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**President's Message**

**By Tom Sell**

Hello, Sierra Chapter.

Despite the groundhog grossly underestimating how much winter remained, it appears that spring has arrived. It's hard to believe we are in the last quarter of the fiscal year with only a few events remaining before we break for the summer. Coming up this month is our Young Professional Forum luncheon, a great opportunity to introduce our junior staff to ACEC and build on their networking skills (hint – don't let them all sit at the same table!). See more details on the luncheon within this newsletter and bring one or more newbies with you.

Tickets for the scholarship raffle are still available for purchase: 1 for \$20 or 6 for \$99. The grand prize is a one week stay in Hawaii for two with \$1,000 towards air fare. The raffle will be held during Legislative Visit Day, May 10, 2023. Please see me at the April meeting or contact Janae Breslin, [jbreslin@acec-ca.org](mailto:jbreslin@acec-ca.org) for direct purchases of raffle tickets.

As in past years, we want to have a strong turnout from the Sierra Chapter at Legislative Visit Day in May. We are foregoing the regular monthly dinner

*Continued on page 2*

**Calendar of Events**

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

**Member Cost: \$50 - Non-Member \$60**

**ACEC Sierra Chapter**

**Wednesday, April 19, 2023**

4th Annual Young Professional "Luncheon" Forum

**Hilton Sacramento Arden West**  
11:30 (Networking) until 1:30

[Register Here](#)

**Friday, April 28, 2023**

Deadline to register for ACEC-California FY23-24 Committees

(See details on page 4)

**May 10 & 11, 2023**

Legislative Visit Day and Board of Directors Meeting (Sacramento)

(Details pages 3 & 4)

**ACEC-California**

**July 26 & 27, 2023**

Board of Directors Meeting and Leadership Training (Walnut Creek)

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



**Tom Sell**  
Sierra Chapter President  
2022-2023

## President's message continued.

*(Continued from page 1)*

meeting to free up member calendars to support LVD. Please read Marco's article inside for the details and come out to support this important event in our backyard. ACEC California's Legislative Committee has been actively reviewing and taking positions on legislation and policy of importance to the industry. A record 2600+ bills have been introduced this year. Of those, AB 334 (Eligibility to Compete) – ACEC California's sponsored legislation, [Assembly Bill 334 \(Blanca Ru-](#)

[bio](#)), seeks to clarify the state's conflict of interest statute, Government Code 1090, in order to make clear that design professionals are not automatically precluded by state law from participating in multiple phases of a public works project. Recently, the League of California Cities, the California State Association of Counties, the Special Districts Association, and others have agreed to support our legislation.

## Joint Calmentor North Region & ACEC-CA-Sierra Chapter Meeting Recap

By Donald Blackburn, Secretary/Treasurer

Sierra Chapter's annual, joint event with CalMentor drew a sizable crowd to hear Eric Souza, Caltran's North Region Acting Director. The CalMentor program encourages new businesses in California to partner with larger firms to pursue public-works projects. CalMentor holds events throughout the year to formalize mentor/protegee partnerships.

Eric touched on several exciting initiatives, including the Middle-Mile Broadband Network, Complete Streets initiative, and funding sources. Caltran's major goal is to reduce Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMTs) in all of their new projects. New project designs can lower VMTs by increasing mass transit, pedestrian, and bicycle traffic. Caltran's Complete Streets initiative makes sure that

new projects include full mobility for local communities and safe alternative forms of transportation. Attendees were excited to hear about the litany of new and existing project funding sources including SB1, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), and others.

Caltrans is working to improve project procurement and delivery through a new common project data pool and the use of augmented reality to see new designs in the field. Stay tuned with upcoming Caltrans opportunities by viewing their look-ahead report. Thank you, Eric, and CalMentor for a great event!



**WELCOME**  
new members

The Sierra Chapter is proud to announce the Board of Directors approved and welcomed the following new firms in the past year:

Firm	Month/Yr.	Member Type	City
TRC	03/23	Engineering	Roseville

Did you know that individual members that help to bring a new state ACEC California member can take advantage of the Member-Get-a-Member Recruitment Program that entitles recruiters to a \$100 VISA Gift Card? If you know a firm that may be interested in joining ACEC California, please reach out to Erik Fanselau at [Erik.Fanselau@ghd.com](mailto:Erik.Fanselau@ghd.com).

## Register for ACEC Legislative Visit Day: May 10, 2023!

By Marco Palilla and Rosa Griggs, Sierra Chapter Directors



Our annual ACEC Legislative Visit Day is next month on Wednesday, May 10th. This is our annual opportunity to advocate for infrastructure, our sponsored legislation, and other industry issues with state legislators and promote our consulting engineer and land surveying agenda. This year ACEC California will once again be hosting an *in-person* event. Historically, the Sierra Chapter brings a large and active group of volunteers and Rosa and I want to continue that tradition.

**Registration and sponsorship opportunities are now available.**

An overview of Legislative Day activities is below (starting with the Federal PAC Fundraiser on May 9<sup>th</sup>):

### May 9th

- 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm Federal PAC Fundraiser

### May 10th - Legislative Visit Day general timeline:

- 7:30 am - 8:30 am Breakfast at the Elks Tower
- 8:30 am - 11:00 am General programming and information
- 11:00 am - 12:00 pm Lunch
- 12:30 pm – 5:00 pm Meetings with legislators at the swing space
- 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm Legislators reception at the Elks Tower

### May 11<sup>th</sup>

- 8:00 am – 3:00 pm State Board meeting at the Elks Tower

*(Continued on page 4)*

(Continued from page 3)

Use this link for more information and to register: <https://www.acec-ca.org/event/LVD>

If you have questions or comments feel free to reach out to Marco Palilla ([marco.palilla@hdrinc.com](mailto:marco.palilla@hdrinc.com)) or Rosa Griggs ([rgriggs@dokkenengineering.com](mailto:rgriggs@dokkenengineering.com)).

See you at the Capitol!

## Time to Sign Up/Re-Sign Up for ACEC California FY23-24 Committees

### From ACEC California

To: All ACEC California Members

Committees are a vital component in making ACEC California a relevant and effective organization for our industry. Committee sign-ups for 2023-24 are now open. We encourage your active participation on an ACEC California committee and urge you to be engaged and sign-up for a committee today. Committee sign-ups will close Friday, April 28th. These committee appointments take effect July 1, 2023.

If you know of someone who would like to participate on a committee, please have them contact Beckie Liu at [bliu@acec-ca.org](mailto:bliu@acec-ca.org). Beckie will send them a link via email to access the survey. You are also welcome to forward the link to any interested ACEC California member.

Depending on the committee, they meet either monthly, bi-monthly, quarterly, or twice per year. Most committees meet virtually unless an in-person meeting is deemed necessary.

Please be prepared to fully participate in your chosen committee as our volunteer committee chairs may require active attendance and participation to remain on the committee.

Here is the Committee List for open sign/re-sign ups right now:

- ACEC Federal PAC Advisory Committee
- AGC Liaison Committee
- Annual Conference Committee
- BPELSG Liaison Committee
- Business Management & Insurance Committee
- Caltrans Liaison Committee
- Corps of Engineers Liaison Committee
- Diversity, Equity and Inclusivity Committee
- Land Use/Environmental Sustainability Committee
- Legislative Action & Review Committee
- NAVFAC Liaison Committee
- Prevailing Wage Committee
- Professional Surveyors Committee
- Rail Liaison Committee
- Water Resources Committee

Please visit <https://www.acec-ca.org/page/CommitteeSignUps> for more details. If you have any questions, please contact Beckie Liu at [bliu@acec-ca.org](mailto:bliu@acec-ca.org) or phone at (916) 441-7991.



**ACEC Sierra Chapter Firm Profile**



**TRANSFORMING DESIGN SINCE 1986**

[www.DokkenEngineering.com](http://www.DokkenEngineering.com)

**CIVIL & BRIDGE DESIGN**

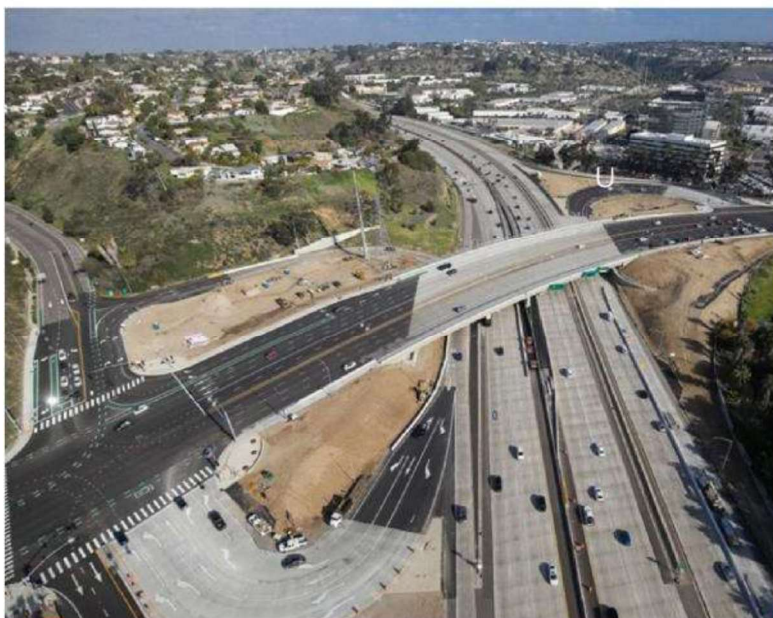
Dokken designs roads, bridges, interchanges, intersections, walls, roundabouts, multi-use trails, and more. We offer an all-inclusive design team for any public transportation project. In over 36 years, we have designed over 2,500 public agency projects and 1,500 federally funded projects throughout California.

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE**

Our planners, biologists and archaeologists know what it takes to get transportation projects environmentally cleared! From technical studies, to environmental documents, permitting, and beyond, Dokken's environmental staff have the experience and relationships to maintain project schedules, budgets, and environmental commitments.

**RIGHT OF WAY SERVICES**

Dokken provides a full spectrum of right of way services on large and small projects. Our friendly and knowledgeable right of way agents facilitate all aspects of right of way engineering & acquisition and provide property acquisition services for a variety of counties, cities, and transportation planning agencies.



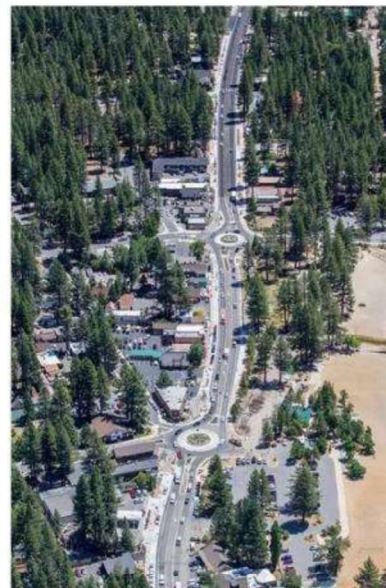
**SR-163/FRIARS ROAD INTERCHANGE**  
SAN DIEGO, CA



**RAILROAD STREET IMPROVEMENTS**  
ELK GROVE, CA



**JOHNNY CASH TRAIL & PEDESTRIAN OVERCROSSING**  
FOLSOM, CA



**SR-28/KINGS BEACH COMMERCIAL CORE**  
PLACER COUNTY, CA

## 2022-2023 Board of Directors

### Officers

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

(Gannett Fleming)  
916.677.4775  
tsell@gfnet.com

#### **Erik Fanselau, Vice President**

(GHD)  
916.256.2677  
Erik.Fanselau@ghd.com

#### **Donald Blackburn, Secretary/ Treasurer**

(Blackburn Consulting)  
530.305.0686  
donaldb@blackburnconsulting.com

### Directors

#### **JD Christiansen**

(J Design & Consulting Engineers)  
405.650.3711  
jdc@jdcengineers.com

#### **Chad Coleman**

(Coleman Engineering)  
916.791.1188  
chad@coleman-eng.com

#### **Howard Michael (AECOM)**

916.266.4938  
Howard.Michael@aecom.com

#### **Marco Palilla**

(HDR, Inc.)  
916.817.4878  
Marco.Palilla@hdrinc.com

#### **Rosa Griggs**

(Dokken Engineering)  
916.858.0642  
rgriggs@dokkenengineering.com

#### **Dana Remington**

(Psomas)  
530.392.5617  
dana.remington@psomas.com

### State Directors

#### **Tom Sell, President (2026)**

(Gannett Fleming)  
916.677.4775  
tsell@gfnet.com

#### **Scott Lillibridge (2025)**

(Rick Engineering)  
916.638.8200  
slillibridge@rickengineering.com

#### **Jerry Jones (2024)**

(Morton & Pitalo)  
916.984.7621  
jjones@mpen.com

#### **Kevin Gustorf (2023)**

(Wood Rodgers)  
916.341.7760  
kgustorf@woodrodgers.com

## 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.**

#### **Point of Contact:**

#### **Erik Fanselau, Vice President**

(GHD)  
916.256.2677  
Erik.Fanselau@ghd.com



#### **Newsletter Editor**

**Debbie LoCicero**  
dlocicero@acec-ca-sierra.org



# ACEC California Sierra Chapter

You are cordially invited to attend:

## General Membership LUNCH Meeting Wednesday April 19, 2023

### "4th Annual Young Professional Luncheon Forum"

#### Panel:

Lindsey Van Parys (GHD, private)  
Antonio Pantoja (Kimley-Horn, private)  
Chad Coleman (Coleman Engr, private)  
Daniel Kehrer (City of Citrus Heights, public)



Members of the panel will answer these 4 questions (as well as questions from the audience)

- What is the most important career advice you would give a young professional?
- What is the biggest challenge you faced in your professional career, and what did you learn from it?
- What skills or characteristics are the most important for a young professional to possess in today's employment market?
- What is the biggest change you have seen in our industry since you started your career?

#### **On-line Registration/ RSVP:**

[Register Here](#)

11:30am - 12:00pm Networking  
12:00pm - 1:30pm: Lunch Meeting

R.S.V.P. Deadline: Friday  
April 14th 12:00 Noon



## Hilton

SACRAMENTO  
ARDEN WEST

Meetings are held at the Hilton  
unless otherwise noted.

**Hilton Sacramento Arden West**  
2200 Harvard Street  
Sacramento, CA

# SCHOLARSHIP RAFFLE

## GRAND PRIZE



**Win a trip for two to Maui, Hawaii!**

7 night stay and \$1,000 towards air fare included

### ADDITIONAL RAFFLE PRIZES

- St. Francis Wine Club
- Apple Watch Series 8
- Bose Noise Canceling Headphones
- \$400 Home Depot Gift Card
- Gift Card Basket
- \$250 Amazon Gift Card
- and more...

## Raffle Ticket Order Form

### TICKETS

1 FOR \$20  
OR  
6 FOR \$99

# of Tickets: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Cost: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Payment (Select one)

Check payable to ACEC California Scholarship Foundation

Credit Card

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Return this form by email:

[jbreslin@acec-ca.org](mailto:jbreslin@acec-ca.org)

#### Return this form by mail:

ACEC California  
c/o Janae Breslin  
1303 J Street, Suite 450  
Sacramento, CA 95814

#### Your Information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Firm/Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**The raffle pull will be held at ACEC California's Legislative Visit Day, May 10, 2023.**

**NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN.**