjoyable. Public Works is excited to offer employees flexible schedules beginning January 1, 2018.

Employees are able to choose a flex schedule that works for their own circumstances. The schedules will also benefit the public since our Morgan Road office will now be open from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. These extended hours will allow customers to come in before work, or after they get off work. Both the department and the employees are looking forward to this implementation.

**BE WORK
ZONE ALERT**

UNITED WAY ANNUAL CAMPAIGN

United Way has partnered with Stanislaus County, City of Modesto, and Health Plan of San Joaquin to create **The Power of Four**. This campaign began on October 27th and concluded on November 8th. Our department donated **\$1,604** this year. Way to go!!



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ANNUAL HOLIDAY PROJECT

Annually, the Public Works department has a holiday project. This year, we took a vote and selected to donate to the Community Hospice Foundation. Our department donated **\$1,480**. Wow!!



Stanislaus County 



What is 2-1-1?

2-1-1 is a referral line that connects people to vital services provided by a range of non-profit and government agencies. Calling 2-1-1 saves time as they have access to a wide range of services for every day needs and in times of crisis such as:

- ♦ Food banks & hot meals
- ♦ Shelters
- ♦ Rent assistance
- ♦ Utility assistance
- ♦ Health care services
- ♦ Crisis intervention
- ♦ Substance abuse intervention & rehabilitation
- ♦ Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) assistance
- ♦ Transportation assistance
- ♦ Child care
- ♦ Head Start Centers
- ♦ Services for seniors
- ♦ Disaster recovery
- ♦ Job training & education

Public Works Staff Updates

Promotions:

- ♦ **Annette Borrelli** (Transit Division) has been promoted to Manager III on 10/16/17.
- ♦ **Sang Nguyen** (Design Engineering) has been promoted to Assistant Engineer on 10/16/17.

Congratulations!

New Employees:

- ♦ **Roland Millan Aguilar** (Road Maintenance Worker I) joined our Roads/Bridges team on 10/2/17.
- ♦ **Maria Hermenegildo** (Administrative Clerk III) joined our Development Services/Transit team on 10/16/17.

Welcome!

New Granddaughter:

- ♦ **Frederic Clark** (Deputy Director, Development Services) has a new granddaughter named Ellowyn Miceli born on 10/29/17.

Best wishes!

KUDOS TO OUR ROADSTEAM!!

Mike W. contacted us about several severe potholes on Washington Road between Taylor and Zeering. "On the way home, I found the potholes had been filled! Wonderful service!"

Mr. and Mrs. B. came into our office concerned about shoulder damage spreading to the center-line. Scott P. was contacted and took care of the problem immediately, even before the couple got home. Mrs. B. called to say how happy they were with the service. She stated they were treated with "grace and respect."

Louie P. called requesting pothole repairs on Roeding Road. He wanted to thank the Roads crew for doing a great job, and he is very happy with the timely response and the job well done!