

# CALIFORNIA ASPHALT INSIDER

The latest news and views from the California Asphalt Pavement Association

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[www.calapa.net](http://www.calapa.net)

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## CALENDAR

(Always on-line [HERE](#))

\*

### **AND THEY'RE OFF!**

**Day at the Races**  
**Saturday, July 20, noon to 6 p.m.**

Del Mar Race Track  
2260 Jimmy Durante Blvd.,  
Del Mar

Contact: Sophie You (916)

## Greetings!

This weekly bulletin contains the latest news and information of interest to the asphalt pavement industry in California. Please feel free to distribute this newsletter to others who may be interested in asphalt pavements.

## → Federal-state dispute over vehicle fuel-efficiency standards threatens an estimated 2,000 projects worth \$130 billion in CA

A dispute between the Trump administration and California air quality regulators over vehicle mileage standards has placed thousands of transportation improvement projects in jeopardy of being delayed.

California, home to some of the dirtiest air in the nation, has been granted wide latitude by the federal government to set air quality standards and enforcement, which has been emulated by 13 other states. The construction industry, in particular, has felt the pinch of these regulations that cover everything from diesel equipment and vehicle emissions to plant operations.

The Trump administration has taken a markedly different approach to environmental regulations than the previous Obama administration, however, and that has created a clash over proposed federal rollbacks to Obama-era fuel economy and greenhouse gas standards for vehicles. The federal Environmental Protection Agency has also proposed revoking a waiver that lets California set its own, much stricter tailpipe emissions rules, which is likely to trigger a court fight. The standards are officially known as Safer Affordable Fuel-Efficient (SAFE) Vehicles Rule for Model Years 2021-2026 Passenger Cars and Light Trucks.



For perhaps the first time ever, this battle places the California Air Resources Board (CARB) on the same side of a fight with the construction industry and construction trade unions. None other than CARB Board Chair Mary Nichols noted that the state must conform to air quality goals set by the EPA's Clean Air Act, and in failing to do so could lead to lawsuits from groups that oppose freeway projects.

"Or, the Trump administration, which is showing in many ways these days a desire to hurt California, could decide that they would no longer fund highway programs that have previously been approved," she said, as reported in a June 2 article by the Times of San Diego. "And then we would be unable to continue working on a bunch of different projects that are designed to improve traffic flow-because we wouldn't have the federal funds."

Contact: Sophie You (916)  
791-5044  
Details [HERE](#).

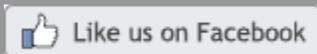
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**SAVE THE DATES!**  
Fall Asphalt Pavement  
Conference, Wednesday &  
Thursday, Nov. 6-7  
Hilton Sacramento Arden  
West, 2200 Harvard St.,  
Sacramento  
Contact Sophie You at (916)  
791-5044 for sponsorship and  
exhibitor information.

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**SAVE THE DATE!**  
CalAPA Annual Dinner  
Thursday, Jan. 16, 2020,  
5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.  
Jonathan Club, 545 S.  
Figueroa Street, Los Angeles.  
Contact Sophie You at (916)  
791-5044 for sponsorship and  
table-reservation  
information.

## SOCIALIZE



## CHOOSE ASPHALT

Asphalt is used on about 93 percent of paved roads in California and across the U.S. Why? Because it's smooth, quiet, safe, durable and 100 percent recyclable. Visit the

Transportation California, a coalition of pro-transportation organizations, including CalAPA, is sounding the alarm over this dust-up, as are government agencies. Transportation California said the proposed rollback will "result in a wide variety of disastrous impacts in California and across the nation."



"The proposed rule-making would put nearly 2,000 transportation infrastructure improvement projects, totaling over \$130 billion at risk of project delivery delays, or loss of funding in California and would have severe impacts on tens of thousands of well-paying construction jobs and the overall economy," the group said in a draft letter being prepared for delivery to the 53 members of California's Congressional delegation. "If the rule were finalized in 2019, approximately \$28 billion would be at risk in the first year alone. These impacts are in addition to the more obvious impacts such as increases in carbon dioxide and nitrogen oxides emissions from less fuel-efficient vehicles (15 million metric tons by 2030 and 763 million more tons per year by 2030, respectively) making our air dirtier and reducing quality of life in the Golden State."

Or as the Times of San Diego editorialized, "Unrelenting commutes. Lost construction jobs. A statewide economic shudder. Prepare for all three if California loses its clean air battle with the Trump administration."

For more information from CARB on the SAFE rule-making situation, click [HERE](#). The U.S. EPA web page devoted to the SAFE rule-making process is [HERE](#). To find your member of Congress by your zip code, including a link to send an e-mail message on this or any other topic, click [HERE](#).

## → FAA announces airport improvement grants; 6 projects valued at \$68 million are located in California

The Federal Aviation Administration last week announced the awarding of the first batch of \$3.18 billion worth of fiscal year 2019 Airport Improvement Program grant funds, distributing \$840 million in the form of 432 grants for infrastructure projects at 381 airports around the country, including six in California.

The projects include runway reconstruction and rehabilitation and the maintenance of taxiways and aprons. The FAA announcement on June 5 can be found [HERE](#). A list of the various projects is [HERE](#).

Airport infrastructure in the United States includes 3,332 airports and 5,000 paved runways, the FAA said.



*An asphalt paving operation at Santa Barbara Airport*

According to the agency's

percent recyclable. Visit the [Asphalt Pavement Alliance website](#) learn more about why asphalt is the right choice now more than ever.



## GET TECHNICAL

Are you an engineer, designer or technical professional who makes decisions on pavement type selection? The DriveAsphalt website has technical reports and other resources may be just what you're looking for. Click [HERE](#) for more information.



## CalAPA

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## BACK ISSUES

Did you miss an issue of the *California Asphalt Insider*? No problem! Past editions of the newsletter are available at the CalAPA newsletter [archive page](#).

According to the agencies *Santa Barbara Airport*. most recent economic analysis, U.S. civil aviation accounts for \$1.6 trillion in total economic activity and supports nearly 11 million jobs.

The six California projects announced last week, valued at more than \$68 million, include projects in Bishop (taxiway work), Bob Hope Airport in Burbank (taxiway work), Brackett Field in La Verne (apron reconstruction), Monterey Regional Airport (land acquisition) and Sacramento International Airport (runway rehabilitation).

## → It's long-shot season, and a perfect time to spend a Saturday at Del Mar; this year's 'Day at the Races' is set for July 20

CalAPA is back with one its most popular member-only events of the year: our annual "Day at the Races" at beautiful Del Mar Race Track in Del Mar. Click [HERE](#) learn more and to secure your tickets.

Don't delay because last year's event sold out quickly. The Southern California Contractors' Committee is once again hosting this gala event on opening weekend for thoroughbred racing at the historic seaside track, which was first opened for business by singer Bing Crosby in 1937. The association has reserved a luxury suite at the Del Mar Thoroughbred Club on Saturday, July 20.

The "Star Fiddle Skyroom" boasts panoramic views from a private balcony close to the finish line, with its own betting windows, access to grounds, a fabulous lunch buffet, snacks and a no-host bar.

Tickets for this family-friendly event are \$119 for adults, with reduced prices for youngsters, and must be purchased in advance via the CalAPA website no later than July 9. Click [HERE](#) to order. Del Mar, "where the turf meets the surf," is not only one of the most scenic race tracks in the world, it's also rich with history.



*The view from the CalAPA skybox at Del Mar.*

The thoroughbreds who have galloped around the Del Mar oval include some of the most famous names on four legs, including Seabiscuit, Cigar and Silver Charm. Legendary jockeys that have ridden to glory at Del Mar include Bill Shoemaker, Laffit Pincay, Jr. and Chris McCarron. Some of the biggest trainers in the business also have stepped into the Winner's Circle at Del Mar, including D. Wayne Lucas, Charlie Wittingham and Doug O'Neill.

What keeps Del Mar breaking attendance records is that it continues to bear witness to more "I was there" moments. In 2014, the CalAPA-sponsored 1st Race was won by Lord Nelson, a 2-year-old thoroughbred trained by Hall of Fame trainer Bob Baffert, who joined CalAPA representatives Holly Mendell and John Michalik from California Commercial Asphalt in the Winner's Circle. Two years later Baffert was the trainer of 2016's Triple Crown winner, American

Pharoah, and made national headlines a year later as trainer for



CalAPA produces a highly regarded magazine, *California Asphalt*, and an annual membership directory. To view current and past issues of the magazine, click [HERE](#). For advertising sales information, click [HERE](#) or call Kerry Hoover with Construction Marketing Services at (909) 772-3121.

STAY INFORMED



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GET CERTIFIED!



The Caltrans-industry Joint Training & Certification Program (JTCP) for materials

technicians is holding classes

Florida, and made national headlines a year later as trainer for Triple Crown winner Justify, which galloped to victory at the Kentucky Derby, Preakness and Belmont.

And who can forget California Chrome? The chestnut colt, a home-state favorite, raced at Del Mar before going on to win the Kentucky Derby and Preakness in 2014.



***Home-grown California Chrome raced to Kentucky Derby glory and also raced at Del Mar.***

If there was any doubt that thoroughbred horse racing continues to deliver high drama, look no further than this year's Triple Crown races, with a historic disqualification at the crowded Kentucky Derby (Country House, an eye-popping 65-to-1 shot, was ultimately declared the winner), and a riderless horse (Bodexpress) that galloped the entire course sans jockey (John Velazquez) at the Preakness (won by War of Will). Saturday's Belmont Stakes was won by another long-shot (8-to-1), Sir Winston, demonstrating once again that anything can happen on race day.

To view pictures from last year's CalAPA "Day at the Races," click [HERE](#) to visit our Facebook page. Bring your family, co-workers, favorite customers or best friends to our "Day at the Races" and perhaps you'll see the next superstar thoroughbred in action, or cheer another long-shot down the stretch, and be part of another "I was there" moment. For more information, contact Sophie You of CalAPA at (916) 791-5044.

→ Tech Term of the Week

*Each week we highlight a word, acronym or other reference commonly used in the asphalt pavement industry in California.*

**STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS:** Refers to the Standard Specifications published periodically by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). The Standard Specifications can be modified by Revised Standard Specifications (RSS).

→ Paving Pointer of the Week

*Each week we highlight a key point or best practice of interest to asphalt paving crews, inspectors and others working in the field. We welcome suggestions. More tips can be found in our Asphalt Parking Lot Construction Checklist [HERE](#).*

**CALL BEFORE YOU DIG:** Call 8-1-1 prior to construction when plans call for any type of excavation so that the location of underground utilities can be verified and marked. More information on the 8-1-1 program in California can be found [HERE](#).

→ Quote of the Week

technicians is holding classes in Northern and Southern California. Click [HERE](#) to visit our JTCP resource page to learn more.

## DESIGN!

**PAVE**Express  
Specify & Verify Pavement  
Designs Online for Free  
[www.pavexpressdesign.com](http://www.pavexpressdesign.com)

To visit the PAVEExpress website, click [HERE](#). To view the companion website, PaveInstruct, click [HERE](#).

## LEARN!

We can bring CalAPA's popular training classes to your facility at a date and time convenient to you! Click [HERE](#) to view our "hosted" training class flier, or contact CalAPA at (916) 791-5044 for details. This service is available to public agencies and CalAPA members only.



## → Quote of the Week

"It is wonderful how much may be done if we are always doing."

Thomas Jefferson

We hope you enjoy CalAPA's *Asphalt Insider*. We are committed to providing you with the most up-to-date information on technical issues, regulation, news, analysis, events and trends in California that may impact the asphalt pavement industry. Click [HERE](#) to contact us with any comments or suggestions.

Sincerely,

**Russell W. Snyder, CAE**

Executive Director

California Asphalt Pavement Association (CalAPA)®

**TIME IS MONEY**  
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LEARN MORE AT [WWW.DRIVEASPHALT.ORG](http://WWW.DRIVEASPHALT.ORG)



The *California Asphalt Insider* is an official publication of the California Asphalt Pavement Association. For more information or to inquire about membership, call (916) 791-5044, or click [HERE](#) to send us an e-mail.

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