

Table of Contents

|   |      |
|---|------|
| <i>President's Message</i>                    | P-1  |
| <i>Calendar of Events</i>                     | P-1  |
| <i>President's msg. cont.</i>                 | P-2  |
| <i>November Meeting Recap</i>                 | P-2  |
| <i>Nov. Meeting Recap cont.</i>               | P-3  |
| <i>APWA/ACEC Joint Meeting Promo</i>          | P-3  |
| <i>ACEC Scholarship Info</i>                  | P-4  |
| <i>CREATE—Future Professionals</i>            | P-5  |
| <i>CREATE article cont.</i>                   | P-6  |
| <i>Sierra Chapter Member Firm Profile—GHD</i> | P-7  |
| <i>Jan. 7 Meeting Invite</i>                  | P-8  |
| <i>ACEC-CA Scholarship Flyer</i>              | P-9  |
| <i>21-22 Board of Directors</i>               | P-10 |



**President's Message**  
By Scott Lillibridge, President

Well, it's that time of year when we look back on what we've accomplished over the past year. All in all, with the exception of the Covid pandemic still lurking about, I'm very content and grateful for how 2021 is ending up. I think most of our organizations have had a very good year in spite of the obstacles that the pandemic has and continues to create. As mentioned in last month's newsletter, our industry as a whole is very strong and, at least on the public works side, will continue to be strong with the \$1.2 trillion investment in infrastructure for the next 5 years. I'd say it's pretty good timing to announce the new ACEC Sierra Chapter – Caltrans District 3 Professional Liaison Committee (D3 PLC) that was just recently chartered. This committee will consist of representatives from ACEC Sierra Chapter firms, Caltrans District 3 staff and other local agencies. This committee will provide input to Caltrans Headquarters' PLC relating to the programs and operations germane to Caltrans District 3. The mission of the D3 PLC will be to share information that drives decisions, foster collaborative working relationships, discuss and act upon areas of shared interests such as funding sources, technical issues, and policy issues.



**Scott Lillibridge**  
Sierra Chapter President  
2021-2022

**Calendar of Events**

**Meetings are held at the Hilton Sacramento Arden West unless otherwise noted.**

**ACEC Sierra Chapter Events**

**December**

No General Membership Meeting

**Friday, January 7, 2022**

Annual Joint APWA-ACEC Meeting

**Guest Speakers:**

James Corless, CEO and Executive Director of SACOG, and Bonnie Gore, Board Chairwoman and Placer County Supervisor.

**Location:**

Citrus Heights Community Center

**[Register Here](#)**

**Wednesday, February 16, 2022**

Past President's and Tim Fleming Memorial Scholarship Dinner

**Location:**

Hilton Sacramento Arden West

**ACEC California State Events**

**Thursday, February 3, 2022**

ACEC-CA 2022 Engineering Excellence Awards Banquet, Scholarship Foundation Fundraiser & Speed Sessions

**The Fairmont, San Francisco**

Please visit [www.acec-ca.org](http://www.acec-ca.org) for a complete list of upcoming webinars and on-line classes.

## President's Message Cont.

*Continued from page 1*

Again, the timing of this new D3 PLC couldn't be better considering the significant portions of transportation investment hopefully heading our way. Many thanks to Sierra Chapter Board Member Howard Michael (AECOM) for working with both Caltrans District 3 and the Sierra Chapter Board on the many iterations it took to get the charter approved.

At our last dinner meeting on November 17, we had the raffle drawing for the \$500 gift card to The Kitchen and the lucky winner was Rosa Griggs (Dokken Engineering). This raffle prize was "layered" with the ACEC PAC Fall Sweepstakes and all Sierra Chapter members that bought sweepstakes tickets were entered in the drawing for The Kitchen gift card. Immediately following the drawing, Rosa found herself surrounded by 30 people wanting to become her new best friend. Congrats Rosa!

On December 9<sup>th</sup>, a few of the chapter board members attended the CREATE Awards Luncheon and I had the honor of awarding a \$2,000 scholarship to a very deserving student that will be pursuing a career in civil engineering. It was such an inspiring event and a privilege to represent ACEC and be able to help one of the future leaders in our industry. You can read more about that in an article by Sierra Chapter board member and CREATE Mentor Erik Fanselau later in this newsletter.

Finally, I hope you all have the happiest of holidays with your loved ones. I look forward to seeing you in 2022 and let's continue to build a better California!

Scott Lillibridge

ACEC-CA Sierra Chapter President

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## November Meeting Recap - Sabrina Drago, STA

**By Rosa Griggs, Director**

There was a great turnout for our November in-person meeting. We had the pleasure of having Sabrina Drago, the Executive Director from Sacramento Transportation Authority (STA). She talked about the creation of STA in 1988 when Measure A, the ½-cent 20-year transportation tax, passed. In addition to Measure A, STA administers the Freeway Service Patrol and the Abandoned Vehicle Abatement Program.

Ms. Drago explained that while the STA does not procure their own projects, they fund critical

projects in the area such as the Capitol Southeast Connector, the US 50 widening, I-5 managed lanes and Folsom Crossing and Richards/I-5 Interchange. They help to move a project forward or serve as a local match for state or federal funds.

Looking to the future STA put Measure B out, an additional 30-year ½ cent sales tax, for a vote in 2016. It failed by less than 1%. Sabrina had hoped to get support for a new measure this fall,

*Continued on page 3*

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but the community support was just not there. Not to worry, there is a “citizens’ initiative” that is tackling this funding.

Sabrina closed by saying STA recently conducted public meetings as part of the 10-year expenditure plan review and have added bicycle and pedestrian improvements as eligible expenditures.

## SACOG Executive Director James Corless and Board Chairwoman and Placer County Supervisor Bonnie Gore to Address the Joint APWA-ACEC Lunch Meeting on January 7th.

By Marco Palilla, Director



Our annual joint meeting with the Sacramento Chapter of APWA is Friday, January 7<sup>th</sup> and always draws a big crowd. This year’s event will be an “In-Person” luncheon and will be held at the Citrus Heights Community Center. The luncheon will feature two speakers - James Corless, CEO and Executive Director of SACOG, as well as Bonnie Gore, Board Chairwoman and Placer County Supervisor. Together, they will talk about the infrastructure bill and what it could mean for our region, as well as economic development and megaregion projects.

Bonnie Gore joined the SACOG board in 2019 and served as chair of the Policy and Innovation subcommittee in 2020. She has served on the Placer County Board of Supervisors since 2019. Gore has more than two decades of local public policy and business experience. She is active in the Roseville business community, having man-

aged government and community relations for a healthcare system in the Greater Sacramento area for 17 years.

James Corless has served as CEO and Executive Director of SACOG since 2017. He is the founding director of Transportation for America, where he built an impressive national network of civic, elected, and business leaders who understand that strategic investments in infrastructure are crucial for attracting economic development. Prior to joining Transportation for America, Corless held senior positions at the Metropolitan Transportation Commission in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Join ACEC and APWA members on Friday, January 7th to hear James Corless and Bonnie Gore discuss investing in our region and what they see coming up in 2022!

[Register here](#)

**Where:** Citrus Heights Community Center  
**When:** Friday, January 7, 2022, doors open at 11:45am.  
**Cost:** \$30 Early Bird - APWA and ACEC members only (until 12/30/2021)  
 \$40 Non-Members; and for members registering after 12/30/2021

## ACEC Scholarship Applications Due by January 28, 2022!

By Marco Palilla, Director



Every year, the ACEC California Scholarship Foundation seeks the best and brightest engineering and land surveying students in California and awards scholarships to them. Over the years, ACEC California has awarded over \$700,000 in cash grants to hundreds of outstanding students.

The ACEC California Scholarship Awards are funded through generous donations from ACEC California Chapters, member firms, principals and employees. Donations to the Scholarship Foundation, a public non-profit benefit corporation, are tax deductible. Every dollar goes di-

rectly to the student – no money is used for overhead or administrative costs. The ACEC California Scholarship Foundation is administered through the generous volunteer work of ACEC Chapter members.

ACEC California will be awarding up to \$50,000 in scholarships for qualified engineering and land surveying students throughout California for the 2022-2023 academic year. Sierra Chapter members serve as liaisons with local colleges and universities to distribute applications and promote the scholarships. I send information to Sac State and UOP while Rosa Griggs takes care of UC Davis. We still need a liaison for Chico.

ACEC-CA will be accepting applications until 5:00pm on January 28, 2022. The scholarship application is available at this link: [Scholarship Application](#) and was e-mailed to college Engineering Departments throughout California.

If you know a student who is eligible for this year's scholarship, please pass this information on to them.

## Mentoring our Future Professionals—CREATE

By Erik Fanselau, Director

When I joined the Board two years ago, I was impressed to see the many different ways the Sierra Chapter supports our local students. However, I thought we could expand our outreach with high



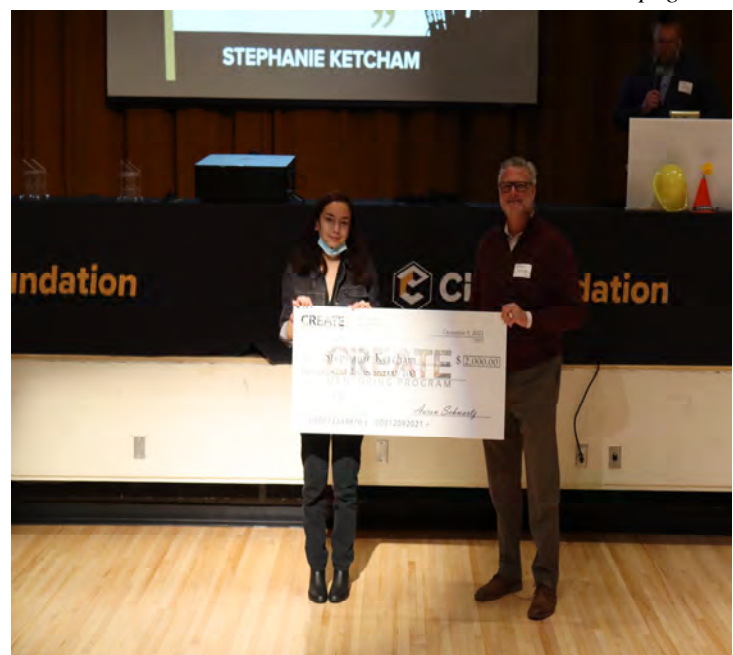
Team Whitney visits West Park High School in Roseville

school students. After discussing this with the Board, a colleague of mine introduced me to the CREATE (Construction, Re-Development, Engineering, Architecture, Trades, Education) program which is run by the Construction Industry Education Foundation in partnership with the Sacramento Regional Builders Exchange. The goal of CREATE is to “*educate and inspire students to pursue pathways which create the built environment.*” This program includes over 75 high schools all over California and over 10,000 students have participated since its inception. The program pairs mentors from the design and construction industry with high school junior and senior students to complete a semester long project that includes planning and design. I joined the program this semester as a mentor and was assigned to a class at Whitney High School in

Rocklin. Among our team of mentors, I was the only civil engineer and was joined by two architects, one HVAC contractor, and one telecommunications contractor.

Our group of six students chose to design a new sports medicine facility for their campus as their existing facility was inadequate. The project requirements included completing sketches, a floor plan, 3D renderings, engineering calculations, and architectural exhibits. We met with the students every couple of weeks and provided guidance on the planning and design process. I also gave a presentation on the many different disciplines of engineering along with a brief talk on storm water management and water quality as it related to our project. Students were also required to complete resumes and visited an active

*Continued on page 6*



Stephanie Ketcham receiving \$2000 scholarship award from Scott Lillibrige, President ACEC-CA Sierra Chapter

*Continued from page 5*

construction site at a local high school. The field trip to the job site was a highlight and I believe all of the students enjoyed the opportunity to put on a hard hat and safety vest for the first time. The project culminated in a presentation and competition with groups from other schools where a winner was selected.

I am also pleased to report that the Sierra Chapter is supporting a new scholarship for CREATE this

semester. Scott Lillibridge awarded a \$2000 check to the scholarship winner, Stephanie Ketcham, at the CREATE awards luncheon on December 9th. Stephanie is a senior at West Campus High School and intends to pursue a degree in civil engineering as a direct result of her participation in the CREATE program. I can definitely say that I found this experience rewarding. Helping young people learn more about our profession is just one way we can give back to all of the mentors that have influenced each of our careers.



The Fall 2021 CREATE Mentors receive appreciation medals at the Awards Luncheon

## ACEC-CA SIERRA CHAPTER FIRM PROFILE

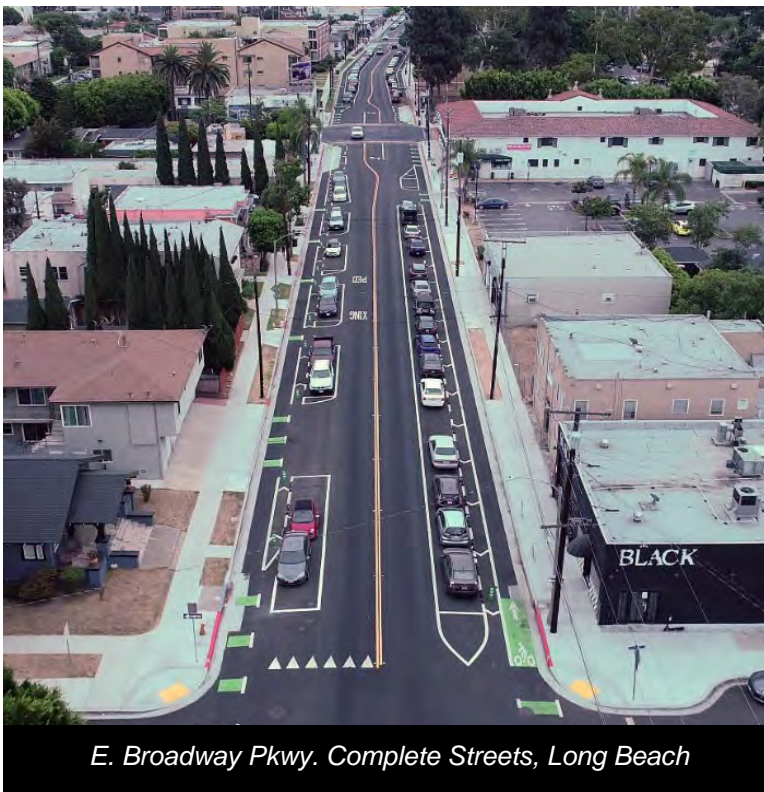


GHD is a global professional services firm comprised of industry leaders in five major markets: transportation, environment, water, energy & resources, and property & buildings. We have been operating in California since 1984 and globally for over 90 years. With 3 offices in the Sierra region, 14 across California, and over 350 employees, our diverse portfolio and focused geographic presence allows us to be connected to our clients and provide sustainable solutions for generations to come.

As an employee-owned company, we are committed to the role we play in communities where we live, work, and play. Our Sierra region offices are home to forward-looking professionals within all five of our market sectors. Our team provides imaginative thinking and innovative designs to solve our clients' challenges during any phase of the project delivery cycle, from conception and analysis through to construction and permitting.



*Stockrest Springs Rd. Roundabout, Truckee, CA*



*E. Broadway Pkwy. Complete Streets, Long Beach*

GHD ranks #10 in international design firms operating in the US, according to *Engineering News-Record*. These rankings reflect the size and significance of our sustained and growing business in the US. In addition to the delivery of extraordinary social and economic outcomes, we are focused on building lasting relationships with our partners and clients.



*Guadalupe River Parkway, San Jose*

For more information, visit [www.ghd.com](http://www.ghd.com)

or contact: **Erik Fanselau**

[erik.fanselau@ghd.com](mailto:erik.fanselau@ghd.com)

**916-256-2677**



*You are cordially invited to attend:*

**Friday, January 7, 2022**

## **Annual Joint APWA-ACEC Luncheon**

*Guest Speakers:*

**SACOG Executive Director James Corless; and  
SACOG Board Chairwoman and Placer County  
Board of Supervisor Bonnie Gore**

*Topic:*

**Investing in our Region: Infrastructure,  
Economic Development and  
Megaregion Projects**

**On-line Registration/ RSVP:**

[Register Here](#)

**R.S.V.P. Deadline: Friday  
January 4, 2022**

|                    |                       |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 10:30am - 11:30am: | <b>BOD Meeting</b>    |
| 11:30am - Noon :   | <b>Networking</b>     |
| Noon - 1:30pm:     | <b>Joint Luncheon</b> |



*This Joint Luncheon will be held at:*

**Citrus Heights Community Center  
6300 Fountain Square Drive  
Citrus Heights, CA 95621**





ACEC  
California



# SCHOLARSHIPS

## FOR ENGINEERING & LAND SURVEYING STUDENTS

Every year, ACEC California's Scholarship Foundation awards scholarships ranging from \$1,000 to \$8,000 each to deserving college students working toward a degree in engineering and/or land surveying. The top award recipient is nominated to apply for the ACEC National scholarship competition. For this scholarship year, we plan to give up to \$50,000 in scholarships to students!

Scholarship application packets are posted on our website and are also emailed to college Engineering Departments throughout California.

\*Requirements:

1. Be entering your junior, senior, fifth or master's degree year in the Fall of the year you are applying.
2. Upper division undergraduate students must be enrolled full-time and working toward a degree in an engineering or land-surveying curriculum approved by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET).
3. Master's degree students must be enrolled at least half-time, and either be in an ABET-accredited Master of Science (MS) engineering program or have a Bachelor of Science (MS) degree from an ABET-accredited engineering program.
4. Applicants must have a minimum grade point average of 3.2 in completed engineering and land surveying courses and a minimum overall grade point average of 3.0 on a scale of 4.0.
5. Applicants must be a United States Citizen. *(Only applicable for potential CA scholarship winner eligible for national scholarship.)*

**WILL AWARD UP TO  
\$50,000 in Scholarships**

For more information and for all requirements, visit: [www.acec-ca.org](http://www.acec-ca.org)

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## GET NOTICED IN THE SIERRA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER!

### Would you like to see YOUR FIRM listed in this Newsletter?

ACEC-CA/Sierra Chapter firms in good standing are invited to submit a company profile for inclusion in this newsletter. **Firms that have not been featured in the last two years are invited to participate again.** Contact Tom Sell, Vice President, for submission details.

#### Point of Contact:

#### **Tom Sell, Vice President**

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