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Fix Our Roads Coalition Unveils Bipartisan Transportation Funding Solution

League President and Rancho Cucamonga Mayor Dennis Michael spoke today as part of a rally that brought hundreds of local elected officials, labor and business representatives to Sacramento to demand a transportation reform and funding package. Held on the South Steps of the Capitol, the [Fix Our Roads](#) event served as an opportunity for coalition members to outline the details of a [Roadmap to Consensus](#), a new plan that contains the best policies from Democratic, Republican and Gov. Jerry Brown's proposals to fix California's state and local road system.

For more, see Page 2.



Drone Fight Heats Up

The drone industry is still out to pre-empt local ordinances via pending state legislation. The industry continues to uniformly oppose [SB 868](#) (Jackson), a League-supported measure and the only bill regulating drones that expressly protects local ordinances. SB 868 brings California into conformity with the existing few meaningful federal regulations governing recreational drones. Under this measure, drone flights would be prohibited above 400 feet, flights within 5 miles of airports, and any interference with manned aircraft. *For more, see Page 2.*



California City Solutions: Yountville Expands Recycled Wastewater Program

This story is part of an ongoing series featuring Helen Putnam Award entries. The 2015 entries are available on the League's website as a resource for cities in a searchable database called [California City Solutions](#). The town of Yountville's Recycled Water Program was submitted in 2015 for the Public Works, Infrastructure, and Transportation award category.

For more, see Page 3.

'Rally' Continued from Page 1...

California's roads are in dire condition and voters expect their lawmakers to adequately fund this vital infrastructure. In fact, California roads consistently rank as the worst in the nation and cost drivers more than \$760 in repair costs annually. According to a March 2016 Public Policy Institute of California survey, 68 percent of likely voters think spending more money on the maintenance of California's roads, highways and bridges is important for future equality of life and economic vitality for California.

"The Legislature and Governor Brown have no doubt heard the same complaints as I have. It's time to get something done this year," said Mayor Michael.

Reaching an agreement has proven to be very difficult, with all parties raising valid concerns and policies. The Republicans are right that reforms are needed. The Democrats are right that new revenues are needed. Democrats and Republicans must come together and compromise.

In addition to Mayor Michael, other speakers included:

- Matt Cate, executive director, California State Association of Counties (CSAC);
- Richard Forster, supervisor, Amador County Supervisor and resident, CSAC;
- Rob Lapsley, president, California Business Roundtable;
- Leticia Perez, supervisor, Kern County and second vice president, CSAC ;
- Mary Rotelli, CEO, Tiechert Construction; and
- Bobby Alvarado, executive officer, Northern California Carpenters Regional Council and chair, California Transportation Commission.

Thursday's rally was held almost a year after the Governor called the Legislature into a special session on transportation. Despite good faith efforts from the Governor and several lawmakers, legislative progress has stalled and California is no closer to a solution. The people of California and everyone that relies on the roads pay the price for legislative inaction. Cities should continue to express their support for quick action on a transportation proposal to their legislators.

'Drones' Continued from Page 1...

The bill contains other provisions enhancing public safety, including:

- Prohibits flights within 500 feet of any critical infrastructure so identified by the Governor's Office of Emergency Services (OES) without the permission of the owner/operator of the infrastructure;
- Prohibits flights within 1,000 feet of a heliport without appropriate permission;
- Prohibits flights within any other area in which OES determines that unrestricted use of remotely piloted aircraft presents an imminent danger to public health and safety;
- Restricts flights over state parks, and any lands managed by the Department of Fish and Wildlife, and within 500 feet of the State Capitol; and
- Prohibits drone operations constituting recklessness, nuisance, or trespass.

While the League and the California Police Chiefs Association successfully defeated an attempt to force state pre-emption on cities in [AB 2320](#) (Calderon and Low), drone industry representatives continue to walk the halls of the Capitol, pushing for pre-emption of local ordinances.

This same scenario is playing out in Washington D.C. where the industry is aggressively lobbying for complete federal pre-emption of state laws regulating unmanned aerial systems in the FAA re-authorization bill that will set new regulations for recreational drones. This is noteworthy and troubling because in previous years the industry has successfully fought to block meaningful federal regulations on drones, such as a requirement for mandatory unique identifiers on their products as they leave the factory, or an easily enforceable registration requirement.

[A March 16 joint letter](#) issued by the National League of Cities and the U.S. Conference of Mayors to the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation rejects the concept of pre-emption in any federal law or regulation pertaining to recreational drones.

Cities that have enacted or are thinking of enacting regulations regarding drones should be alert to the threat this situation poses to their local regulatory authority. A well-financed and well-represented industry is working hard in Washington, D.C. and Sacramento to pre-empt your ordinances and render them meaningless. The irony is that currently, the strongest regulations of recreational drones are not at the state or federal level — they are regulations that have been enacted by cities.

Cities concerned about pre-emption should actively support SB 868, since local ordinances could well be struck down by state legislation this year. Cities that have enacted drone ordinances have the most to lose: Los Angeles, San Francisco, Berkeley, and Poway, to name a few.

Next Steps

Cities are urged to send in SB 868 support letters to the Senate Appropriations Committee, calling out the fact that the bill contains express protection for local ordinances. A sample letter is available at www.cacities.org/billsearch by plugging SB 868 into the search function.

'CCS: Yountville' Continued from Page 1...

Home to 2,900 residents in the Napa Valley, Yountville decided to expand its recycled water program in response to the challenge of using water in an environmentally sustainable way while supporting the needs of the local agriculture and economy.

An 18-hole golf course located 5 miles southeast of town became Yountville's first recycled water customer. Later converted to vineyards and continues, the land continues to use the recycled water to irrigate. As the popular wine region expanded, two additional wineries started using recycled water. A nine-hole golf course was built on the property adjacent to the Yountville Wastewater Treatment Facility. With this new development, approximately 45-50 percent of the entire amount of wastewater treated at the facility was being utilized between three vineyards and the new golf course for irrigation purposes.

The complex regulatory environment also posed a challenge to Yountville's water efforts. In 2005 the town negotiated with the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board to renew the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit for the Wastewater Treatment Facility. This would require the town to install expensive equipment in the Napa River that would be difficult and invasive to native species to construct and maintain. Instead, it was later agreed that in lieu of this proposal, the town would expand its already successful Recycled Water Program. This solution would set the stage for a new way of thinking about water and how to use it in a way that made sound fiscal and environmental sense. This process made it possible to save water in the underground aquifers for domestic future use.

An unusually dry winter in early 2009 precluded Yountville from discharging its treated wastewater to the Napa River because there was not adequate dilution due to the lack of flow in the river. This became an opportunity to increase public-private partnerships and allowed Yountville to negotiate a short term agreement with a vineyard in close proximity to the existing recycled distribution pipeline. The relationship more than doubled the existing volume of storage previously available. Yountville was now able to recycle 87 percent of wastewater due to the fact that the ponds on the new property were completely empty and it was an extremely dry winter.

The solution to providing a sustainable use of recycled water involved partnerships that promoted community engagement, applications of new technology and improved services. Yountville sought advice in how best to remedy and avoid the constraints within the Wastewater Treatment Facility and to allow for the production of Title 22 Unrestricted Level Recycled Water, which has specific standards for recycled water. The scope of the project included the demolition of existing equipment/facilities that were no longer in service, construction of a new larger Chlorine Contact Chamber, Effluent Holding Pond Bypass Structure (allowing treated recycled water to be pumped directly to customers without having to first pass through the storage pond), and the installation of new coagulant storage and pumping facilities to increase solids capture and filter upgrades.

The first phase of the Title 22 construction project enabled customers to utilize the upgraded level of treated recycled water for expanded purposes such as indoor plumbing of toilets and other

non-potable uses and increased fire protection (fire sprinklers). Additionally, this higher level of treated recycled water could now be used for what is known as heat protection during unusually hot periods. Recycled water could now be distributed through overhead sprinklers and could come in contact with the edible portion of the fruit. The Title 22 Upgrade Project was completed in 2010 and now meets several of the requirements set forth by the Regional Water Quality Control Board.

The first phase's success led to phase two, the Recycled Water Expansion Project. Funded through the State Revolving Fund, Yountville worked with consultants to design the elements of the expansion. This included the installation of approximately 4,500 linear feet of 8 inch purple PVC pipe to connect a fifth vineyard customer to the recycled water distribution system, Supervisory Control And Data Acquisition functionality to allow remote operation and monitoring of the entire recycled water distribution system and several portions of the Wastewater Reclamation Facility, new larger recycled water pumps, and new filter media installation and other minor treatment plant modifications.

In 2011, the amount of wastewater used for irrigation purposes was approximately 55 percent. This number has increased by nearly 10 percent each year to allow the town of Yountville to beneficially reuse 83 percent of its wastewater in 2014. With the addition of a fifth vineyard customer, Yountville will be able to recycle 100 percent of the wastewater generated by the town during periods of extreme drought. From an environmental perspective, the numbers speak for themselves — using recycled water for irrigation reduces the need for potable water.

Yountville continues strong public outreach both at the local and regional level to help other agencies learn from the success of the recycled water program.

League-Sponsored Bond Agency Issues \$51.9 Million in Tax-Exempt Bonds for Children's Hospital in San Diego

Some of the most significant benefits of League membership for cities since 1988 have flowed from the League's co-sponsorship of the [California Statewide Communities Development Authority](#) (CSCDA). This program provides a variety of public agencies and developers access to low-cost, tax-exempt financing and economic development tools. CSCDA recently issued a total of \$51,960,000 in tax-exempt bonds for Rady Children's Hospital in San Diego.

About Rady Children's Hospital

Rady Children's Hospital (Rady Children's) is a nonprofit, 522-bed pediatric-care facility dedicated to excellence in care, research and teaching. Rady Children's mission is to restore, sustain and enhance the health and developmental potential of children through excellence in care, education, research and advocacy. Rady Children's is the only hospital in the San Diego area dedicated exclusively to pediatric healthcare and the region's only designated pediatric trauma center. Furthermore, Rady Children's is a referral center for treatment of critically ill and seriously injured children throughout the Southwestern United States. In affiliation with the [University of California, San Diego School of Medicine](#), Rady Children's is the region's teaching hospital for the next generation of pediatric physicians. The hospital is also a major pediatric clinical research center, working in collaboration with world-renowned institutions, including UC San Diego and St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

CSCDA partnered with Wells Fargo Securities to underwrite the \$51,960,000 in tax-exempt bonds for Rady Children's. The Aa3/AA- rated bonds will be used to refinance CSCDA's previously issued 2006 Bonds, allowing Rady Children's to significantly reduce its bond debt service and interest cost.

Background

CSCDA is a joint powers authority created in 1988 and is sponsored by the League of California Cities® and the California State Association of Counties. It was created by cities and counties for cities and counties. More than 500 cities, counties and special districts are program participants in CSCDA, which serves as their conduit issuer and provides access to efficiently finance locally-

approved projects. CSCDA has issued more than \$50 billion in tax exempt bonds for projects that provide a public benefit by creating jobs, affordable housing, healthcare, infrastructure, schools and other fundamental services. Visit CSCDA's [website](#) for additional information on the ways in which CSCDA can help your city.

May 27 STORMS Seminar to Address Using Deep Infiltration and Drywells for Groundwater Recharge

The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) will offer a [seminar on using deep infiltration and drywells for groundwater recharge](#) on May 27 as part of its [Strategy to Optimize Resources Management of Storm Water \(STORMS\)](#). Scheduled for 2 p.m., the event will also be webcast.

The seminar will cover:

- Stormwater basics;
- Evaluating a site for infiltration;
- Shallow infiltration systems;
- Deep infiltration systems;
- Engineered drywell construction;
- Typical drywell installations;
- Drywell studies; and
- Existing drywell regulations/policies.

Webcast Details

Contact [Matthew Freese](#) for the webcast link. Participants can call in with questions to (720) 279-0026, passcode 274570.

Questions

Contact [Matthew Freese](#) at (916) 341-5485.

Tech Grants for Cities – Deadline July 15

Cities can apply for funds to support tech projects or equipment purchase through the [CRT Settlement Fund](#). As a result of a computer industry lawsuit settled by the California Attorney General, about \$2.27 million in one-time funds will be awarded to both public and nonprofit agencies, with grants ranging from around \$30,000 to \$86,000, and one to two years in duration. Grant process will be administered by Harry M. Snyder, consumer attorney, Cy Pres Funds, with final grant approvals by the California Department of Justice.

Projects that increase access to computer or visual technology will be considered. Examples include funding to train displaced or unemployed workers in new tech occupations; New software, technology or hi-tech equipment for local water, sewage treatment, or mosquito abatement district improved services; or funding for computer or visual technology services that will improve tech access, skills and knowledge for California populations.

CRT Settlement Fund Timeline:

- June 1: CRT Settlement Funds Request for Applications (RFA) released.
- June 8: CRT Settlement Funds Applicant Webinar (recording and FAQs will be posted online).
- July 15, 5 p.m.: Grants are due electronically to www.cypresfunds.net.
- October: Grants awarded and Grant Agreements Executed by Cy Pres Fund Administrator.

Read the summary of information about funding for each of four types of grants [online](#). If you would like to be added to the email list for the CRT Settlement Funds RFA and other updates, please send a request to hmscypresfunds@gmail.com.

Session Proposals are being Accepted Now for 2017 City Managers Department Meeting and Public Works Officers Institute

The League of California Cities[®] is soliciting session proposals and speakers for two upcoming conferences. This is a chance to share best practices, innovative approaches, as well as research and information with these groups. Do not miss this opportunity to help design a stimulating, thought provoking conference for these two groups.

[2017 City Managers Department Meeting, Feb. 8-10 at the Hyatt Regency Monterey](#)

Proposal deadline is Monday, June 6

Please contact [Dayna Casper](#) at (916) 658-8227 for questions.

[2017 Public Works Officers Institute & Expo, March 22–24 at Paradise Point in San Diego](#)

Proposal deadline is Friday, July 15

Please contact [Brian Sanders](#) at (916) 658-8238 for questions.

Please review this submission information:

- Submissions, non-commercial in nature, from any individual, group, business or organization, on any topic are welcome.
- Sessions may not include sales, commercialism or product promotion of any kind.
- Ideas need to be fully completed and submitted through the online proposal form to be considered by the committee.
- There is a limit to the amount of words allowed within the title and description of each proposal. Writing proposals in a word-processing program first and pasting the final version into the online form is recommended.
- [New](#) for city managers: "Topic Suggestions" were added to the proposal guidelines which are areas of current interest to this group.
- Each Program Planning Advisory Committee will consider the educational value of proposals and the extent to which it presents new and/or significant information.
- Please forward and share this opportunity with others.

Creative Workforce Contributes \$374 Billion and Rising to California's Gross Product

The results of the [2015 Otis Report on the Creative Economy of California](#) were unveiled on May 11 in a hearing of the Legislative Joint Committee on the Arts. Now in its third year, the Otis Report on the Creative Economy of California features an expansion highlighting local creative industries via eight regional snapshots, developed with support from the California Arts Council. The regions include: Bay Area, Capital Region, Central Coast, Inland Empire, Central Valley, San Diego- Imperial Valley, Los Angeles-Orange County, and Upstate California.

"The statewide Otis Report has been a game-changer for California's arts field over the past three years," said Craig Watson, director, California Arts Council. "California's competitive edge nationally, and globally, is made possible as a result of innovative and creative leaders investing in our towns and cities. Now, with the new regional snapshots made available in this year's report, local communities can pinpoint the direct role they play in advancing the success of their region, and of our entire state."

California had the largest number of creative industry workers in the nation in 2014 with 722,600 direct workers and the creative economy's net economic contribution was equivalent to 9.4 percent of California's gross state product in 2014.
