



INLAND EMPIRE SECTION

Professional Engineers in California Government



Quarterly Section Report, March 2018

The Section 2017-2018

Officers:

Reyna Baeza-Oregel
Director

Omar Perez
President

JC Alvarez
President-Elect

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Joya Gilster-Nava
VP Rank & File

Keith Elliott
VP at Large

Tariq Jouzi
Secretary

Sylvia Rivas
Treasurer

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Below: In December, Section President Omar Perez joins other Caltrans employees delivering toys to the CHP for their “Spark of Love” toy drive. This year over 500,000 toys were delivered to children during the holidays.







March Quarterly Section Report




INLAND EMPIRE SECTION



2018 PECG Calendar






20
- HAPPY NEW YEAR -
18

Pick up yours from:

Denise Craig	12th floor	(909) 383-4068
Aaron Brady	11th floor	(909) 388-7304
Joya Gilster-Nava	10th floor	(909) 383-1027
Jane Pham	7th floor	(909) 806-3961
Omar Perez	TMC/SRL	(909) 356-3734
Keith Elliott	Riverside	(951) 782-4925



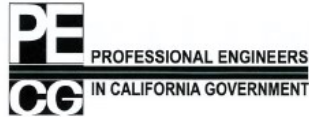
20
- HAPPY NEW YEAR -
18

Right: Our Section President Omar Perez helps to hand out the new 2018 PECG calendars.





2018 Legislative Day February 13th



PECG LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES FOR 2018

Implementing SB 1 Efficiently and Cost-Effectively

PECG strongly supported SB 1, the transportation funding plan approved last year to provide stable, ongoing funding to repair and replace California's deteriorating state highways and bridges, and other transportation infrastructure.

To ensure that SB 1 commitments are met and that new resources are spent wisely the state must:

**CT must hire
engineers to
deliver SB 1
projects.**

Hire Engineering Staff. The Department of Transportation must hire the engineers and related professionals needed to deliver the billions of dollars of new state highway projects funded by SB 1. Unfortunately, fewer engineers work at Caltrans today than

were on the job the day SB 1 passed. The department must dedicate itself to an effective hiring plan (as authorized in SB 1) to deliver the projects Californians expect and deserve.

Stop Outsourcing – It Costs Twice as Much! Caltrans currently wastes over \$100 million each year by awarding no-bid contracts to outsource nearly 1,000 engineering positions to consultants at twice the cost of using state engineers to perform the work. Other state departments and agencies also continue to reduce or limit state engineering positions while outsourcing. This wasteful practice must end.

**Stop
outsourcing
at twice
the cost!**

Safe, Reliable, and Cost-Effective Water Supply

PECG is supporting two budget proposals to ensure that Californians have a safe, reliable and cost-effective water supply:

Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund (SADWF).

The SWRCB has identified 331 public water systems that do not meet minimum federal and state drinking water standards. As a result, over one million Californians do not have access to safe drinking water, as required by state law. PECG strongly supports the creation of the SADWF to dedicate funding and staffing so every community has access to safe and affordable drinking water.



**Every
Californian
deserves safe,
clean water!**

Safe, Well-Maintained State Water Project (SWP).

California must commit sufficient resources and staff to inspect and maintain the SWP on behalf of the 25 million Californians and hundreds of thousands of acres of farmland that depend on it. PECG strongly supports the governor's proposal to hire an additional 74 engineers and related professionals (funded by the state water contractors) committed to the safety and long-term viability of the SWP.

Meeting Pension Commitments

A defined benefit pension is a key component of the total compensation package that allows the state to attract and retain engineers and related professionals, many of whom could make much more in the private sector. The state and other public employers have an obligation to keep their pension promises.

PECG has a proven record of working to stabilize the CalPERS system. In recent years, PECG has agreed to significantly increase the pension contributions of its members, to equalize employee and employer contributions, and to increase retirement ages and reduce benefits for new hires. These changes became the model for PEPRA, the sweeping statewide pension reform measure approved in 2012 that will save the state \$42 to \$55 billion over the next 30 years and save billions more for local pension systems.

PECG is dedicated to the sustainability of the CalPERS system, but believes any discussion to meet that objective should be free of the suggestion that the state can and should step away from its commitments to its employees.

**The state has
an obligation to
keep its pension
promise!**

Right: Omar Perez, Scott Hongkham, Jane Pham, Reyna Baeza-Oregel and Tim Sharp at the Capitol after meeting with Legislators earlier in the day.





2018 Legislative Day February 13th



Left: Jane Pham and Reyna Baeza-Oregel with other PECG Officers, pose with State Controller Betty T. Yee.

Right: Section Officers at the Evening reception in the State Capitol. They were part of the 68 PECG members to meet with over 90 Legislators that day.



Left: Bruce Blanning, Scott Hongkham, Assemblywoman Melissa Melendez, Reyna Baeza-Oregel and Jane Pham pose in the Assemblywoman's office.



Upcoming Events Evening with Industry



The Society of Women Engineers Executive Summary

University of California, Riverside
900 University Ave.
Bourns Hall A165
Riverside, CA 92507

PECG members Sheilah Neff, Cathy Barron and Mary Padres are scheduled to speak at “Evening With Industry 2018”, held at UCR. This event seeks to advance students in Engineering by exposing them to Industry professionals.



Upcoming Events Science Fair-SIMS



Ted Alejandre, County Superintendent

San Bernardino County
Superintendent of Schools
Transforming lives through education

Superintendent Academic/Personal Success Business Education Support Human Resources Student Services Technology

Personal and Academic Success

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SIM Science and Engineering Fair

The San Bernardino, Inyo and Mono Counties (SIM) Science and Engineering Fair is an annual competition of science projects designed, developed and displayed by elementary and secondary students from schools in each county.

Participants share their creative abilities, knowledge and interests with other students. Experienced judges with background knowledge in specific areas of science critique the projects for qualities including: scientific method, content, clarity of presentation and originality.

Awards Ceremony:
Awards include trophies, medals and opportunities for students to move onto further competition at the California State Science Fair for grades 6-12. Community awards are presented to students from private businesses and organizations. Some of the awards include cash prizes and educational bonds.

Coordinator Resources
Student/Parent
Volunteers
Volunteer Judges

Above: The SIMS (San Bernardino, Inyo and Mono Counties) Science Fair will take place on April 3rd at the Auto Club Speedway in Fontana.



Upcoming Events

Science Fair-Riverside County



**RIVERSIDE COUNTY
OFFICE OF EDUCATION**
JUDY D. WHITE, Ed.D. | County Superintendent of Schools

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Science and Engineering Fair



Grades 4-12

The Science and Engineering Fair is a competition of science and engineering projects designed, developed, and displayed by students in grades 4-12.

Participants share their creative abilities, knowledge, and interests with other students. Experienced judges critique the projects for qualities including scientific method, content, clarity of presentation, and originality. The Riverside County Science and Engineering Fair is affiliated with the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair and the Broadcom MASTERS competition.

2017 Science and Engineering Fair Press Release | Photo Gallery

Important Dates*

Tuesday, September 12, 2017	Science and Engineering Fair Affiliate Coordinators Meeting RCOE Conference Center, 3958 Twelfth Street, Riverside 4:30 p.m.
Saturday, October 28, 2017	Science Fair Expo (to register, visit http://roec.k12oms.org/485-129113 or see flyer below) RCOE Conference Center, 3958 Twelfth Street, Riverside 9:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Tuesday, January 9, 2018	Science and Engineering Fair Affiliate Coordinator's Meeting RCOE Conference Center, 3958 Twelfth Street, Riverside 4:30 p.m.
Friday, February 23, 2018	Science and Engineering Fair District Registration Deadline
Monday, March 19, 2018	Science and Engineering Fair Project Set-up and Judging Riverside Convention Center, 3637 Fifth Street, Riverside 7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Schedule of Events – available soon	
Tuesday, March 20, 2018	Science and Engineering Fair Public Viewing 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
	Science and Engineering Fair Awards Ceremony 6:00 p.m. Riverside Convention Center, 3637 Fifth Street, Riverside Schedule of Events – available soon *All projects must be removed by 9:00 p.m. on March 20, 2018



For Event Information Contact:

Tracey Case

Administrator

tcase@rcoc.us

(951) 826-6570

Student Events

Academic Decathlon

History Day

Mock Trial

Science and Engineering Fair

Spelling Bee

Above: The Riverside County Science Fair will take place on March 20th at the Riverside Convention Center.



Upcoming Events March Section Meeting



MARCH SECTION MEETING



Guest Speaker:



Bruce Blanning

Executive Director of
PECG and he also
serves as the
bargaining chief
negotiator for us.
Bruce has over 35
years of experience
representing public
employees.

When:
Thursday
March 8, 2018

Time:
11:30 AM

Where:
Norman Feldheym Public
Library
555 W. 6th Street
San Bernardino

Lunch will be provided

Obtain a Meal Ticket from:

Denise Craig	12th floor	(909) 383-4068
Aaron Brady	11th floor	(909) 388-7304
Joya Gilster-Nava	10th floor	(909) 383-1027
Reyna Baeza-Oregel	7th floor	(909) 806-3990
Jane Pham	7th floor	(909) 806-3961
Omar Perez	TMC/SRL	(909) 356-3734
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