

WTS Sacramento Chapter e-NEWS

JULY 2010



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Message from the President

Welcome to WTS Sacramento's e-NEWS!

Remember, you have until Friday to RSVP for our next lunch program on **Tuesday, July 27**. **Bimla Rhinehart**, Executive Director of the California Transportation Commission (CTC), will be talking to us about the role of the CTC, its priorities and challenges ahead. [Register to attend by clicking here.](#)



I am proud to announce that WTS Sacramento is continuing its **Professional Development Workshop** series this year. We will be taking reservations for these workshops soon, but in the meantime, please save these dates:

Thursday, August 26: Leadership vs. Management

Thursday, September 9: Negotiating Skills

Tuesday, September 14: Giving Effective Presentations

All of the workshops will be held from 6pm - 8pm at the AECOM office at 2020 L Street, Suite 300, in downtown Sacramento.

This e-NEWS features a recap of our June lunch program and includes a message from Beverly Mason, our liaison to the WTS International Board, with information from the WTS Annual Conference that took place in May.

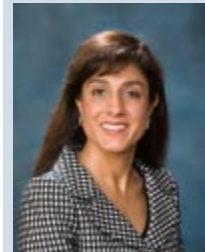
Until next month,

Myriam Frausto
WTS Sacramento Chapter President

June Program: Richard Shepard

On Tuesday, June 15, WTS Sacramento's monthly lunch program featured City of Elk Grove Public Works Director Richard Shepard. Richard's topic was "The City of Elk Grove, a Contract Model City."

July Program



**Tuesday,
July 27, 2010**

**Bimla Rhinehart,
California
Transportation
Commission**

[Click here for full program details and to RSVP!](#)

Location: SACOG Board Room

Time: 11:30am - 1pm

Cost: Free for Members, \$15 for Non-Members

RSVP by July 23

August Program

**Tuesday,
August 24, 2010**



Richard shared some background information about the City of Elk Grove, including the fact that the City will be celebrating its 10th anniversary in July (it was incorporated as a city in July 2000).

Richard described how the City of Elk Grove uses an entrepreneurial service delivery model that utilizes public-private partnerships, which enables the City to staff up or down to efficiently meet demand for services like planning and public works.



He identified some advantages to being a "Contract City," including the City's ability to be "quick and nimble," the reduction in administrative human resource needs, and the ability to tie payment to contract performance. Some disadvantages include that this contract model is typically more costly, there can be conflicts in allegiance (public vs. private staffing), and there can be a public perception of limited accountability and staff supervision ("who's guarding the hen house?").

These are great insights into running a City. Thank you, Richard, for a wonderful

The TIGER-funded
Marine Highway
Project & Port of West
Sacramento Overview

Speaker: Mike Luken,
Port Manager

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presentation!

Regional Director's Message

WOW!! Another WTS Annual Conference has been successfully held. On May 19-21, 2010, WTS met in our nation's capital, Washington, D.C. WTS was fortunate to have at the speaker's podium many national transportation leaders, including Secretary Ray LaHood, to complement WTS' excellent representation of transportation professionals from across the country. During the opening session of the conference, WTS signed a Memorandum of Cooperation with US DOT to support the advancement of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) through a strategic partnership. The full article is available at <http://www.wtsinternational.org>.



Other highlights of the Annual Conference included:

- The Leadership Initiative celebrating its 10th anniversary, with many of the 140 graduates present to take part in a "Leading in Challenging Times" session.
- Thursday evening's banquet, where the scholarship recipients wowed us with their accomplishments and the international award winners eloquently accept their plaques.
- The transition to the new 2010-2012 International Board, which took place at Friday morning's annual meeting. Terry Gruver took over the new title of Chair.

This year's conference came to a close with the exciting invitation for all members to join us in San Francisco, CA for the next Annual Conference, May 17-20, 2011.

I have been fortunate to be asked to serve as your regional director again but with one small twist. Region 7 will be in a new group of chapters for 2010-2012. Sacramento and San Francisco will be joined by Portland, OR; Puget Sound, WA (Seattle); and Strait of Georgia, BC (Canada). I look forward to sharing some of our California sunshine and transportation experience up the West coast.

As always, I would enjoy hearing from you. You can contact me at Beverly.Mason@aecocom.com.

Best regards, Beverly



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New Members

Thanks to our new members
who have recently joined
WTS Sacramento!

--Jennifer Colosi, BKF

--Marleece Peart, Caltrans

--Francisca Ruger, PBS&J