



COUNTY OF MONTEREY CAO Weekly Report

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SPECIALREPORT



River Road Overlay Project staff hold their TAMC Innovative Project Awards. (L-r back row) Supervisor Fernando Armenta, Keith Severson (Graniterock Company), Barney Guzman, Jose Gomez, Salinas City Council/TAMC board member Kimbley Craig, Benny Young, Enrique Saavedra, Bilal Issa. (L-r front row) Alberto Mejia-Ceja, Jonathan Pascua.

County Notes

- > Thinking about taxes? See if you qualify for the [Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program](#) and free tax preparation.

TAMC Selects Public Works Staff, Projects for Awards

RMA-Public Works staff and projects clearly took the route to success with the Transportation Agency for Monterey County (TAMC), which singled out county staff and projects for awards.

TAMC's annual awards honors individuals, groups, programs and projects for their outstanding efforts to improve transportation in Monterey County. This year, a dedicated Monterey County engineer and two innovative county projects earned top honors.

Selected as Transportation Employee of the Year is RMA-Public Works

Engineer Ryan Chapman. In honoring Chapman, TAMC described him as an energetic leader who manages local roadway projects and whose innovative ideas have contributed to the safety of the traveling public and saved taxpayer dollars.

Two county projects were also singled out for honors – one for its innovation the other for its improvement to road safety. Here are the projects singled out and why:

Innovation: The River Road Overlay Project

The River Road Overlay Project was done by the County of Monterey and Graniterock Company. It involved the repaving of a four-mile stretch of River Road using an innovative pavement recycling process called Cold-in Place Recycling (CIR). CIR involves grinding the existing pavement, mixing it with asphalt emulsion oil and cement and then placing it back down all in one process. This process only required two truckloads to import materials for the project.



(L-r) Supervisor Fernando Armenta, Ryan Chapman, Kimbley Craig.

Conventional methods would have required 83 truckloads to import materials and haul off grindings.

Safety: Rio Road Repaving Project

The Rio Road Repaving project was a collaboration between the County of Monterey and the City of Carmel to add bicycle lanes along Rio Road between Highway 1 and Atherton Drive. The task was accomplished by narrowing the existing lanes and adding minimal amounts of paved shoulder.

The project met community goals to slow traffic to a safer speed and create safer passage for pedestrians walking on the side of the road. Making incremental improvements to accommodate bicycles and pedestrians



Rio Road Repaving Project staff with their TAMC award (l-r) Benny Young, Bilal Issa, Jose Gomez and Ryan Chapman.

as part of repaving roads is the most cost effective way to improve safety for all road users.

“It is great to be back with Monterey County, working in the RMA’s Public Works and Facilities group,” says interim Director Benny Young. “I am especially thankful to be part of a team dedicated to innovation and to providing outstanding service to the public. It is gratifying to see their commitment and efforts acknowledged by a key peer/partner agency.”

Equal Opportunity Office Launches Training

The Equal Opportunity Office (EOO) is excited to announce the launch of Phase 1 Equal Opportunity and Non-Discrimination/Diversity Training. Monterey County is the first county in California to offer this kind of training to all employees.



The EOO has engaged the Law Firm of Liebert Cassidy Whitmore to provide this training for managers, supervisors and non-management employees. Through interactive quizzes, handouts and team activities, attendees will have the opportunity to enhance their understanding and responsibility of maintaining an environment free from all forms of unlawful discrimination.

The training will encompass the following:

- What are the laws governing Equal Opportunity and Non-Discrimination?
- What characteristics are protected by State and Federal Law?
- What is Unlawful Discrimination, Harassment and Retaliation?
- Addressing Unlawful Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation in the Workplace.
- What are Employees' Roles and Responsibilities?
- Embracing and Promoting Diversity and Inclusion.



This course qualifies for **MCLE credit**.

2016 Phase 1 training dates will begin February 19th, courses will be held in the Training & Development Center in Salinas. Each department will be informed of available training dates. You will be asked to contact your supervisor before registering with your LDN Coordinator for this course. Please watch for upcoming information.

This training is mandatory and all County employees are required to complete the course.

Child Support Services Marks Staff Excellence, Years of Service

Child Support Services (CSS) takes time to honor its employees for both length of service and excellence. Twice a year, CSS supervisors and managers meet to nominate staff for the department's WOWEE award. WOWEE stands for What Outstanding Work: Employee Excellence.

CSS wrapped up 2015 by recognizing WOWEE winners and by giving Years of Service pins to staff at a department Employee Recognition Event.

Employees given WOWEE awards for the second half of 2015 are:

Fran Bussone, Child Support Officer
 Mary Lamb, Child Support Officer
 Delia Gutierrez, Supervising Child Support Officer
 Tony Sanchez, Child Support Officer
 Carmen Mendoza, Child Support Officer



WOWEE recipients (l-r above) Fran Bussone, Mary Lamb, Jody Holtzworth, Delia Gutierrez, Tony Sanchez. At right: Carmen Mendoza.

Congratulations to WOWEE winners and these CSS staff members marking service milestones in 2015:

Thirty-Five years

Maria Cuellar

Twenty years

Kelam Bayard
 Harriet Huff
 Stephen Kennedy
 Mary Lamb

Fifteen years

Martha Becerra
 Yolanda Cortez
 Ruben Flores
 Guadalupe Gundersen
 Daniel Gutierrez
 Michael Means
 Audrey Prieto
 Araceli Ramirez

Kiritkumar Suthar

Five years

Rocio Fuerte
 Annette Hernandez
 Carmen Mendoza
 Lawrence Zenk