TRANSPORTATION CORRIDOR AGENCIES NAMED EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR

At its Annual Awards and Scholarship Gala, the Orange County chapter of Women’s Transportation Seminar (WTS) named the Transportation Corridor Agencies (TCA) 2016’s Employer of the Year. WTS is a national organization of transportation professionals with a mission of transforming the industry through the advancement of women.

TCA is committed to recruiting, retaining and advancing women in transportation to support their continuing growth and strength in the industry. Fifty percent of TCA’s executive team and 59 percent of its staff are women. All TCA employees are encouraged to advance within the organization; reimbursed for professional education; encouraged to be involved in professional organizations; and provided with professional development opportunities.

Lisa Bartlett, a TCA Vice Chair and Orange County Supervisor, 5th District, accepted the award on behalf of TCA. Bartlett is one of TCA’s seven female board members.

TOLL BOOTH REMOVAL BEGINS EARLY THIS YEAR

Work begins this month to remove select toll booths at on- and off-ramps along The Toll Roads. With the conversion to all-electronic tolling, the toll booths are no longer needed and removing them allows the lanes to be widened to create safer driving conditions when entering and exiting The Toll Roads.

Thirteen toll booths will be removed at 11 locations -- five on the 73 Toll Road and six on the 133, 241 and 261 Toll Roads. Construction activities will require weekend closures of ramps. Advanced public outreach will include notices to adjacent neighborhoods and signage informing drivers of the closures. Construction is anticipated to begin early this year and be completed by June 2017.

During the first phase of the project toll booths will be removed where traffic travels on both sides of the booth. Subsequent phases will include removing toll booths at single lane ramps and at mainline toll points.

STUDY OF TRAFFIC RELIEF OPTIONS IN SOUTH ORANGE COUNTY MOVES FORWARD

The Foothill/Eastern Transportation Corridor Agency (F/ETCA) is moving forward with further study of transportation mobility solutions for the South Orange County region. The Agency has begun the Caltrans project initiation process to evaluate the technical feasibility of 16 transportation alternatives identified through a community and stakeholder outreach process.

The results of this initial process will determine which alternatives may be carried forward through the required state and federal environmental review. TCA will continue to engage in a stakeholder-driven community outreach process with elected officials, local and regional representatives, state transportation planning agencies, environmental leaders and the public.
OUTGOING BOARD MEMBER RECOGNITION

At its last board meetings of the year, TCA recognized outgoing Board Members for their service and leadership. The outgoing Board Members were: Gary Monahan (Costa Mesa), Scott Schoeffel (Dana Point) and Mark Schwing (Yorba Linda).

Craig Young (Yorba Linda) also completed his service and was recognized for his time and leadership as Chair of the F/ETCA Board of Directors from April 2014 to December 2016.