

#### "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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# Faith Home Road / Garner Road Bridge Project Submitted by David Leamon

This bridge has been considered a high priority for at least 25 years. This bridge was listed as a Priority 1 project in the Stanislaus Area Association of Governments 1990 Expressway Study. The future expressway will link State Route 99 with the future North County Corridor via Keyes Road, Faith Home Road, Garner Road, and Claus Road. This expressway will provide a key link to the east sides of Ceres and Modesto and provide a direct link to Riverbank and Oakdale to southbound SR-99.

#### GARNER RD/FAITH HOME RD VIADUCT



The Faith Home Road bridge will provide the missing connectivity link to make the corridor continuous. It is anticipated that the bridge will be approximately 1200 feet long, then consist of 2500 feet of fill to the north bank of the river, touching down at Beard Industrial Park. There would be signals at Hatch Road and Finch Road and an at-grade railroad crossing of the Modesto and Empire Traction Company. The initial bridge project would not signalize any of the other stop controlled intersections at Whitmore Avenue, Roeding Road, and Service Road. The County has received Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ) funding for a signal at Keyes Road and Faith Home Road. It is anticipated that the ramps at the Keyes Road interchange will be signalized by 2020.

The project schedule shows us selecting a consultant to design the bridge and perform the environmental work this fall. This phase of the work will take us approximately three to four years. We would then anticipate finishing the design and acquiring right-of-way, which will take us approximately two years. Construction is anticipated to begin in 2023 and would take two years to complete. In 10 years, it should be possible to travel on this new corridor from Keyes to Riverbank.

# Inside this issue: Earth Day at Graceada 2 Park with StaRT Public Works Staff 2 Transportation Permits— 3 Did You See That?! Crumbling Roads 4

### **Ethics Quotes James Allen**

"Work joyfully and peacefully, knowing that right thoughts and right efforts will inevitably bring about right results."

"Health & Safety Byte"

**Always drive** 

2N2®...
2 eyes on the road,
and
2 hands on the
wheel!

Safety is no accident!

Public Works is now 281 days without a reportable accident/injury!

#### City of Modesto's Earth Day Event **Submitted by Eunice Lovi**

Each year, the County's public transit system, Stanislaus Regional Transit (StaRT), participates in a number of events organized by various jurisdictions, social service agencies, and civic organizations throughout Stanislaus County. Among the events in which StaRT participates is the City of Modesto's Earth Day event. As in the past, the venue for this event was, Graceada Park. The event was held on April 18th, 2015.



Photo above are the Modesto Nuts mascots: Shelley the Pistachio and Al the Almond

StaRT offered free rides to County residents who did not want to hassle with finding parking and chose to enjoy the leisurely rides offered to and from Crossroad Church's parking lot at the corner of 11th Street and Needham. To encourage more people to ride the bus, StaRT partnered with the City of Modesto's Recycling Program to offer event goers riding the bus to the event, tickets to either a Modesto Nuts Baseball game or a Prime Shine Car Wash. StaRT offered rides to more than 230 people, setting a record over rides provided at last year's event. This program is supported by the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors to help increase the County's ridership on the County's StaRT public

transit system.

Underscoring the theme of Earth Day in the Park for the 26th year and to encourage local residents to learn more about StaRT service, the transit division displayed one of its buses fueled by Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) at the event. Local residents were encouraged to tour the bus as well as learn more about transit services offered by StaRT throughout Stanislaus County. We are happy to say StaRT served over 1,000 residents who visited our booth. This event is one of many attended by Public Works transit team members as part of StaRT's marketing strategy to promote the County's transit services.



Photo above is April Henderson-Potter, Stanislaus County Transit's **Mobility Coordinator** 



StaRT is a proud sponsor of the City of Modesto's Earth Day event and would like to extend our appreciation and sincere gratitude to the City of Modesto's Public Works Department, especially Vicki Rice, the City of Modesto's Recycling Coordinator. We would also like to extend our sincere gratitude to the Modesto Nuts and Prime Shine Car Wash for donating the tickets.

#### **Civility Principle:** "Respect Other People's Time"



#### Public Works Staff Updates

#### **New Employees:**

Garrett Smith, Road Maintenance Worker I, joined our Roads & Bridges Division on 4/20/15, and Ryan Downey, also a Road Maintenance Worker I, joined on 6/15/15.

Welcome aboard!

#### Departure:

Donal Hicks, Senior Engineer Technician in Design Engineering left County employment on 6/23/15 with 5 years of service.

Best wishes!

#### **Transportation Permits—Did You See That?**

**Article and Photos Submitted by Rich Brown** 

One of the responsibilities that Development Services is entrusted with is Transportation Permits. There are two classifications of transportation permits; Annual and Daily. Between the two, over 1,000 permits are issued every year. A couple of times a year we receive a permit request that really stands out. One of those permits came across my desk in June. The request was for a 22' x 23' x 14.5' dairy tank to go from State Route 33 north to the City of Patterson, then over to the City of Turlock via West Main Street, including 14 miles of County right-of-way. The move required a lot of time and coordination with other agencies.

By the time the move was completed, the coordination involved the California Highway Patrol (CHP), Turlock Irrigation District (TID), Pacific Gas &





Electric (PG&E), City of Patterson, City of Turlock, Los Angeles Signal, DTS Pilot Car Service, West

Coast Services (the permit agent), and Intermountain Rigging & Heavy Haul (IRH). It took approximately 4 hours to travel the 14 miles with a lot of cooperation and coordination!

Moves like this one are very demanding and time consuming, but are extremely rewarding when they run smoothly.





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Stanislaus Regional Transit



Transit Division's website is:

www.srt.org
For route info call **StaRT** at 1-800-262-1516



Public Works' 2014 Annual Report is available online at the link below.

Denae Davis Edited by Sylvia Jones and

Keimi Espinoza

Created by

http://www.stancounty.com/publicworks/pdf/2014-annual-report.pdf



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Share the Road
Arrive ALIVE

#### CRUMBLING ROADS

**Submitted by Matt Machado** 

Problem: California lacks adequate funding to fix crumbling roads, highways, bridges and transportation infrastructure.

- Our crumbling roads cost motorists \$762 a year per driver for vehicle maintenance.
- California has the second highest share of roads in "poor condition" in the nation.
- 58% of state roads need rehabilitation or pavement maintenance.
- California has 4 of 5 cities with the worst road conditions in the nation.
- 55% of local bridges require rehabilitation or replacement.
- Nearly 70% of California's urban roads and highways are congested.
- Without additional funding, 1/4 of local streets and roads will be in failed condition by 2024.
- Local roads have an estimated shortfall of \$78 billion in deferred maintenance and an annual shortfall of \$7.8 billion.
- Caltrans has a \$59 billion backlog in deferred maintenance and an annual shortfall of \$5.7 billion.

Solution: A responsible, accountable solution to fix our roads. The following priorities should be the focus:

- Make a significant investment in transportation infrastructure. Any legislative package should seek to raise at least \$6 billion annually and should remain in place for at least 10 years.
- 2. Focus on maintaining and rehabilitating the current system.
- 3. Invest a portion of diesel tax and/or cap and trade revenue to high-priority goods movement projects.
- 4. Raise revenues across a broad range of options. To include a reasonable increase in gasoline and diesel excise taxes and vehicle registration and vehicle license fees. Also to include a portion of the cap and trade revenue paid by motorists at the pump to transportation projects that reduce greenhouse emissions and ensure existing transportation revenues are invested in transportation-related purposes (i.e. truck weight fees and fuel taxes for off-road vehicles that are currently being diverted into the general fund). Additionally, any package should move California toward an all-users pay structure in which everyone who benefits from the system contributes to maintaining it.
- 5. Equal split between state and local projects.
- 6. Strong accountability requirements to protect the taxpayers' investment.
- 7. Provide Consistent Annual Funding Levels.