

"In the Works"

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

Free Ride Campaign!

Written by Annette Borelli

The Free Ride Campaign is a partnership promotion which includes the four transit providers in Stanislaus County, Ceres Area Transit (CAT), Stanislaus County Regional Transit (StaRT), Modesto Area Express (MAX). All rides on all fixed route buses and the BART Commuter bus service will be free for passengers during the entire month of July 2019, as part of the partner-

ship, free ride promotion.

Funding for this partnership, free ride promotion is made possible through a grant funded by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) under the Low Carbon **Transit** Operations Program (LCTOP). LCTOP was created to provide operating and capital assistance for transit agencies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve mobility, with a priority on serving



disadvantaged communities.

This is a great opportunity working in tandem with all the systems in our region offering these free rides in July. This will give community residents the opportunity to experience how easy and convenient it is to get around Stanislaus County.

Stanislaus County Public Works

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Transit Division's website is: <u>www.srt.org</u> For route info call *StaRT* at 1-800-262-1516

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You are always responsible for how you act, no matter how you feel. Remember that.

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Summertime is here, and our road crews are up early and fast at work preparing for our annual chip seal project! Each year, we prepare and place miles of chip seal to ensure the maximum life span of our roads. While there are many methods of rejuvenating and maintaining our roads, the type of treatment depends greatly on the condition of the existing road. For our chip seal project, a list of roads is compiled for the following year's work. This list is a combined effort amongst engineering staff, operations staff and the public's input from problem areas.

With the list of roads in hand, the field work begins each year early in the spring with field measurements and evaluation of existing conditions. Each and every segment of a road way is measured from edge to edge and beginning to end. If the road narrows or widens along various locations, we need to know to ensure the most accurate of information for material ordering. We also identify locations throughout the area to stockpile our materials prior to construction for ease of handling. We may have up to 8 stockpile locations to minimize the travel time and handling time of materials when construction is underway.

Marty Harper

 Cack Ramsdell

As final material totals are tallied and quotes for oil and chip are being requested from our local vendors, the operations crews are out preparing the roads. Preparation includes grading adjustments to shoulders and drain swales along the road side to improve rain runoff from accumulating on the road. In some locations, a property owner may have landscaping of grass or tree limbs encroaching into our right of way. We will trim and cut back as needed to provide a clean work area for our crews, as well as our traveling public. With a clear path, the patch crews are not far behind and are placing hot asphalt to fix potholes, broken edges and low spots in the road. In the really bad areas, the issues are not isolated to a small pothole-sized area. The larger areas require a more gradual transition to even out those bad areas for a smoother ride and less impact to the road. We repair those areas by a method referred to as "blade patching". This involves dumping/spreading hot asphalt in those low, bad spots and using a road grader's blade to level the area, and finish with a steel drum roller.

2019 Chip Seal Season

As the roads take shape, our engineers, administration and Board of Supervisors have approved the lowest price for this year's materials. The rock (chip material) will be ordered and hauled to the various stock pile locations and chipping season can officially begin. All operations staff pre-meet at our corp yard to go over the sequence of work, roles, responsibilities and most importantly, safety. After the crews mobilize to the roads, an assembly line system is set up. When traffic control is in place, the sweepers/brooms lead the operations with a final road cleanup. The oil spreaders follow behind spraying oil across all surfaces receiving the chip rock. Next, the chip machine spreading the rock evenly across the oiled areas. As this machine moves along, dump trucks full of the rock are staged along the road side waiting to be the next load for a continuous supply for the chip machine. This is a highly coordinated effort amongst all crews: some leading and other trailing to ensure the oil and rock are placed exactly where intended and consistently. Crew members are watching for obstructions such as low power and communication lines across the road and others manually sweeping loose rock to the shoulder. The next day, a final sweep of the chipped areas is done and traffic control moved to the next road. The final order of work for that segment is performed by the traffic crew that re-stripes the lane lines, pavement markings and stop lines.



Jason Lundquist

2019 Chip Seal

Roads: <u>105 Miles</u> Surface Area: <u>11.3 Million Square Feet</u> Emulsion Asphalt (oil): <u>310,000 Gallons</u> 1/4 Inch Chip Rock: <u>9,6000 Tons</u>

Public Works Staff Updates



2019 **Service Awards**

25 Years of Service

Brian England Jorge Molina Scott Pendleton

20 Years of Service

Linda Allsop

15 Years of Service

Sharon Andrews **Brett Ernest** Jorge Molina Eric Moore Wayne McConnell James Spoonemore Keith Wilcox

10 Years of Service

Jason Lundquist Marco Valdez **5 Years of Service**

Francis Baldonado Patrick Brunn **Brian Conroy** James De Jong Tate Hoffman Matt Lester Les Stachura **Barlow Taylor**



New Employee

Name

Position

Start

Patty Ramirez	Engineering Tech	5/11/2019
Steven Bento	Road Maintenance Worker I	5/28/2019
Cory Morais	Road Maintenance Worker I	5/28/2019
Jesse Torres	Road Maintenance Worker I	5/28/2019
Christian Avila	Account Clerk II	6/25/2019
Sarah Collins	Associate Civil Engineer	7/8/2019
Cindy Sather-Reale	Admin Clerk III	7/8/2019
	Promotions	
Name	Promoted to	<u>Start</u>
Maria Hermenegildo	Staff Services Analyst	3/30/2019
Kyle Heiny	Road Maintenance Worker I	5/25/2019
Elena Locarnini	Accountant III	6/8/2019
Olivia Tanner	Accountant II	7/8/2019
Ramon Salinas	Assistant Engineer	7/8/2019