

## 14<sup>th</sup> Annual STA Awards – Bullet Points for Winners – November 9, 2011

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### ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE YEAR

#### *Tracee Stacey – Senior & People with Disabilities Transportation Advisory Committee*

- Tracee Stacy is passionate about senior issues. Over the years she has been actively involved in the Vacaville Senior Roundtable, Co-founded the Senior Health and Resource Exchange (S.H.A.R.E.), Co-founded the Consortium for Education on Aging, member of the Senior Coalition of Solano County and acting Vice-Chairperson.
- On the transportation side, she attended and participated in both of the Solano Senior and Disabled Transportation Summits. Tracee Stacy is an active member of the Solano Senior and People with Disabilities Transportation Advisory Committee. She volunteers to contribute and be a part of the Solano Seniors and People with Disabilities Transportation Advisory Sub-Committee Vehicle Registration Fee Expenditure Plan.
- With her active involvement in a variety of seniors' issues, she brings to the Solano Senior and People with Disabilities Transportation Advisory Committee a vast amount of knowledge and expertise. She looks for solutions and is an active voice for senior mobility in all her committees.

### TRANSIT EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

#### *Shawn Christianson – City of Fairfield*

- Shawn Christianson is the Vehicle Maintenance Supervisor for the City of Fairfield and is responsible for the day to day maintenance of over 335 City vehicles, including Fairfield and Suisun Transit's (FAST's) entire transit fleet.
- In September 2010, Shawn led a team of City mechanics and manufacturers representatives that installed new electronic fare boxes in all 56 of FAST's coaches.
- This massive undertaking was completed in just 3 days, with no missed routes. The manufacturer characterized FAST's roll-out as the best they had seen in the nation.
- Shawn has followed up by training staff to maintain and fix the electronic fare boxes, and preparing a troubleshooting guide for transit road supervisors so they can identify and repair minor malfunctions, leading to less downtime.

## **BUSINESS OF THE YEAR**

### ***California Vegetable Specialties***

- California Vegetable Specialties (CVS) is one of the largest private employers in Rio Vista. It grows, produces and transports its unique endive food specialty to Whole Foods, Trader Joes, and markets throughout the US.
- Over 60 % of its 60 employees regularly use commute alternatives like carpool, biking, or walking and the company regularly encourages the use of such alternative modes. CVS employees have participated in the Solano Commute Challenge for 5 years.
- CVS is currently constructing a 20,000 sf., \$2 million warehouse addition to their complex. It will utilize state-of-the-art foam block construction materials to reduce greenhouse gases by providing R-values of nearly R-100 in the walls and R-50 in the roof. Additionally, sustainable water usage practices are used to recycle much of the water used in the growing process.

### ***State Compensation Insurance Fund***

- State Compensation Insurance Fund (State Fund) decreased their office space in San Francisco and relocated over 700 employees to their Vacaville and Pleasanton campuses in a series of moves between July and September 2011.
- Staff at the Vacaville campus took the lead in coordinating the entire relocation and demonstrated an ongoing interest in informing employees about commute alternatives. Working with Solano Napa Commuter Information (SNCI) staff, State Fund surveyed their employees to determine their needs and held two (2) events, at the Vacaville and San Francisco offices, to inform employees about options for their new commutes.
- As a result of these efforts, 17 new vanpools were formed this summer, with more vanpools expected to form,
- Many other State Fund employees are now carpooling or taking transit instead of driving alone to their new worksites, reducing the impact on roadways, traffic congestion and air quality.

## **PLANNING/TLC**

### ***City of Vallejo – Downtown Streetscapes Project***

- The City of Vallejo has completed the planning, preliminary engineering, and environmental clearance for improvements to be made along the streets within a 14-block area in downtown Vallejo. The Downtown Streetscape Project will contribute to revitalizing Vallejo's waterfront area. It is adjacent to historic downtown and complements the Vallejo Station Intermodal Transit Oriented Development area.
- This project is a great example of Transportation for Livable Communities (TLC) planning and implementation. It provides connectivity and accessibility for bicyclists, pedestrians, and people with disabilities to multiple forms of Transit (ferry and bus) as well as the historic downtown and waterfront districts.
- The Vallejo Downtown Specific Plan proposes to expand mixed-use and employment opportunities Downtown while preserving existing retail and service uses, reinforcing Downtown as a strong focal point for the City and surrounding neighborhoods.

## **SAFETY PROJECT OF THE YEAR**

### ***Caltrans – SR 12 East Safety Improvements and Rehabilitation***

- Located in an unincorporated area of Solano County, the State Route 12 East Safety Improvements and Rehabilitation project included shoulder widening, left-turn channelization, drainage modifications, intersection widening, flattening vertical and horizontal alignments, and rehabilitation of existing roadway pavement.
- Providing standard shoulders, left-turn lanes and corrected vertical and horizontal profile characteristics within the Montezuma Hills helped improve stopping sight distances. The median channelizers and concrete median prohibit passing by using lanes for opposing traffic and therefore prevent head-on collisions.
- The project was completed in less than 2 years and cost \$25 million, 53% under the Engineer's estimate. Environmental mitigation was successfully coordinated with multiple agencies. The project goal is saving lives and the benefits are beyond measure.

## **PROJECT OF THE YEAR**

### ***City of Vallejo – Vallejo Transit Center***

- The Vallejo Station Intermodal Facility, when completed, will be the transit oriented development envisioned in the City of Vallejo Waterfront and Downtown Specific Plans. The Vallejo Transit Center Project constructed a new bus terminal as the first phase of this regional transit facility.
- A critical milestone in this transit oriented development, these expanded facilities are an integral investment in the broader Solano I-80 system vision, connecting Solano residents to the San Francisco Bay Area and Sacramento from the heart of this new mega-region.
- The Vallejo Transit Center will provide a central and secure bus transfer center for an estimated 1.4 million riders annually of the Vallejo Transit and other connecting transit systems. The Vallejo Transit Center will be home to the recently formed SolTrans transit agency, which consolidated transit services of the cities of Vallejo and Benicia.
- The Vallejo Transit Center will serve as the main transfer point for bus passengers in downtown Vallejo, providing transit connections for the Napa and Solano County labor force serving San Francisco and other Bay Area communities. Bus passengers will have closer proximity to the Baylink Ferry Terminal. The Vallejo Transit Center will help the City to continue to grow transit usage in the North Bay.

## **PROJECT DELIVERY**

### ***City of Vallejo***

- The City of Vallejo successfully delivered the Vallejo Transit Center project, and Phase 1A of the Downtown Streetscape project.
- The total cost of the Vallejo Transit Center was \$8.7M, and was funded from federal, state, regional and local sources. The project was celebrated with a ribbon cutting ceremony in June 2011. The facilities include a 12-bay bus shelter for transit riders, public parking, and an administration building which houses the newly formed Solano County Transit (SolTrans) merger of the Vallejo and Benicia transit services.
- The Downtown Streetscape Project provides elements that encourage transit use: street furniture, landscaping, news racks, bulb outs, engraved pavers, wall seating, bike racks and lighting. The first phase of the downtown streetscape project was funded with federal funds in 2009. Construction commenced in November 2009, and project completion was in October 2010.

## **PARTNER OF THE YEAR**

### ***California Transportation Commission***

- Due to their commitment of improving transportation in Solano County, the CTC voted funding for the following three major projects, State Route 12 Jameson Canyon, I-80 Eastbound Cordelia Truck Scales and the Jepson Parkway Project.
- The California Transportation Commission (CTC) recognizes the significance of these transportation projects that not only provide congestion relief, but also safety, air quality and economic benefits as well. As a result, these major construction projects will help put people to work in Solano County.
- The high profile state budget crisis has created many fiscal challenges in the funding and delivery of transportation projects throughout the state. The CTC continues to understand the significance of funding these projects as a way to not only improve transportation mobility within the county, but also as a way to economically contribute to the recovery in the state.

## **AGENCY OF THE YEAR**

### ***City of Fairfield***

- The Central Segment and Hook of the North Connector Project and the North Texas Street Interchange Project were delivered because of Fairfield's long standing commitment to have development pay for its share of transportation improvements and to creatively leverage all funding that can be secured to deliver regionally significant transportation projects.
- The City is incorporating regional transportation objectives into its land use planning (Fairfield/Vacaville Rail Station Specific Plan) to ensure that the last growth areas in Fairfield will contribute to making Solano County a desirable place to live and do business.
- As lead agency for the new planned Fairfield/Vacaville Intermodal Station, the City of Fairfield has worked closely with STA, Vacaville, and the Capital Corridor Joint Powers Authority to deliver one of the largest construction projects in city history by 2014 using a combination of funding.
- Mayor Price's leadership and vision for a comprehensive I-80 corridor strategy has helped put Solano County in a key position for funding transportation projects.