



“In the Works”

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

**Stanislaus County
Public Works**

Volume 6, Issue 2
June 2014

New Storm Water Program: Challenges & Solutions Submitted by David Leamon

The Municipal Storm Water Permitting Program regulates storm water discharges from municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s). MS4 permits were issued in two phases, the large cities were all regulated in Phase I. Stanislaus County as a rural county was part of the Phase II Permit which was adopted in 2003 by the State Water Resources Control Board. Development Services currently manages the storm water program in the Public Works Department. The County is currently implementing the new Phase II MS4 permit, which became effective July 1, 2013. Stanislaus County, as well as the cities of Ceres, Hughson, Oakdale, Newman, Patterson, Riverbank, and Turlock are all subject to the new permit.

The MS4 permit requires the County to develop and implement a Storm Water Management Plan/Program with the goal of reducing the discharge of pollutants to the Maximum Extent Practical (MEP). The program areas include public education and outreach; illicit discharge detection and elimination; construction and post-construction; and good housekeeping for municipal operations.

The purpose of the Phase II Small MS4 General Permit is to further reduce adverse water quality and aquatic habitat conditions by instituting the use of controls the conveyance of storm water run-off into streams, rivers, and creeks. The new permit requires the County to: track illicit discharge detection and elimination on private property; inventory industrial/commercial facilities; monitor Tuolumne and San Joaquin Rivers for Diazanone and Chlorpyrifos, and manage all County owned facilities' storm water.

To assist us with this effort, Public Works has retained World's Greatest Resources —Southwest (WGR-SW) of Lodi to help us implement a plan to comply with the new permit terms. We are near completion on the report and would have been done except the State Water Board decided to audit our storm water program at the end of May 2014. The Morgan Shop, Household Hazardous Waste, and General Services Agency Shop inspections appeared to go well. The Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination portion of the audit was more challenging. Public Works and WGR-SW will complete the report recommendations after the audit results are received. Public Works will continue to have a large role in the County Storm Water Permit, yet the new permit will also affect and be the responsibility of multiple County departments. County departments will have to team up to be compliant with this revised unfunded regulation.

Inside this issue:

<i>Our Record Breaking Construction Season!!</i>	2
<i>Kudos—Recognizing Our Good Customer Service</i>	2
<i>Do You Know What It Is?</i>	2
<i>The History of Storer Transportation</i>	3
<i>Meet Tate Hoffman, new Heavy Equipment Shop Manager</i>	4
<i>Meet Les Stachura, new Encroachment Inspector</i>	4
<i>Staff Updates & News</i>	4

Ethics Quotes Oscar Wilde

“The best way to appreciate your job is to imagine yourself without one.”

"Health & Safety Byte"

Safety rules
are your best tools.
Safety is no accident!

Civility Principle:

“Don't Shift
Responsibility and
Blame”

Congratulations to the County Engineers Association of California (CEAC) for their 100 Year Contribution to the Engineering and Public Works Profession

Go to <http://www.ceaccounties.org/> to watch a short video titled “CEAC Centennial—Celebrating 100 Years of Commitment to California Counties”



Record Breaking Construction Season!!

Submitted by Chris Brady

The 2014 construction season has officially begun. Public Works is excited to share that this summer and fall could be one of the busiest seasons in the Department's history.

We will see 12 projects delivered in the 2014 calendar year, extending into 2015. These projects total nearly \$20 million in construction costs. Among the notable projects are the SR 99/SR 219 (Kiernan Avenue) Interchange, Claribel Road Widening, Parklawn Neighborhood Sewer Improvements - Phase 2, Airport Neighborhood Sewer Improvements, RSTP Phase F, RSTP Phase G, RSTP Phase H, and RSTP Phase I.

Here is a complete summary of construction projects:

Project	Projected Completion Date
◆ 2014 Slurry Seal (\$287k)	Mid-July 2014
◆ Empire Park Improvements - bid opening July 9	September 2014
◆ Parklawn Neighborhood Sewer Improvements - Phase 2 (\$2.3 million)	November 2014
◆ Airport Neighborhood Sewer Improvements - bid opening on July 16	November 2014
◆ RSTP F - Westley Rehabilitation (\$2 million)	November 2014
◆ RSTP Phase G - bid opening July 30th	November 2014
◆ RSTP Phase H - bid opening July 30th	November 2014
◆ RSTP Phase I - bid opening July 30th	November 2014
◆ Claribel Road Widening (\$6.4 million)	Spring 2015
◆ Crows Landing Road @ West Main Street Traffic Signal Improvements - bid opening in September 2014	March 2015
◆ Peter Miller Road Bridge Seismic Retrofit - projected start in winter 2014	Winter/Spring 2015
◆ SR 99/SR 219 (Kiernan Avenue) Interchange (\$25 million) - began construction in spring 2013	Summer 2016

Kudos – Recognizing Our Good Customer Service

Whitmore/Baldwin - Per Norman Soares, "On behalf of PG&E and Snelson project teams, we would like to thank you for the compliments and for providing us the opportunity to work together with the County staff. We appreciate the professional manner that you and your staff exhibited during the construction of this major project and how quickly you responded to all questions, issues, and solutions. Our team has also enjoyed the collaborative partnership associated with the Stanislaus County Public Works staff. Thank You..." This was amongst our largest encroachment permit projects ever—approximately \$65 million construction project.

Richard G. called to say, "Thank you!!" to our Road Maintenance team for the prompt response regarding his request for work done on Pioneer and Services Roads.

In June, our tattered and faded American and California flags were replaced at our Morgan Road office. One of our patriotic neighbors walked into our lobby and told us how happy he was to see our new flags.

Bob S. called to let us know what a great job we did mowing the very tall weeds along Golden State Boulevard. He was happy this potential fire hazard was eliminated.

Speaking of fires, on 6/18, our Coca-Cola neighbors had a grass fire which was started by a landscape service employee who was mowing the grass. Our employees, Rick McElligott and Wayne McConnell rushed across the street and helped put out the fire.

Do you know what this is?

Answer in next quarter's newsletter.



The History of Storer Transportation

Submitted by April Henderson-Potter

There are a few names that are synonymous with Stanislaus County... Gallo, George Lucas, and McHenry are among the most known. One name that should be just as familiar to you when thinking of Stanislaus County is Storer, Storer Transportation that is.

Operating since 1952, Storer Transportation Services (STS) has a long enriched history within Stanislaus County. Storer Transportation began when Walter Storer and his wife, Gladys, submitted a bid to be the public transportation provider for physically handicapped children. Their proposal included transporting these children directly from their homes to their school site. At the time, their contract was only one school year in length. After that contract ended, providing great service and gaining the recognition they deserved for it, STS won another contract this time to transport the mentally disabled children to the old Prescott School site. From there, students with visual and hearing impairments were also added to the contract and the STS began transporting them as well.



In order to meet the needs of their growing demand for service, Walter Storer and his son, Warren, purchased a fleet of vehicles and modified them with yellow paint and flashing red lights. These new “buses” lasted for a long time, but in 1967, Warren Storer decided to modify yet another one of their vehicles this time, a STS van, by installing an electric, hydraulic lift onto the rear of the van which created the **first wheelchair bus in California!**

It was this innovation and their great reputation that began Storer’s journey into public transportation in Stanislaus County. Storer has been operating the Stanislaus Regional Transit (StaRT) system since 1982, when the County first started its public transportation operations in the area. Due to their unwavering reputation and excellent customer service, Storer has continued to be competitive and has won the bid for StaRT services since. In addition, within Stanislaus County, STS operates Modesto Area Dial-A-Ride (since 1981) and Ceres Dial-A-Ride and Fixed Route services (since 1988). They also hold the contract to transport Valley Mountain Regional Center’s (VMRC) clients both in Stanislaus and San Joaquin counties. Also STS operates a school bus contract in San Joaquin County as well transporting children with special needs.



Outside of Stanislaus County, Storer has many contracts including: SCT/LINK (Galt, South Sacramento County); Commuter service from Lodi to Sacramento; Tuolumne County



Transit (Dial-A-Ride and fixed route); COLT (Dial-A-Ride and fixed route service in Lompoc); Santa Ynez Valley Transit (SYVT) in Solvang; and Clean Air Express (CAE) which is a commuter service from Santa Maria to Santa Barbara using Coach buses. On top of all these services, Storer also operates Storer Coachways which is a charter bus service.

So the next time you see a StaRT bus, a Modesto Dial-A-Ride, a CAT bus, or go for a charter bus tour to Disneyland, Black Oak, or wherever you are headed... you can be confident that you are in good hands with operators who have a rich history of excellent service and a great reputation in Stanislaus County!

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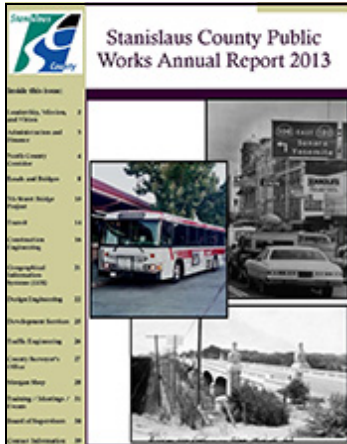
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Articles by Public Works Writers
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Transit Division's website
is: www.srt.org
For route info call StaRT at
1-800-262-1516



Public Works' 2013 Annual Report is available online at the link below.

Created by
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Edited by
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<http://www.stancounty.com/publicworks/pdf/2013-annual-report.pdf>

Staff Updates and News

New Employees:

Francis Baldonado (Senior Engineering Tech) joined our Traffic Division on 4/21.

James De Jong (Senior Engineering Tech) joined our Design Engineering Division on 4/21.

Tate Hoffman (Heavy Equipment Shop Manager) joined our Shop Division on 4/7.

Fayma Ishaq (Assistant Planner) joined our Transit Division on 6/30.

Matthew Price (Road Maintenance Worker) joined our Road Division on 4/21.

Retirement:

David Gein (Senior Engineering Tech) retired on 5/17 with over 15 years of service.

Promotion & Transfer:

Denae Davis was promoted to Administrative Secretary on 5/19 in Design Engineering.

Rich Brown (Engineering Tech) transferred to Development Services on 5/12.

Meet Tate Hoffman, Our New Heavy Equipment Shop Manager

Hello my name is Tate Hoffman. I come from an agriculture background; my family raises commercial beef cattle in Stanislaus and Tuolumne counties. I started my mechanical career early on with ranch repair and high school ROP welding. After graduating high school, I continued my training by moving to Laramie, Wyoming where I studied diesel technology at Wyoming Technical Institute. After graduating from Wyoming Tech, I returned to the Central Valley working for a few private sector trucking companies specializing in flat freight and construction material hauling.



In August of 1999, I accepted a job as a heavy equipment mechanic with the City of Modesto, focusing on transit repair and diesel engine rebuilds. This is where I would call home for the next fifteen years moving through fleet leadership roles ending with Fleet Supervisor. Stanislaus County is the next step in my lifetime passion with equipment repair and customer service. I am extremely excited to be here and look forward to positive growth. Please stop by the Morgan Shop and let me know how I might better serve your equipment needs.

When I'm not focused on the job, I enjoy most all out of doors activities including hunting, fishing, hiking, barbequing and most of all, repairing and repurposing old forgotten equipment. I have three sons Chance (5), Jake (6) and Gage (8), which keep my wife Katie and me very busy.

Meet Les Stachura, Senior Engineer Technician in Development Services



Hello! Let me start out by saying what a pleasure it has been for me to be with Stanislaus County. I have met some wonderful people and hope to get to know all of you in the time to come. My name is Lester Stachura, but I go by Les. I am originally from New York state and yes, I **LOVE** the Yankees. I grew up in a small town in Upstate New York called Otego which is very near The Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York. I attended the State University of New York at Oneonta where I received a BA in Water Resources/ Geology. After graduating, I took some time off and came out to California on a road trip with my best friend. I ended up in the South Bay area in Gilroy and took a job working as a Construction Inspector for Krazan and Associates, Inc. out of Morgan Hill. I worked there for almost a year and had an opportunity to work for another Inspection firm called Signet Testing Labs, Inc. I worked there for over 17 years before finding the opportunity here with Stanislaus County as an Encroachment Inspector in Public Works, and I love it.

In my free time I love to fish, hike, and almost anything that has to do with being outdoors. I am an avid fly fisherman and jump at any opportunity to get away and get into the water to wet a fly. I also enjoy the sport of archery. I belong to a local archery club (Orestimba Field Archers), and I try to compete in tournaments when I can. I have recently introduced the sport of archery to my 10-year old son, Kristian, and he is loving it. He even took 1st place at his first ever tournament. (I needed to brag a little!)

I look forward to making your acquaintance if I have not yet done so. Thank you all for the opportunity to work with you.