

# **STANISLAUS COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS**



## **2020 ANNUAL REPORT**



Photo from [www.wonderopolis.org](http://www.wonderopolis.org)

Cover Photo: Diablo Grande Parkway Asphalt Rubber Chip Seal Project during fire season.



**Inside this issue:**

Mission, Vision, Leadership	4
Letter from the Director	5
Administration, Human Resources	6
Finance	7
Projects	8
Stormwater	12
Development Services	13
Transit	14
Morgan Road Shop	19
Survey	21
Board of Supervisors	24
Contact Information	25



**Mission:**

Manage and improve infrastructure through safe and efficient use of resources and assets for the benefit of our citizens.

**Vision:**

Strive to be the leading Public Works Department through innovative stewardship of infrastructure and environment.

**Leadership:**

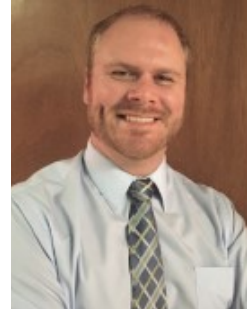
**Dave Leamon,**  
Director



**Chris Brady,**  
Deputy Director-  
Survey, Design  
Engineering, and  
Morgan Shop



**Frederic Clark,**  
Deputy Director-  
Development  
Services, Traffic,  
and Stormwater



**Collin Yerzy,**  
Deputy Director-  
Road Operations  
and Construction  
Engineering



**Tracie Madison,**  
Senior Business  
and Finance  
Manager



**Tate Hoffman,**  
Morgan Shop  
Manager



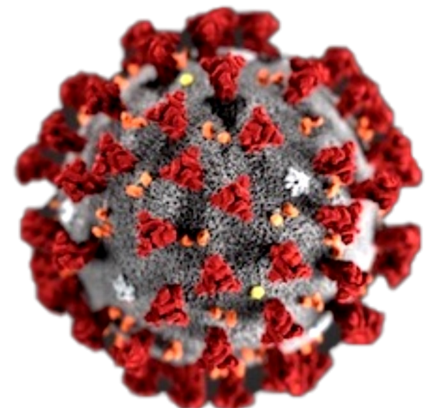
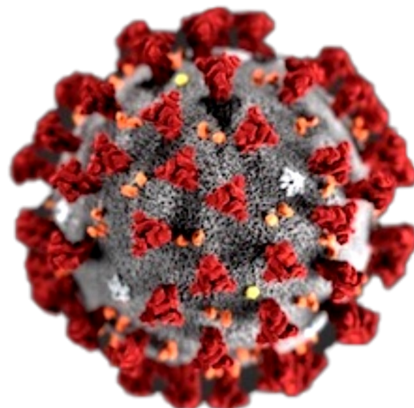
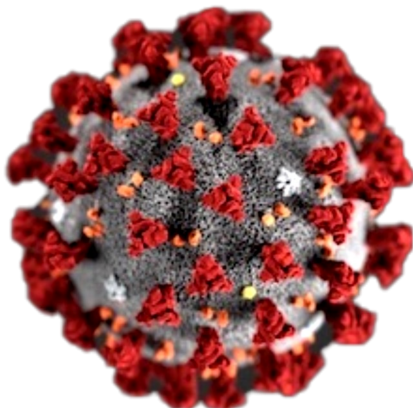
**Amber Gomes,**  
Human Resources  
Manager



**Randy Avants,**  
Road Operations  
Manager



**Annette Borelli,**  
Transit Manager





# LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR:

2020 was an interesting year for sure. On March 19, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsome issued an emergency proclamation and all workers except for essential workers went home. For Public Works this meant most of us were working at 1716 Morgan Road. The Roads workers are essential for public health and safety and they must work in-person every day – out on County Roads keeping our vital roads system well-functioning. Public Works Shop was in-person everyday working on the County's heavy equipment for multiple departments. Finance never went remote as our software, WinCAMS is unusable remotely. Our Engineers and Surveyors who operate on CAD super computers were never remote as the software does not run on average personal computers. Administration was on-site to support the rest of Public Works. Development Services learned quickly how to best serve our One-Stop shop customers in conjunction with Building and Planning. The Transit Division dealt with many challenges, a 90% drop in passengers and learning how to service their customers through the pandemic. I am impressed and thankful for the perseverance, grit, and hard work through difficult times that Public Works staff exhibited during 2020.

Public Works never shut our doors to the public during 2020. This, however, is not surprising, as we receive maybe 3-5 calls for service at our front desk per week. The plan was to shut the doors if we started getting many visitors, but we never did, so we stayed open for local surveyors and engineers to drop off plans or for other business they may have with Public Works right through the surges.

## Highlights from 2020:

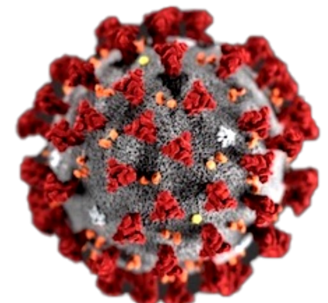
- Santa Fe Bridge, a seismic safety bridge replacement project, was opened to the public.
- Public Works made our goal of 150 miles of roads treated by performing a pavement preservation treatment on 156.14 miles of County Roads.
- Public Works Roads met the goal of 750 miles of striping by re-striping 1021 miles of County roads.

The 2020 Annual Report was delayed by about 18 months in the madness of the last 2 years. Thanks to Denae Davis, who worked on this abbreviated and tardy annual report for Public Works.

I would like to thank the Chief Executive Office and the Board of Supervisors for all their support throughout the year of 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

David A. Leamon, PE, MBA  
Public Works Director and Road Commissioner





# Administration and Human Resources Divisions

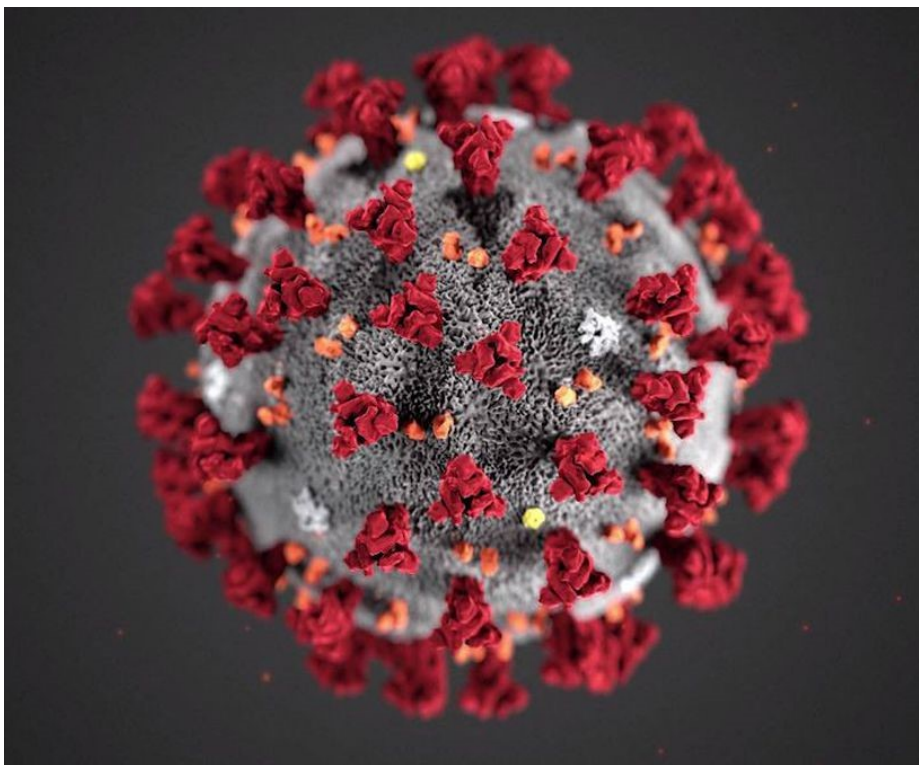
The Administration Division provides leadership, operational coordination, human resources support, safety program, and policy development for all Public Works' divisions. Human Resources is responsible for Recruitments and Onboarding, Benefits Management, Pre-Employment and Background Process, Investigations, Interactive Process and Medical Work Restriction Agreements, COVID-19 Family Leave, ADA/Civil Rights Complaints, Leave of Absence, EEO and ADA Compliance, Employee Relations, Personnel Action Forms, OSHA, Safety, and Training Compliances, and Board Agenda items.

The average Board Agenda item takes 6 weeks to adopt. Every Board Agenda Item goes through multiple levels of review before making it onto the Board of Supervisors Meeting Agenda. The Administrative Division processed 72 Board Items that were adopted.

The Administration Division also processed and assigned 1,499 concerns or work requests opened through the Government Outreach portal.

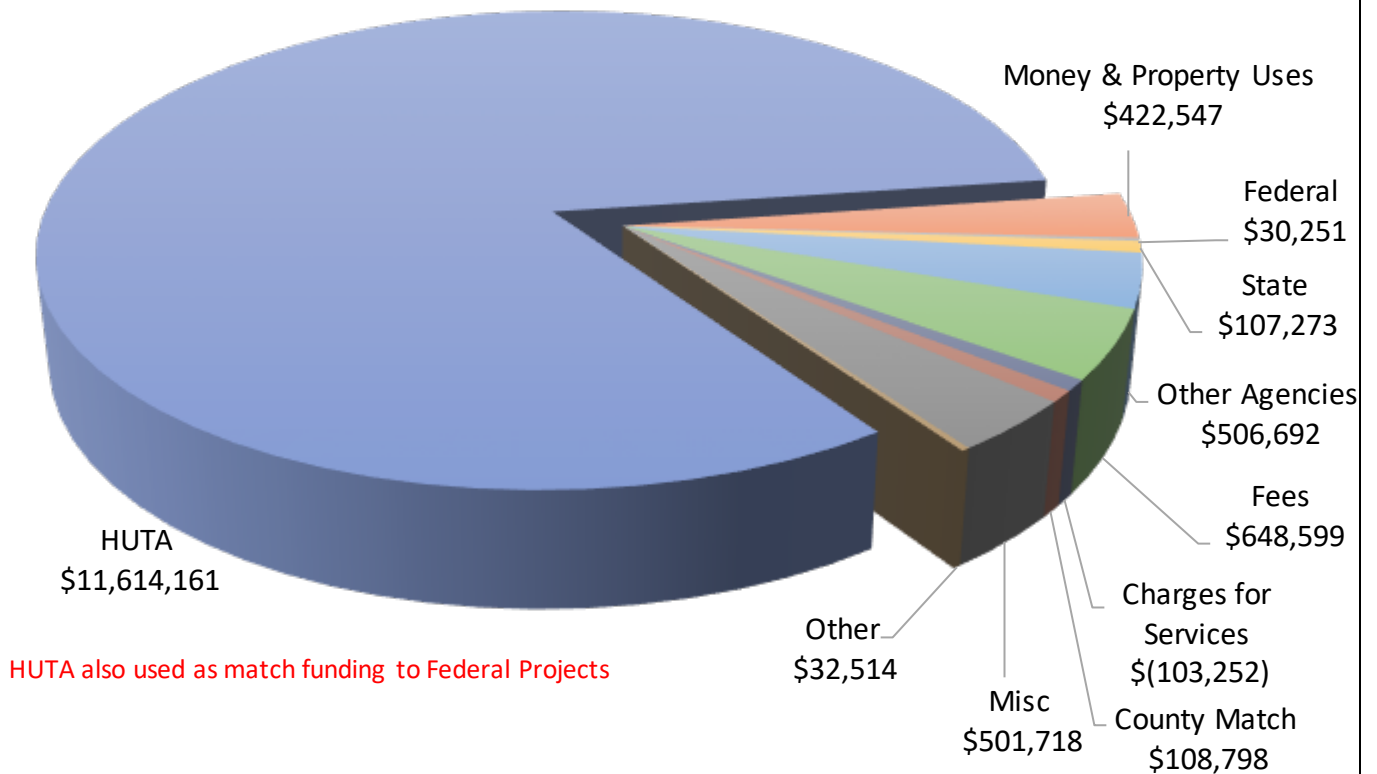
In 2020, the Human Resources Division hired two road maintenance workers, one heavy equipment mechanic, one personal service contract (PSC) for CSA's and another PSC for construction. Human Resources also processed seven retirements, transferal of four employees from other County agencies to Public Works, and three internal promotions.

Administration and Human Resources worked collaboratively to process and implement new guidelines, policies, and restrictions related to COVID-19, social distancing, teleworking, and transitioning many functions of Public Works staff to an online format. Human Resources also assisted the Office of Emergency Services by temporarily lending Public Works staff to support the County efforts in responding to COVID-19.

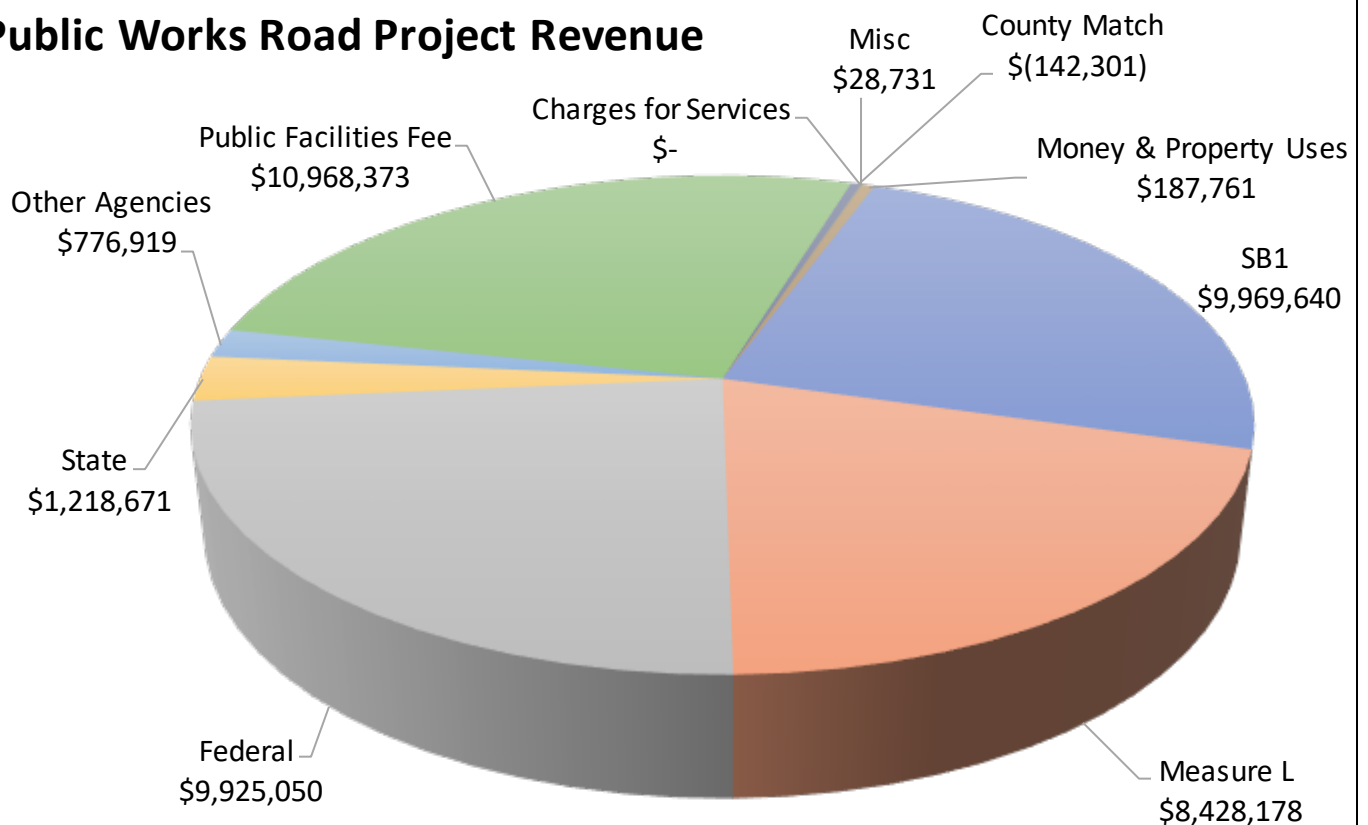


# Finance

## Roads Operations Revenue



## Public Works Road Project Revenue





# Diablo Grande Parkway Asphalt Rubber Chip Seal Project



The Diablo Grande Parkway Asphalt Rubber Chip Seal Project is located in Stanislaus County, southwest of the City of Patterson. Project limits are Diablo Grande Parkway from the western right-of-way limits of Interstate 5 to the Diablo Grande Golf and Country Club security gate.



The project included an asphalt rubber chip seal and flush coat placed over the existing pavement followed by new painted striping. The purpose of the project was to preserve the existing pavement. The asphalt rubber chip seal will add 10 years to the life of the existing pavement.



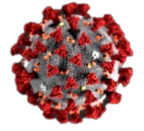
# 2019 ADA Curb Ramp Project



A Measure L funded project replaced 99 ADA curb ramps in the Denair, Del Rio, and the Cowan Tract in SW Ceres areas of Stanislaus County. This project allowed us to meet the requirement to bring existing ADA curb ramps up to current Caltrans standards in locations of multiple layer pavement preservation treatments. Construction started March 20, 2020 and was completed July 27, 2020.







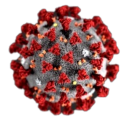
# 2020 Albers Road Pavement Rehabilitation Project

The 2020 Albers Road Pavement Rehabilitation Project is funded by SB1. Construction started May 28, 2020 and was completed on August 17, 2020.





# Carpenter Road and Whitmore Avenue Intersection Project



The Carpenter Road and Whitmore Avenue intersection is located in Stanislaus County approximately 0.75 miles southwest of the City of Modesto. The project proposes to install a traffic signal at the existing Carpenter Road at Whitmore Avenue intersection. The intersection will be widened to accommodate existing and projected traffic and to provide lane transitions and shoulder area. Each approach will provide a left-turn pocket and a combination through-right turn lane. Widening and required transitions will extend from the center of the intersection approximately 1,200 feet in all directions. The improved roadway sections will be restriped and signed in accordance with County and State standards.

The purpose of this project is to improve traffic safety and flow through the Carpenter Road/ Whitmore Avenue intersection for current and future traffic conditions, while minimizing the impacts of these improvements on adjacent lands and facilities to the extent feasible. The project is being pursued under the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) Program. The objective of the CMAQ program is to support surface transportation projects and other related efforts that contribute to air quality improvements and provide congestion relief.

To accommodate lane transitions on the southbound Carpenter Road approach, the project would replace an existing bridge that crosses TID Lateral No. 1 with a box culvert. The project will require grading of the existing undeveloped County Right-Of-Way. Existing pavement areas may be removed and replaced or rehabilitated. Road construction will involve excavation to establish subgrades for roadway reconstruction, road widening, and sign and signal structure foundations.



# STORMWATER



2020 was an interesting and surprisingly productive year for the Stormwater Division of Public Works. With half of our staff working from home, we were still able to maintain compliance with Stanislaus County's NPDES Stormwater Permit from the State Water Board. Routine work consisted of reviewing improvement plans for new development and redevelopment prior to the issuance of building permits, performing inspections at construction sites, investigating reports from residents of pollutants discharged to the County's storm drain system, and auditing our own municipal practices to ensure that they are protective of the environment.

We completed several significant projects that will protect water quality in the County's creeks and rivers in the years to come:

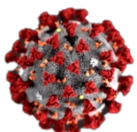
In April 2020, the County completed the first phase of a Prop 1 Disadvantaged Communities Involvement Grant from the Department of Water Resources. This work included the selection of ten potential groundwater recharge project sites and the development of an initial GIS database in the Dry Creek Watershed. This is the first step in alleviating flooding of disadvantaged communities in the lower reaches of Dry Creek and along the Tuolumne River.

In May 2020, the Stormwater Division applied for and received additional funding under the Prop 1 Disadvantaged Communities Involvement Grant to begin Phase II of the Dry Creek Study. Phase II work included conducting an alternative analysis of the ten potential project sites identified in Phase I and the selection of two or three of the most promising sites for further environmental studies, land acquisition, and design development.

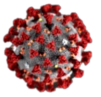
Staff continued to review applications for cannabis cultivation permits and worked closely with the Department of Environmental Resources and the Planning Department to develop mitigations to protect local water quality and the County's storm drain system from pollutants associated with cannabis cultivation activities.

Consulting staff conducted dry weather quality monitoring in October 2020 at locations throughout the County. The lab data produced from this monitoring will help the County identify and prioritize water quality issues and focus efforts on the areas of greatest need.

Staff began writing the County's pyrethroid management plan in response to an order received from the State Water Board. The plan will focus on activities the County will perform to help mitigate the threat of pyrethroid pesticides in local creeks and rivers.



# Development Services

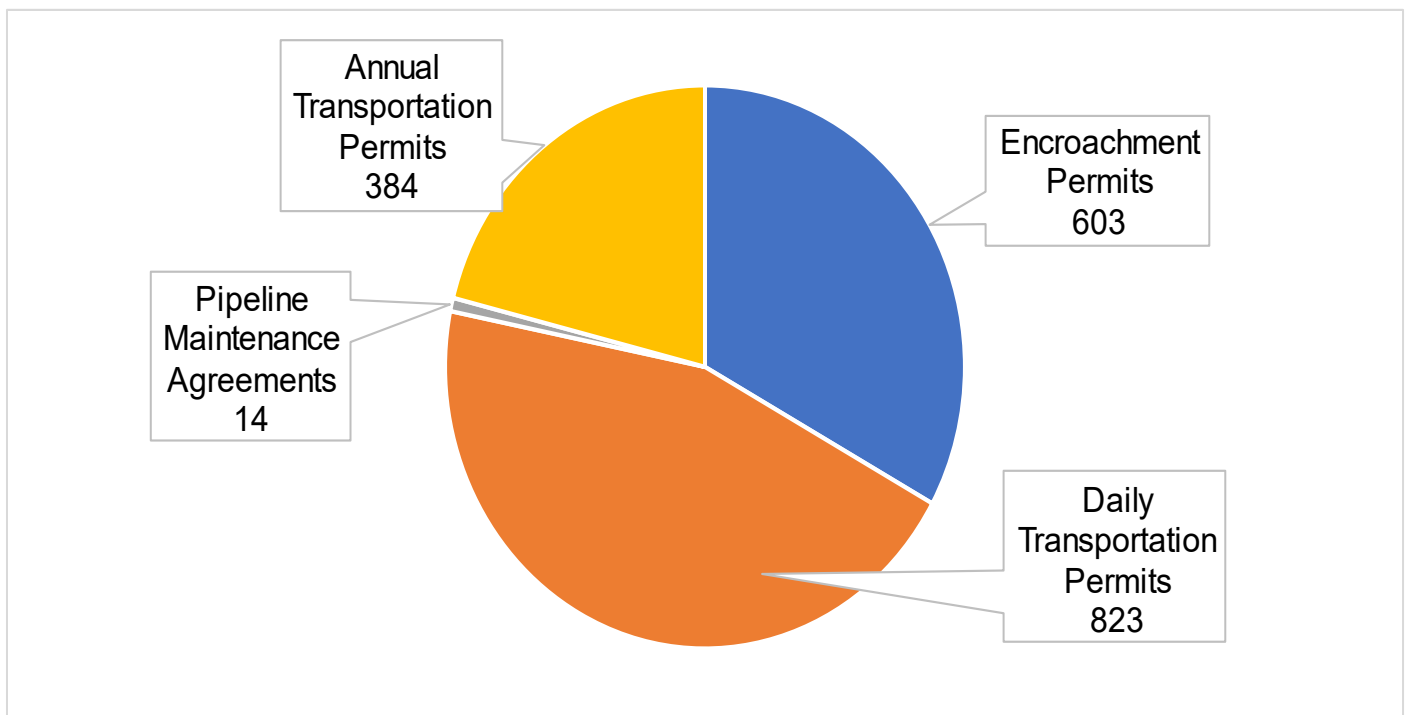


The Encroachment Permits section of Development Services issues permits for construction activities in all County road right-of-ways. During 2020, there were 603 encroachment permits issued, which brought in \$405,070 in collected revenue.

The Transportation section of Development Services issues Annual and Daily Transportation Permits, which enables the County to regulate the movement of oversized loads over County roads and bridges. This regulation helps ensure vehicle safety and protects public roads and bridges. In 2020, there were 823 Daily and 384 Annual Transportation Permits issued, which collected \$47,728 in revenue. Nine of the issued permits were exempt from permit fees, which is typical for irrigation districts and other governmental agencies.

Pipeline Maintenance Agreements allow the County to monitor work or activities within County road right-of-ways by private parties. The agreement holds the owner of the pipeline responsible for any damage that may occur to the County road if the pipeline fails. The Pipeline Maintenance Agreement is a recorded document that is transferred to any new owners of the property or as long as the pipeline exists. Development Services issued 14 Pipeline Maintenance Agreements, which accrued \$3,990 in revenue.

Development Services also reviews and issues special event permits for parades and other activities that may block the roadways. They also review and issue permits related to land development, such as off-site improvement plans, building permit plan reviews and inspections, grading permits, rezone applications, parcel maps, staff approvals and use permits.



# TRANSIT

Stanislaus County Public Works Transit Division is ever changing to stay current on all legislative affairs, rider technology, and marketing strategies. We are proud to serve the Stanislaus County community and honored to be given the opportunity to assist our riders in being independent and to keep moving forward.

## Intelligent Transportation System (ITS)

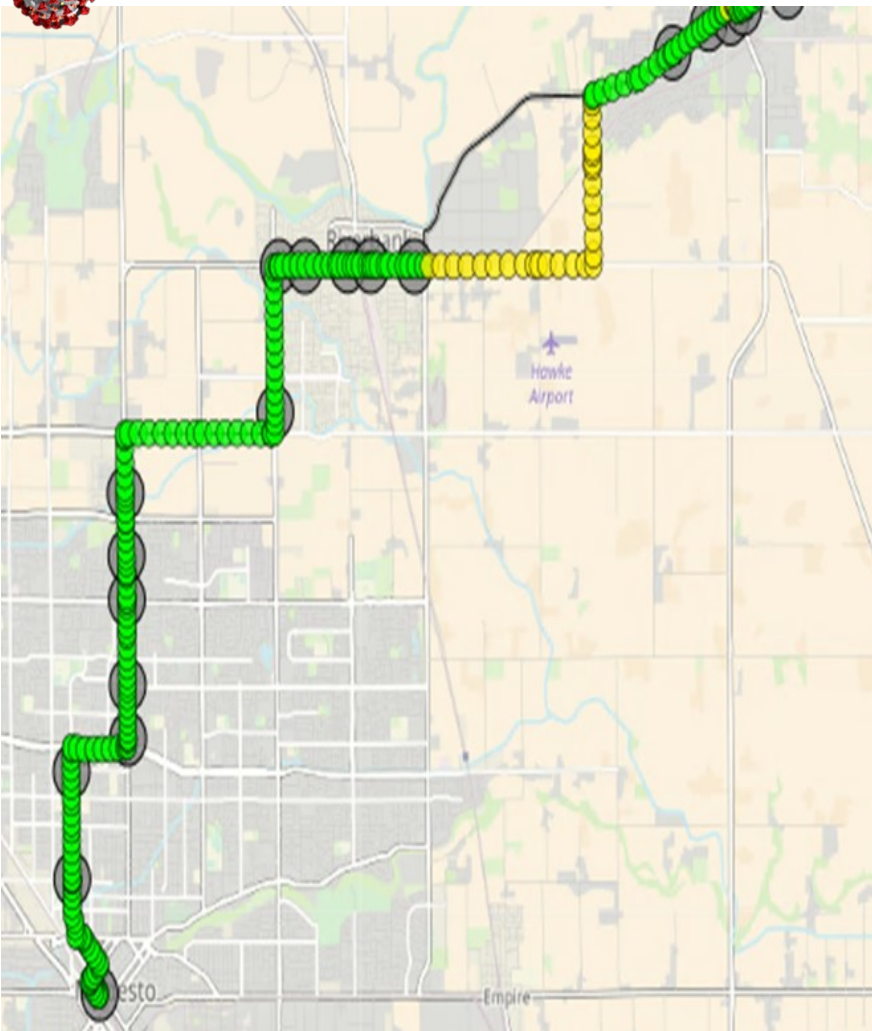
The Stanislaus County Transit Division completed the installation of the ITS system on the entire fleet last year. This has proven to be a wise investment.

The ITS system shows when a bus is off route by entering the time points in yellow instead of green. This allows us to see if the driver is deviating from the set route. This is important because the Automatic Voice Announcement (AVA) makes fixed route stop announcements along the route, which is required under the federal Americans With Disabilities Act. If a driver deviates from a set turn by turn route the AVA system stops making the announcements.

The ITS system records arrival, layover, and departure times. This gives us a better tool to monitor schedule adherence and to determine if any bus stops were missed.

The ITS System has proven to be useful in obtaining ridership data that assists with reporting, project management and marketing.

Infotainment screens on board the buses eliminated time and money spent on creating and posting onboard signage.



	<b>Modesto Transit Center</b>
	Arrival: 5:00 AM
	Layover: 0:01
	Departure: 5:01 AM
	Scheduled: 5:00 AM
	Variance: 0:01
	<b>College Ave &amp; Coldwell Ave (MJC)</b>
	Arrival: 5:12 AM
	Layover: 0:01
	Departure: 5:13 AM
	Scheduled: 5:08 AM
	Variance: 0:05
	<b>College Ave &amp; Granger Ave</b>
	Arrival:
	Layover:
	Departure: 5:15 AM
	Scheduled: 5:12 AM
	Variance: 0:03
	<b>McHenry Ave &amp; Norwegian Ave</b>
	Arrival: 5:19 AM
	Layover: 0:02
	Departure: 5:21 AM
	Scheduled: 5:18 AM
	Variance: 0:03
	<b>McHenry Ave &amp; Floyd Ave</b>
	Arrival:
	Layover:
	Departure: 5:22 AM
	Scheduled: 5:20 AM
	Variance: 0:02



## **Bus Stop Improvements**

StaRT continues to enhance security for our riders as well as protect them from the weather. We have completed Phase I of Bus Stop Improvements.

New bus stop shelters with security lighting and a bench where needed were added in Ceres, Empire, Hickman, Patterson, Riverbank and Wesley.

StaRT also added shelters and benches that were already in stock at three bus stops in Keyes.

Phase II will include the addition of security lighting to existing bus stop shelters and concrete/slope/sidewalk work to allow better ADA accessibility.

**Before and after photos of the new bus stop shelters in Ceres, Empire, Hickman, and Keyes**



## **Bus Procurement**

New buses are just one of the many ways StaRT is continuing to provide a more convenient, safe, dependable, comfortable and enjoyable experience to our riders every day.

The transit division Procured (5) new compressed natural gas (CNG) buses last year that are being used for fixed routes. Two were placed in service in May, and three in June.

The new buses give more miles per gallon, which makes them more cost efficient and we are meeting riders' needs more effectively by providing a more reliable ride due to fewer breakdowns.



## COVID-19 and Transit

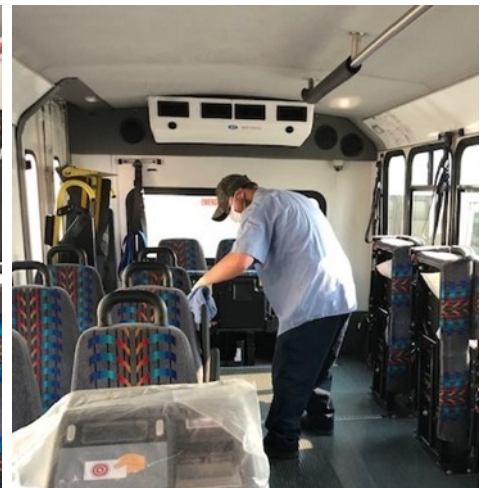
The COVID-19 Pandemic created many challenges for Public Transit. StaRT's ridership took a huge decline with COVID-19 making its appearance in March. With the drop of passengers StaRT had to run a modified schedule effective April 1, 2020, to stay afloat. Route 10 stopped running, and all other fixed routes and shuttles ran on a Saturday schedule.

MONTH	PASSENGERS
January	28,693
February	29,264
March	21,121
April	6,966
May	8,422
June	12,474
July	12,625
August	13,255
September	12,946
October	11,812
November	9,037



StaRT operations and administration staff quickly stepped up to the plate to continue to offer our riders safe and reliable transportation.

- Administration staff filed timely applications to receive the Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act funds. These funds allowed us to continue to provide service and provide several months of Free Fare Days. Free Fare Days made back-door boarding possible to provide for safer social distancing.
- Mask requirements were put in place while riding StaRT buses.
- We provided drivers with masks to provide to riders, as needed, since mask requirements were put in place while riding any StaRT bus.
- Daily bus sanitizing was implemented to further protect our drivers and riders.
- StaRT partnered with Health Plan of San Joaquin to provide the community with masks and educational flyers regarding COVID-19. Health Plan of San Joaquin provided 1,000 masks to hand out to the Stanislaus County Community.



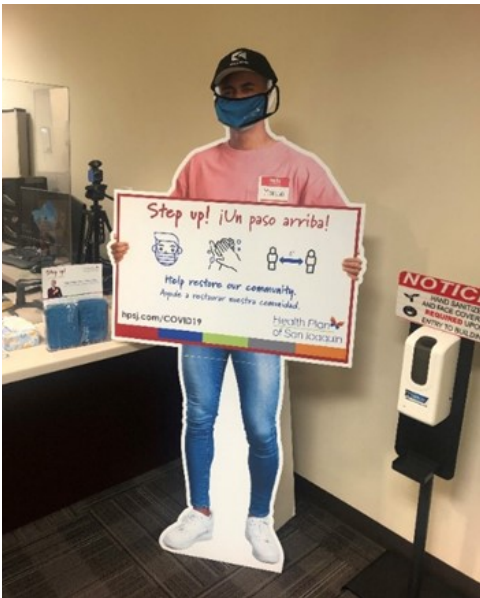
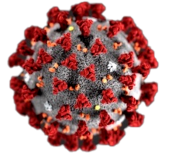


## Outreach Events

All scheduled live events that Stanislaus County Transit Staff were ready to attend were cancelled this year due to COVID-19. Transit Staff continued to stay connected with riders by being creative on social media to let riders know that StaRT is still here for them and that we care. Efforts included the following:

### Keyes Community Outreach

Transit staff covered two bus stops in Keyes and passed out StaRT string back packs and masks to the Keyes Community.



### Heroes Campaign

Transit staff had a Heroes Facebook campaign where each week a new driver was showcased and thanked for being on the front lines. We received many likes on Facebook with this campaign. Passengers appreciated seeing their drivers being recognized.

### Healthy Aging Summit Event 2020

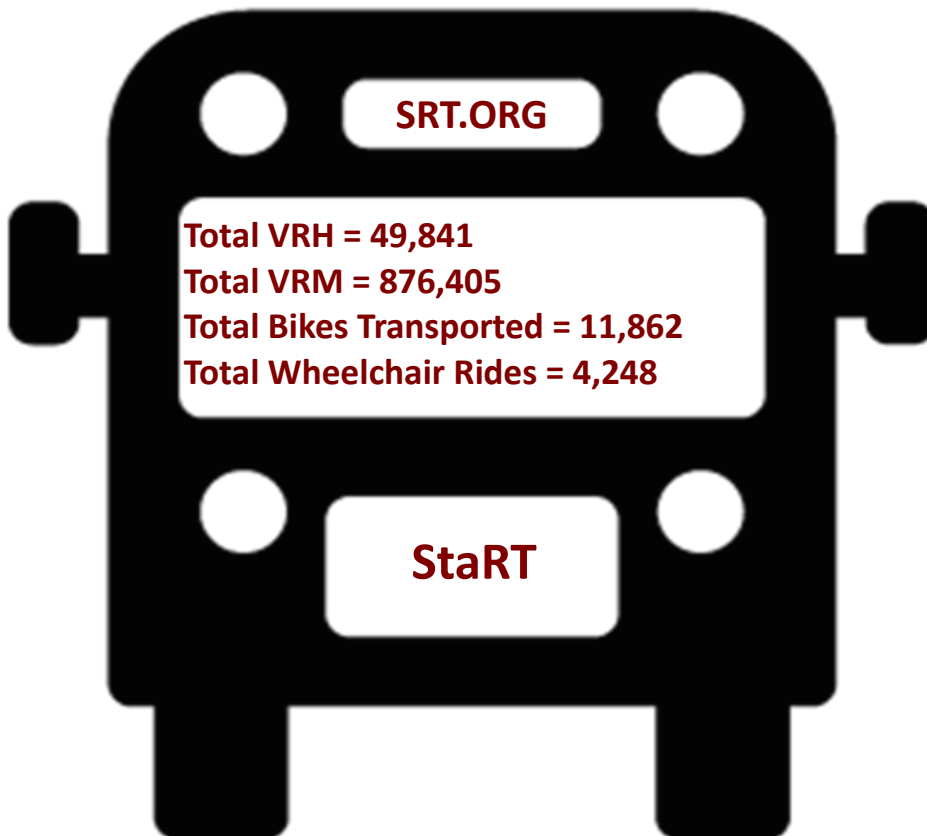
This year, due to COVID-19, the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Healthy Aging and Fall Prevention Summit that typically occurs at the Modesto Centre Plaza was held Virtually. Videos and clips on Memory Care, Social Isolation, Preventative Care, Diabetes & Oral Health, and Fall Prevention were featured online and on Facebook from October 12<sup>th</sup> – October 16<sup>th</sup>.

Signature Healthy Aging and Fall Prevention insulated tote bags with community resources and goodies were filled and distributed via drive thru locations across the county at senior communities. StaRT was a sponsor and provided 2,500 fun bags for the tote bags.



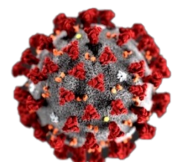
## Thank You Campaign

StaRT launched a Thank You Campaign to thank our riders for being supportive and loyal during the year 2020. StaRT passed out String Back Packs with promotional items and a Thank You Certificate inside the bag. The campaign came to a halt during the Stay-at-Home order, but we will pick back up in January.



## Notable Accomplishments

- Completed and submitted the Tri-Annual Title VI Plan Update and received approval letter from Caltrans.
- Darla Moen completed the Transit Management Certificate Program from UOP-Stockton.
- Transit completed the closeout of multiple open grants during the year.
- Completed Phase 1 of the Bus Stop Enhancement project.





# Morgan Road Shop



Morgan shop continues to support all departments in Heavy Equipment Repair. The Morgan shop technicians are very talented and able to help our customers in challenging repairs. The need for Morgan shops expertise can take its technicians all over the County at all hours of the day. We have two mobile units equip with the tools needed to get most remote jobs done. Just to highlight a few key options our service trucks provide are mobile welding units, electric over hydraulic cranes, spot lights for night work. We also can provide equipment hauling for customers that need equipment brought to the shop for large overhauls or environment sensitive repairs. Morgan shops vision is to ensure operator safety with properly maintained equipment. We closely monitor regulatory compliance and continuously plan to meet all requirements created by State and Federal agencies. Morgan shop understands the importance of customer service and try's its best to look for ways to reduce cost that can be passed on as savings to our many customers. Every year brings new challenges to the world of Fleet maintenance. Morgan shop will continue to rise to these challenges for the greater good of the County.









# Survey

2020 was a busy year for the County Surveyor's office. The County Surveyor, Larry Fontana, and his crew are responsible for many diverse and interesting projects. In the office, the surveyors are responsible for reviewing the many maps and legal documents submitted by the local development community. In 2020, the Surveyor's office reviewed and processed 55 surveying maps. In support of the County Planning Department, the surveyors also reviewed the legal descriptions and exhibits for 25 lot line adjustments. Additionally, numerous other documents are processed throughout the year. These include Certificates of Compliance and Road Abandonments. Aside from the ordinary tasks that occupy the day, the Surveyor's office receives requests for information from a wide range of callers. Questions come in from private land owners, title companies, land developers, real estate agents, lawyers, engineering firms, land surveying companies, utility companies, and agencies within the incorporated areas of the county. Furthermore, numerous departments within Stanislaus County, from the Sheriff's Department and Code Enforcement to LAFCO and County Counsel look to the Surveyor's office as a reliable source of knowledge. Larry alone has dedicated 20 of his 35-years in surveying to Stanislaus County Public Works, which has earned him a reputation as an indispensable resource for the County and its constituents.



The office procedures are only one half of the regular duties performed by the County Surveyor's office. Being a part of the roads department also means aiding in the many



aspects of transportation safety. Often, the roads department receives calls related to visual obstructions or other encroachments in the right-of-way. From new fence construction or the planting of orchards to RVs being illegally parked in the road, the field surveyors must go out and determine where the line exists that controls the separation between public and private property. Our field surveyors, Party Chief, Michael Rodriguez and Engineering Tech David Hohu, are also called upon to provide survey staking for construction projects.







In 2020 our crew provided survey control for many of the newly constructed ADA compliant pedestrian ramps. One of their biggest construction survey jobs was to provide the survey control and construction staking for the 2-mile-long center median project on Crows Landing Road. And field surveyors use advanced technology equipment in the practice of field surveying. Depending on the

information needed our crew uses both a robotic total station and a GPS data collector. Furthermore, with two of our surveyors now FAA certified, the crew can use our newly acquired Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) to provide our construction and design teams with aerial imagery of projects under construction.



Although The field procedures and office duties of the County Surveyor are individually unique, they rely upon each other to complete their various duties. One excellent example of this synthesis, is the re-establishment of a lost monument in an area of the County west of Newman. By law, the County Surveyor is responsible for protecting and preserving all the monuments within the Public Land Survey System. Monuments in the Public Land Survey System are used as evidence for the location of public and private lands and were originally set by the General Land Office to grant homesteads from the federal government. The surveyor's office was contacted by a local land surveyor that could not find a buried section corner, which is a corner in the Public Land Survey System. It appeared to be destroyed by the construction of a new irrigation pipeline. Research began in the office by reviewing the record maps and road deeds in the area. Calculations were prepared in AutoCad to determine a field search location. It was possible that a new monument would be set to replace the lost corner. With research and calculations in hand, the field crew located other monuments to establish control. Once a location was determined and with proper traffic control and safety measures in place, our field crew began to jackhammer through the road. The monument was not initially discovered. After an exhaustive search, the original concrete monument and brass plate, set in 1925 by County Surveyor J.H. Hoskins, was discovered two feet west of the record position. And thankfully, it was found west of the area of the new pipeline construction. The field crew installed a well casing and lid over the monument for easy access for future occupation. Since this monument is situated in the roadway, a monument well serves as a safety feature.





37 5 63

SHEET 1 OF 1

It's indexed in the

for future reference. It's all in a day's work for the County Surveyor.







**Top Row:**

Kristin Olsen (Chairwoman),  
District 1

Vito Chiesa, (Vice Chairman),  
District 2

Terry Withrow, District 3

**Bottom Row:**

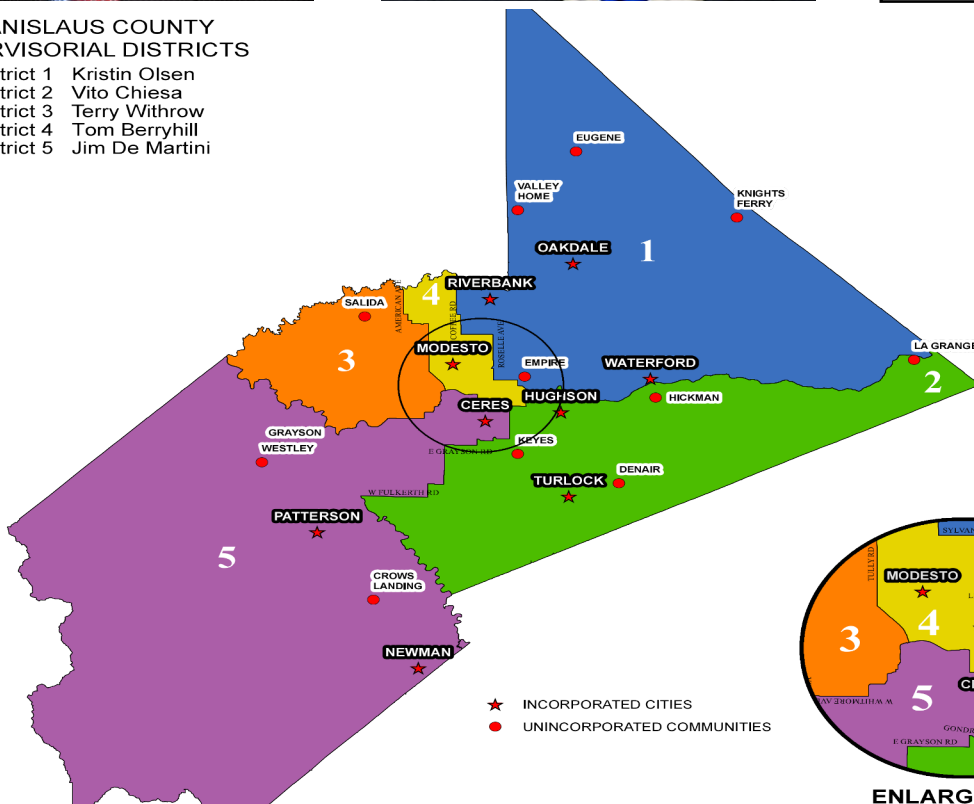
Tom Berryhill, District 4

Jim DeMartini, District 5

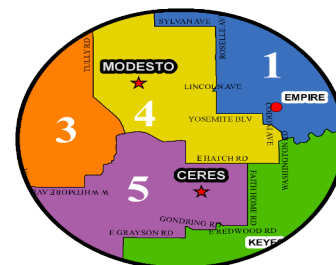


**STANISLAUS COUNTY  
SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS**

- District 1 Kristin Olsen
- District 2 Vito Chiesa
- District 3 Terry Withrow
- District 4 Tom Berryhill
- District 5 Jim De Martini



- ★ INCORPORATED CITIES
- UNINCORPORATED COMMUNITIES

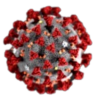


**ENLARGEMENT**





1010 10th Street, Suite 4204, Modesto, CA 95354 | [www.stancounty.com/publicworks](http://www.stancounty.com/publicworks)  
 (209) 525-4130 | (209) 525-6507 Fax | (209) 525-4332 Transit Fax  
 Development Services | Encroachment Permits | Transportation Permits | Transit



1716 Morgan Road, Modesto, CA 95358 | [www.stancounty.com/publicworks](http://www.stancounty.com/publicworks)  
 (209) 525-4130 | (209) 541-2509 Fax

Administration | Construction Engineering | County Surveyor's Office | Finance  
 Design Engineering | Traffic Engineering | Morgan Shop | Roads and Bridges

**You may also contact us by submitting your questions or concerns online at  
[www.stancounty.com/customercenter](http://www.stancounty.com/customercenter) or Stanislaus County's Assistance Hotline at**

**1 (877) 2Assist / 1 (877) 227-7478**