

PRESIDENT’S ADDRESS

Dear OCTEC Members and Future Members,

We hope that everyone had a happy new year and a great holiday season with much deserved time off to spend with family and friends !! Even though we’ve been “dark” these past few months, we certainly have not forgotten about our OCTEC family and have been working hard to prepare for this upcoming year. We’ll start out in January with Jason Stack (STC Traffic) presenting the Artesia Great Boulevard Project, followed up in February at the joint meeting with ITS CA with an update on the 405 express lanes presentation by Jeff Mills (OCTA) and Kirk Avila (OCTA). That’s just a little preview of what’s to come along with the spring social mixer and our annual golf tournament, which will take place once again at the beautiful Tijeras Creek Golf Club in May.

The Board is excited to announce the start of our 2024 OCTEC Membership Drive, so if you have not done so already, please remember to sign up. If you have been a past member, please renew your membership and definitely spread the word to everyone so they can be a part of the OCTEC family. For your convenience, membership dues will remain at \$25, and as an added bonus, as long as you register by January 24, 2024, you will be eligible for prizes which we will be raffling off at our January luncheon. Student memberships will remain free to all local university students.

We look forward to another great year and we definitely cannot do it without you.

From all of us at the OCTEC Board we thank you.

Sincerely,



Michael Plotnik
OCTEC President 2023-2024

January Luncheon:

OCTEC Luncheon

Thursday, Jan 25, 2024
11:30 AM to 1:00 PM

Orange County Mining Co
10000 S Crawford Canyon Rd
Orange, CA 92705

Lunch Fees:

Member: \$20
Non-Member: \$25
Pay at the Door: \$30

Please register via Eventbrite at:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/octec-jan-2024-luncheon-tickets-788749851037?aff=oddtcreator>

If you have any questions, please contact

Mai Vang, at
mvang@cityofirvine.org

THIS MONTH’S LUNCH IS SPONSORED BY:

Michael Baker

INTERNATIONAL

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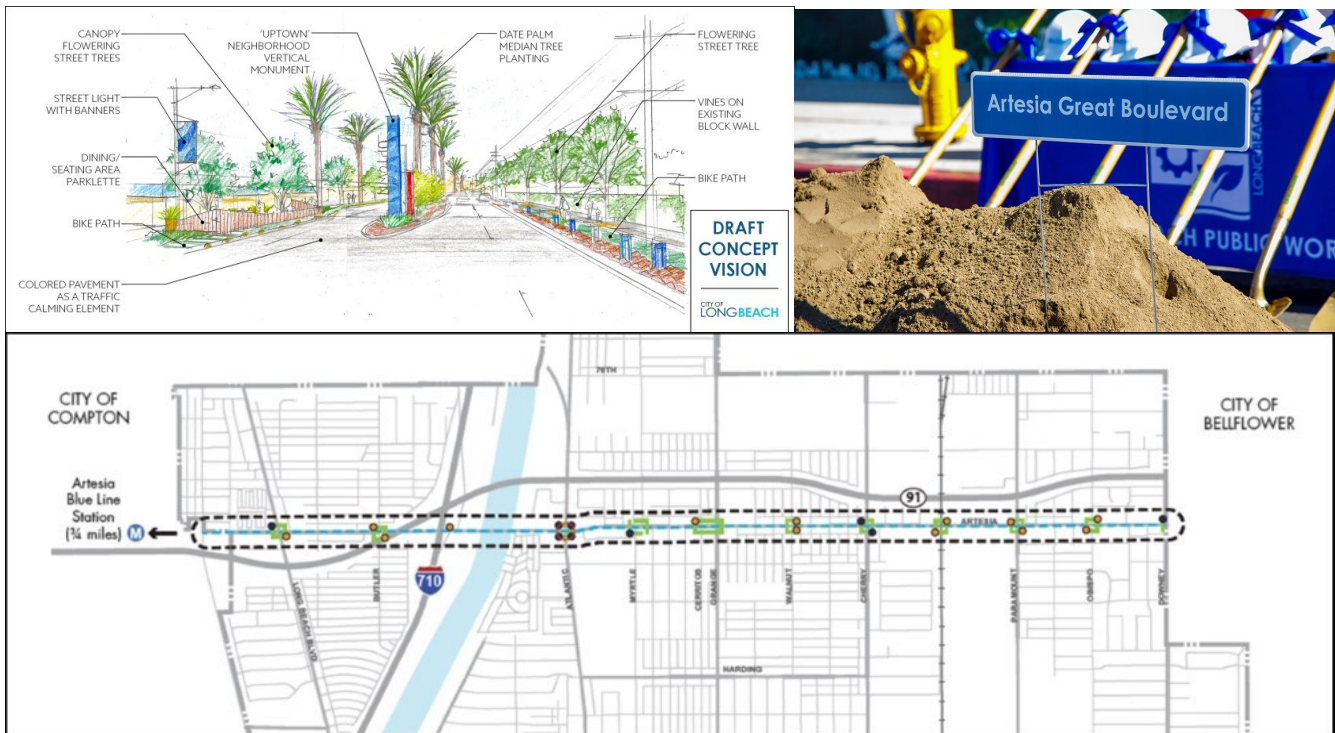
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JANUARY PRESENTATION:

City of Long Beach Artesia Great Boulevard Project

Jason Stack *President, STC Traffic, Inc*

Learn details and traffic related intricacies of this 3.2 mile corridor project consisting of roadway improvements, concrete sidewalk, curb replacement, median and median fencing improvements, traffic signal enhancements, installation of ITS (Intelligent Transportation System) equipment, street lighting, pedestrian lighting improvements, stormwater bio-retention treatments, Class IV bike lanes, bulb-outs, landscape improvements, new street furniture, and wayfinding signage.



Speaker Bios:



Jason Stack, TE, PTOE

Jason Stack is the President of STC Traffic, Inc., which he started in 2007. With over two decades of experience in traffic engineering and operations, transportation planning, ITS design and integration, Jason is focused on supporting public agencies implement complex multi-modal projects that achieve safety, mobility, and sustainability. Jason has managed many innovative projects including the Harbor Drive Freight Signal Priority Demonstration Project which won the national ITE 2022 Excellence in Transportation Award for Transportation Systems Management and Operation. Jason earned a degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Massachusetts at Lowell.

OCTOBER 2023 MEETING RECAP

The second OCTEC luncheon of the 2023-2024 year was held on Thursday, October 26, 2023 and it was a very successful joint meeting with ITE SoCal at the Orange County Mining Co. The topic was Progressive Design-Build and Legislative Updates on Project Delivery Methods and was presented jointly by J. Brandon Dekker. The presentation was quite captivating, but it also made for a very interesting presentation with many questions about this innovative project delivery method. For those who were unable to attend the meeting please feel free to e-mail any of the Board members and the presentation slides can be made available.



2023 JOINT OCTEC/ITS CA/ITE SoCal/RSBITE HOLIDAY MIXER RECAP

On December 7, 2023, the Annual Holiday Mixer which is jointly hosted by OCTEC, ITE SoCal, and RSBITE was held at the Anaheim Marriott Suites Hotel in Garden Grove, CA. There was tons of great food, plenty of everyone’s favorite casino games, raffle prizes, and of course, lots of holiday cheer. A special thank you to all the sponsors and also to everyone who attended making this event possible! See some fun photos from the event (below) and we look forward to seeing everyone at the next one!!



2023 FALL SOCIAL MIXER RECAP

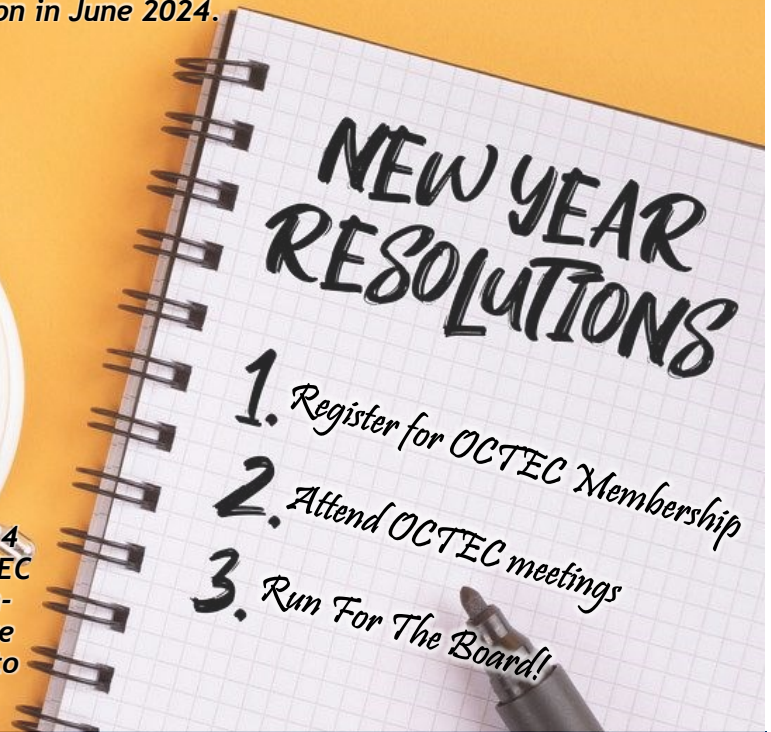
On November 2, 2023, the Annual Fall Social Mixer was held at Dave & Buster’s at The Outlets at Orange. This event was highly anticipated and enjoyed by all who attended. The hors d’oeuvre, drinks, and pool were the talk of the night as was all the great conversations. It was great to see everyone and catch up right before the mad rush of the holidays. A special thank you to all the sponsors and also to everyone who attended making this event possible!



OCTEC NEWS

OCTEC 2024 Membership Registration is open, please register [here](#)

As an OCTEC member, you will be part of a dynamic group of dedicated professionals in Orange County. Not only will you enjoy member-only discounts at the monthly meetings but you will also be eligible to vote at the Annual Board Election in June 2024.



Pay your dues in-full before 9 PM on January 24 for a chance to win a \$50 gift card at the OCTEC January Luncheon on January 25. Four (4) winners will be drawn and each winner will receive one (1) \$50 gift card. Members DO NOT need to be present to win.

SAVE THE DATE

OCTEC will hold the annual **Golf Tournament** on May 3, 2024 at **TIJERAS CREEK GOLF CLUB**

Rancho Santa Margarita, CA



Eventbrite Registration will open in February 2023

Stay tuned for sponsorship opportunities and registration information.

LOCAL, REGIONAL, & NATIONAL NEWS

FHWA Releases New Traffic Control Device Manual with Updates to Improve Safety for Pedestrians, Bicyclists, and All Road Users **‘E-bike lady’ educates new riders before hitting streets on electric bikes**

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) today announced the 11th edition of the “Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices for Streets and Highways,” known as the MUTCD. The manual, last updated edition in 2009, is the national standard for traffic signs, signals, and pavement markings to ensure a uniform and predictable environment for people who walk, bike, and drive. It is an important guide used every day by transportation professionals for roadway safety, and the 11th edition incorporates extensive input from members of the public...

[\[Continue here\]](#)

Get ready for another busy year in road work in Orange County

The boss of the Orange County Transportation Authority says the agency is on track to wrap up another large freeway project in 2024, following the Dec. 1 opening of new lanes on the 405 Freeway.

“We finished one big thing, but there are more things underway, more things to start,” Chief Executive Officer Darrell E. Johnson said while offering an annual update on transportation in Orange County in the next year.

“We’re going to have a busy year,” he said. “We have a number of construction projects that are underway, we have some that are going to start...”

[\[Continue here\]](#)

Making Progress on the SR-55 Improvement Project

During 2023, OCTA and Caltrans made significant progress on the SR-55 (I-405 to I-5) Improvement Project. Three partially demolished bridges are being reconstructed, more than half of the 18 retaining walls are under construction, and new drainage systems are being installed including the more than 3,100-foot-long Lane Channel...

[\[Continue here\]](#)

Jennifer Robbins holds up a diagram to a new owner of an electric bike, a 13-year-old who just got a Christmas gift that can reach speeds upward of 25 mph.

Robbins explained the basics most driving adults know, but many kids do not: What dotted lines on the roads mean, who has the right of way, what direction to navigate roads on – information that could mean life or death for a youngster gearing up to hit the roadways...

[\[Continue here\]](#)

California wants to reduce traffic. The Newsom administration thinks AI can help

Being stuck in traffic is a familiar problem for many Californians, but state officials want to harness the power of artificial intelligence to discover new solutions.

The California Department of Transportation, teaming up with other state agencies, is asking technology companies by Jan. 25 to propose generative AI tools that could help California reduce traffic and make roads safer, especially for pedestrians, cyclists and scooter riders. Generative AI tools such as ChatGPT can quickly produce text, images and other content, but the technology can also help workers brainstorm ideas...

[\[Continue here\]](#)

Storm-pummeled California rushes to clean up and start repairs ahead of expected rain resumption

Storm-ravaged California scrambled to clean up and repair widespread damage on Wednesday as the lashing rain eased in many areas, although the north could see thundershowers Wednesday and another powerful weather front was expected to hit the state Friday...

[\[Continue here\]](#)

JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS



The **City of Orange** is accepting applications for the position of Assistant Engineer in the Traffic Engineering Division of the Public Works Department. The successful candidate will have the opportunity to participate in various municipal traffic engineering functions, including transportation planning, traffic infrastructure design, and neighborhood traffic engineering.

<https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/orange/jobs/newprint/4316742>



The **City of Corona** is looking for two individuals for the CIP and Traffic division of the Public Works Department. The department offers many opportunities for you to showcase your talents on numerous exciting projects impacting our local vibrant, culturally diverse communities. The ideal candidate will be an effective communicator and exhibit professionalism and have excellent interpersonal skills. We are searching for someone who has the ability to interact with both internal and external stakeholders to proactively solve problems and enhance services.

<https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/coronaca/jobs/4295348/associate-engineer?pagetype=jobOpportunitiesJobs>



The **City of Anaheim** Public Works Department is seeking two (2) motivated and knowledgeable Associate Engineers to support the Traffic and Transportation Section. The Traffic & Transportation Section provides for mobility and safety of people and goods. Services range from increasing arterial street capacity by operating Intelligent Transportation Systems infrastructure, to providing traffic planning assistance for both local and regional transportation projects.

<https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/anaheim/jobs/4252123/associate-engineer-traffic-transportation>



The **City of Buena Park** is seeking a highly motivated, energetic and experienced Principal Engineer to manage the Engineering Services within the Public Works Department. The ideal candidate must possess strong written and oral communication skills, be a team player, have effective supervisory and mentoring skills, project management skills and be willing to be trained and train others. The ideal candidate will have extensive experience in Civil Engineering, be familiar with Federal, State, County and Local Codes, have experience in budget preparation, and have experience managing capital improvement projects. If you are the ideal candidate with the education, training, and experience described below **APPLY TODAY!**

<https://www.careersingovernment.com/job/695205/principal-engineer/>



TJW ENGINEERING, INC.
TRAFFIC ENGINEERING &
TRANSPORTATION PLANNING
CONSULTANTS

TJW Engineering, a traffic engineering and transportation planning consulting firm based in Irvine, California, is seeking a talented individual to join our team. Located in the heart of Southern California, our firm works on a wide range of projects for public and private sector clients across California and the western United States. This is an excellent opportunity for an entry-level Civil Engineer to embark on a fulfilling career in traffic engineering and transportation planning within a small, collaborative consulting environment.

If you're ready to contribute to innovative transportation solutions and shape the future of urban mobility, we invite you to apply. Please submit your resume and a cover letter detailing your relevant experience and your enthusiasm for joining TJW Engineering to: careers@tjwengineering.com

Please contact [Michael Plotnik](#) or any Board member if you have any job listings that you would like posted to the OCTEC website or included in the next month's OCTEC newsletter.

Visit our [WEBSITE](#) for the latest job posts, newsletters, and presentations from current and past meetings.

Follow Us on Social Media:

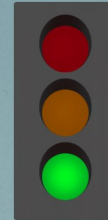


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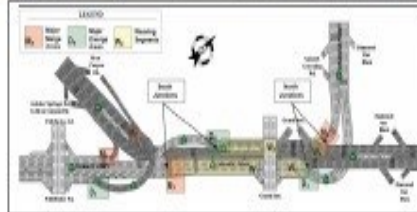
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Web: www.minagarinc.com



2023-2024 SPONSORS

OCTEC would like to give a special thanks to all of our generous sponsors!

Meeting Date

Newsletter Sponsors

Lunch/Meeting Sponsors

September 28, 2023

Michael Baker International
Mark Thomas



October 26, 2023
Joint Meeting with ITE SoCal

General Technologies and Solutions
ADVANTEC Consulting Engineers, Inc.



January 25, 2024

Minagar & Associate, Inc.
Hartzog & Crabill, Inc.



February 22, 2024
Joint Meeting with ITS-CA

Nextech Systems, Inc
LSA Associates, Inc



March 21, 2024

Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc.
<Sponsorship Available>



April 25, 2024

Ganddini Group, Inc.
KOA Corporation

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May 3, 2024

OCTEC Golf Tournament



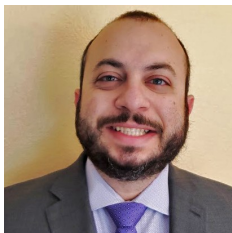
June 20, 2024

Stantec Consulting Services
Psomas

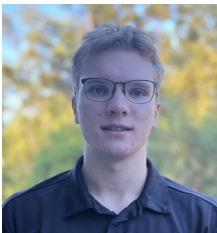
For more information and sponsorship opportunities, please contact Mai Vang at (559) 970-8691 or mvang@cityofirvine.org

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Contact Any of the board members if you are interested in joining the OCTEC Team in the future.