

The Official Newsletter of the Orange County Traffic Engineering Council

#### September Presentation: Signal Integration Overview — By Matt Ginsberg, Connected Signals, Inc.

This month's presentation will provide a signal integration overview. Connected Signals gets real-time traffic light data into cars. With current coverage of approximately 10,000 signalized intersections worldwide, Connected Signals are the leading (and in many cases, only) provider of this information. This brief talk will discuss some of the issues that govern their relationships with municipal partners, and give examples of the benefits of making real-time traffic light information available to drivers.

#### President's Address

OCTEC Members,

I hope that everyone had a great summer! The Board and I are excited for another year of OCTEC events. Last year, we exceeded our expected attendance at all of our meetings, increased our student memberships, and had a record turnout at our May golf tournament. This is all thanks to you, the membership, and our sponsors. As your Board, we will continue to grow OCTEC into one of the best organizations in the state.

To start off our year, the Board wanted to establish great partnerships with the industry and our counterparts. OCTEC is proud to be a Bronze Sponsor at the ITS California Annual Meeting held at the LAX Hilton from September 21-23. We saw this as opening doors to more opportunities in the field of transportation and technology. OCTEC is also looking forward to continuing its partnership with the Southern California (SoCal) ITE Chapter. In fact, for the first time ever, OCTEC and SoCal ITE will have a Joint Meeting scheduled for October, as well as a Joint Mixer with Riverside-San Bernardino ITE in December. We encourage our membership to attend these meetings, as well as be involved in other organizations.

You can expect from the Board that we will continue to value our membership. We will maintain affordable lunches to our members and students, keep hosting social mixers for members and nonmembers to interact in a social setting, provide presentations of current technologies and issues, and lastly, find ways to give back to the members. Last year, we provided our members with name tags to show a sense of ownership to the organization. This year, the Board will have something in store to maintain that sense of ownership.

Thank you to our members, as well as future members, for your continued participation and support.





SEPTEMBER MEETING

September 24, 2015

11:30 AM to 1:00 PM

Orange Hill Restaurant 6410 E. Chapman Ave Orange, CA 92869

#### Lunch Fees:

Members: \$20 (Early Bird\*), \$25 (Late Registration) Non-Members: \$25 (Early Bird\*), \$30 (Late Registration) At the Door: \$30 Students: \$15 \*Early Bird Registration ends at 5:00pm on 9/17/2015\*

Please register via Eventbrite at: https://octec-sept2015.eventbrite.com

If you have any questions, please contact Vikas Sharma, at vikas.sharma@kimley-horn.com.

#### THIS MONTH'S LUNCH IS SPONSORED BY:



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SPEAKER BIOS

#### Matt Ginsberg, Connected Signals

Matthew L. Ginsberg received his doctorate in mathematics from Oxford in 1980 at the age of 24. He remained on the faculty in Oxford until 1983, doing research in mathematical physics and computer science; during this period, he wrote a program that was used successfully to trade stock and stock options on Wall Street.

Ginsberg's continuing interest in artificial intelligence brought him to Stanford in late 1983, where he remained for nine years. He then went on to found CIRL, the computational intelligence research laboratory at the University of Oregon, which he directed until 1996. He remained at CIRL until 1998, when CIRL spun off On Time Systems, a commercial entity focusing on scheduling and routing technology. Ginsberg was the CEO of the company from its formation until early 2014 and is currently its chairman.

Ginsberg is also the chairman and CEO of Connected Signals, Inc., a company focusing on the use of real-time traffic and signal information to improve driver safety, fuel efficiency, and the driving experience generally. Ginsberg is the author of approximately 100 academic publications in the area of artificial intelligence.

#### JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### RK Engineering Group, Inc.

RK Engineering Group, Inc. is looking for a Traffic/ Transportation Engineer to join our Newport Beach Team. RK is a full service Traffic/Transportation and Environmental Engineering firm who serves both our Public and Private Sector Clients. Our firm has been in operation for the past 27-years and has a large array long standing clients. We are looking for a "Self-starter" who is interested in being part of the RK Team.

The ideal candidate will be a well-rounded Civil Engineer with 2-3 years' experience in traffic engineering, transportation planning and traffic operations. Experience in Environmental Engineering in the areas of air quality and acoustical engineering would also be desirable. The perspective candidate will have to have a knowledge of transportation planning, including traffic impact and parking studies. The candidate should be familiar with AutoCAD, Synchro, Traffix, HCS and other traffic engineering software tools. A familiarity with the California MUTCD and the California Vehicle Code is also desirable.

This is a technical working position. The position will require producing transportation analysis and engineering documents that are required by our clients. Good verbal and written skills are an important for this position.

#### RK Engineering Group, Inc. (Continued)

The candidate will prepare technical analysis and studies as part of his/her work assignments. Some field work would be required to help support the various engineering studies. Presentations to our senior management will be an important part of the position.

RK offers a competitive salary and benefits package to our employees.

If you are interested in looking for an opportunity to get on the ground floor of expanding our company's capabilities, please email your resume to:

Rogier Goedecke, Vice President of Operations info@rkengineer.com

#### **Albert Grover and Associates**

Albert Grover & Associates, a Fullerton based Traffic Engineering Consulting firm, is seeking resumes from dedicated, responsible and motivated CAD Operators and Project Engineers. Please email your resumes to aga@albertgrover.com.



#### **OCTEC NEWS**

### **OCTEC FALL SOCIAL MIXER!**

Our first social of the 2015-2016 year will be held at Dave and Busters at The Outlets Orange (previously The Block)

October 8th from 5:30 PM – 8:30 PM

Cost is only \$7 with RSVP (link below) or \$10 at the door. Price includes entry, 1 drink, appetizers, 1 raffle ticket and free pool and shuffle board. Raffle tickets will also be sold for \$1 each at the door.

Look forward to seeing you there!

RSVP now for the Social mixer: <a href="https://octec2015fallmixer.eventbrite.com">https://octec2015fallmixer.eventbrite.com</a>

**Sponsored By:** 

# Sponsorship Opportunities Still Available> OCTEC

Raffle Prizes Given Away By:

**TBD** 

If you are interested in sponsoring the event, please contact Vikas Sharma or any Board member.

## LA / OC Traffic Signal Association along with OCTEC 2015 VENDOR SHOW AND SOCIAL NIGHT

When: Tuesday – September 29, 2015 @ Mile Square Golf Course

Social & Vendor Show 
4:00PM till 8:00PM

#### THANKS TO OCTEC FOR SPONSORING THE FOOD!!

There will be plenty of hors-d'oeuvres served from 4:00 PM until the conclusion of the evening. Drinks will of course be available for purchase from our bar.

Questions? Comments?

Contact Dan Eichmann at 714.321.7513 or dan@ddltraffic.com

## LOCAL AND REGIONAL NEWS

#### OC Streetcar Rolls Ahead With Designer Chosen [CLICK HERE]

OCTA's board of directors selected their designer for the OC Streetcar project, signaling the next major step in the development of Orange County's first modern streetcar. The OC Streetcar is planned to travel along a 4-mile route between the Santa Ana Regional Transportation Center, through Downtown Santa Ana and the Civic Center, along the Pacific Electric right-of-way, and connect to a new multimodal transit hub at Harbor Bl/Westminster Ave in Garden Grove. It's intended to provide easy connections for people traveling from trains and buses to employment, retail and recreational areas. On the current schedule, construction for the OC Streetcar would begin in 2017, with service beginning in 2020.

#### Rebuilt Ortega Highway Interchange Ready for Drivers [CLICK HERE]

The I-5/Ortega Highway (SR-74) Interchange in San Juan Capistrano opened to traffic on September 4, 2015 that included \$81.3 million worth of improvements including realigned and widened bridge over the I-5 freeway that will help ease traffic delays through the heavily traveled interchange, especially during the peak morning and evening commutes. Improvements to the interchange began in February 2013 and include the following: 1) a reconstructed Ortega Highway bridge over the I-5 freeway that's been widened with additional turn and through lanes; 2) widening of the existing north & south I-5 on- and off-ramps to improve traffic flow; 3) construction of a new northbound loop on-ramp to the I-5 freeway; 4) realignment of Ortega Highway west of the I-5 interchange connecting to Del Obispo; 4) realigned Del Obispo street west of the interchange that eliminated the need for two intersections and streamlining it with one intersection and one traffic signal. The majority of funding was provided by the State of California, with additional funding from Measure M, the county's half-cent sales tax for transportation, and the City of San Juan Capistrano.

#### Proposition 1B: Good Return on Investment [CLICK HERE]

Proposition 1B, approved by California voters in November 2006, authorized the issuance of \$19.9 billion in general obligation bonds for specific transportation programs intended to relieve congestion, facilitate goods movement, improve air quality and enhance the safety of the state's transportation system. To date, the state has allocated more than \$18 billion in Proposition 1B funding for transportation purposes statewide. Over \$15 billion from Proposition 1B has been put to work by Caltrans and its partners for more than 2,000 projects, bringing significant and critically needed investment to California's transportation infrastructure. Some of the major allocations included in Proposition 1B included: 1) \$4.5 billion for 90 corridor projects for efforts to reduce congestion on state highways and major access routes; 2) \$2.5 billion for 87 projects improving freight movement on state highways and rail system, and in ports; 3) \$3.6 billion to nearly 1,200 projects for public transit and rail systems improvements, including projects to upgrade transit service, modernize transit stations and help purchase cleaner-running buses; 4) \$1 billion for 23 projects making improvements to State Route 99, which traverses approximately 400 miles of the state's central valley. The California Transportation Commission (CTC) recently issued a report on the benefits of Proposition 1B. A comprehensive list of all programs receiving Proposition 1B funding at http://www.bondaccountability.dot.ca.gov/bondacc/.

Some significant projects in this region that benefitted from Proposition 1B include: 1) The SR-74 "The Rebuilding of Ortega Highway Interchange" Project in San Juan Capistrano (see above) that received \$24.9 million of its funding from Proposition 1B, and 2) I-405, SR-22 and I-605 "West County Connector, Smooth Sailing in Carpool Lanes" Project in Garden Grove, Westminster, Seal Beach, Los Alamitos, Long Beach and Rossmoor. This project constructed six miles of two new direct carpool connectors; added a second carpool lane in each direction on the I-405 between the SR-22 and I-605; and reconstructed six bridges to add an additional carpool lane. The \$297 million project was complete in February 2015 and received \$135 million of Proposition 1B funding at one of the busiest interchanges between Los Angeles and Orange County.







## Join us for the ITS-CA 23rd Annual Meeting September 21-23, 2015 at the LAX Hilton!

## Spinning Your Wheels: Looking at Bicycling's Growing Popularity—Rock Miller, Stantec

What's the fastest way to reach any destination within three miles (5km) of your home? Is it a car? Bus? No, it's a bicycle on most days. Traffic and parking barriers make that classic, two-wheeled, manual transportation the swiftest mode for getting from points A to B. Consider these three driving factors:



New cyclists are attracted to bicycling because of its many advantages, including its practicality for urban living where the out-of-pocket travel cost for bikes is almost zilch. It's no surprise that Millennials have shown an inclination to move to the city, live car light, and use biking for many trips.

#### There's a City Demand

City leaders everywhere are more interested in cycling, and are also recognizing the positive impact that bicycle infrastructure has on auto traffic reduction, relief from transit overcrowding, health and exercise, and a reduced demand for fuel and carbon. Bike infrastructure also makes for a more efficient use of public space.

#### There are New Approaches

Cities across North America are trying to make room for safer, more attractive bicycle facilities. Striped bike lanes are a start, but expanding trail systems that are separate from traffic accomplishes something very important: novice riders become more comfortable. Take for example the cycle track, also known as a separated or protected bikeway that's located on the street but protects the bikeway from traffic by using curbs, posts, planters, parked vehicles, or other features. Special controls at intersections can also reduce conflicts with cars and trucks.

Growth in bicycling does entail open conversations and compromise in a community. Bicycle facilities can often use space in the roadway that's typically earmarked for travel lanes or parking. The impacts can be carefully managed to reduce problems, but some believe that improving car traffic is a better investment. That's a fair argument, but traffic performance can be improved through better street planning. Additionally, auto traffic improvements are generally highly subsidized by other funding sources that cyclists also pay into.

Teams at <u>Stantec</u> are involved with some of the newest, most exciting approaches to creating these bike systems. In every case, these projects allow us to design with community in mind. Based on what we see in these and every community, the future for bicycling seems very bright. How can you be a part of this movement? Dust off that old bike in the garage, pump up those tires, and find a group ride in your area. Group rides are a great way to address fears of traffic, meet new people, see the city from a new viewpoint, and enjoy the fun.



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Please contact Ed
Alegre or any
Board member if
you have any job
listings that you
want posted to
the OCTEC
website.



## The U.S. Department of Transportation and Long Beach Mayor Robert Garcia

Invite You to participate in the

### **BEYOND TRAFFIC FORUM**

In the Southern California Mega Region

A Discussion about the Future of our Nation's **Transportation System** 

> DATE: Monday, September 28, 2015 9:00am - 12:30pm

Long Beach Convention Center

**Grand Ballroom** 

300 East Ocean Blvd., Long Beach, CA 90802

We hope you will join us for a robust and interactive discussion about the Beyond Traffic Draft Framework and the future of our nation's transportation system. The Beyond Traffic Draft Framework outlines key trends facing our nation's transportation system and potential policy considerations. Participants include representatives from across the Southern California Mega Region, including elected officials, MPO Directors, transportation industry partners, businesses, and community leaders from Los Angeles, San Diego, Anaheim, Long Beach and Las Vegas. Following a town hall style forum with senior DOT leaders, participants will have the opportunity to provide direct insights on the draft "Beyond Traffic" framework, intended to ignite a national conversation on how new technologies and public policy will shape U.S. transportation systems to enable new safety, mobility, growth, and economic benefits over the next 30 years.

Please note that the Beyond Traffic Draft Framework can be downloaded at www.transportation.gov/beyondtraffic.

Please RSVP at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SouthernCaliforniaBeyondTraffic

by Wednesday, September 23, 2015. If you have any questions, please contact us at bevondtraffic@dot.gov

Thank you!



#### THIS MONTH'S NEWSLETTER IS SPONORED BY



Interested in becoming an OCTEC sponsor? Please contact Vikas Sharma for details!



#### 2015 -2016 Sponsors

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

#### **Meeting Date**

#### September 24, 2015

October 22, 2015 Joint Meeting—ITE SoCal January 28, 2016

February 25, 2016

March 24, 2016

April 28, 2016

May 6, 2016

May 18, 2016

June 23, 2016

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OCTEC/SoCal ITE Golf Tournament (Green River Golf Course) SoCal ITE/OCTEC Student Night (Knott's Berry Farm Resort Hotel)

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#### **Lunch/Meeting Sponsors**







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For more information and sponsorship opportunities, please contact Vikas Sharma at (213) 261-4050 or vikas.sharma@kimley-horn.com

#### OCTEC 2015 -2016 Officers



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