



Issue# 7  
Volume 8

Ventura County Public Works Agency

# THE WORKS

2017 | Bridging Foundations

**PUBLIC**  
VENTURA COUNTY  
**WORKS**



## DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Some people refer to transportation as where the rubber meets the road in our daily lives. When it goes well, we don't see it. When it goes wrong, it can turn our day completely upside down.

This issue of **The Works** is focused on our hardworking VCPWA Transportation team and some of the projects underway to keep our citizens moving safely and easily through our County.

Treena Gonzalez, VCPWA's Senior Transportation Analyst, shares insight into several projects underway including bus shelter improvements and a critical pedestrian project to increase safety for our County residents.

We also extend a warm welcome to our newest VCPWA Transportation Department team member, Norman Baculinao. Norman brings over 27 years of municipal traffic engineering experience.

If you follow VCPWA on Facebook, you have for sure seen the latest VCPWA Road Challenge. I applaud all of you who have such a keen knowledge of the roads we maintain! If you have not liked us on Facebook yet, take a minute to do so and get the latest information on all the amazing work and meet the people that make it all happen.



All the best,

Public Works Agency Director



# VCPWA

**CONNECTING US THROUGH TRANSIT!**

This is an exciting time to be working with the VCPWA Transportation Department. Our team is working on a number of projects and it is great to see the way multiple projects tie together to provide for a well-connected, multimodal transportation network for our community.

VCPWA Transportation Department is working to improve bus stops in the unincorporated areas. “These projects add important amenities to the bus stops, including benches and shelters to protect riders from the sun or rain while waiting for the bus,” explains Treena Gonzalez, Senior Transportation Analyst of the VCPWA Transportation Department. “This improves the experience of our current riders and helps make public transit a more attractive option for those who may not have tried it yet.”

## Rte 22 Bus Stop Friedrich Rd at Nyeland Ave



### BEFORE

One such project, the Gold Coast Transit Route #22 Bus Stops Project, entails construction of brand new bus stops in the Saticoy and El Rio areas in support of Gold Coast Transit District's new Bus Route #22, including a stop at Central and Vineyard in the Rio Mesa High School area.

Route #22 was implemented as a demonstration project in August of 2015 and provides a direct route between Strickland Acres, Nyeland Acres and Saticoy, improving transit travel times for riders traveling between Oxnard and Ventura by one hour. This bus route is still in the demonstration period and is showing steady growth in ridership. The new bus stops are projected to help grow the ridership even more.



### AFTER



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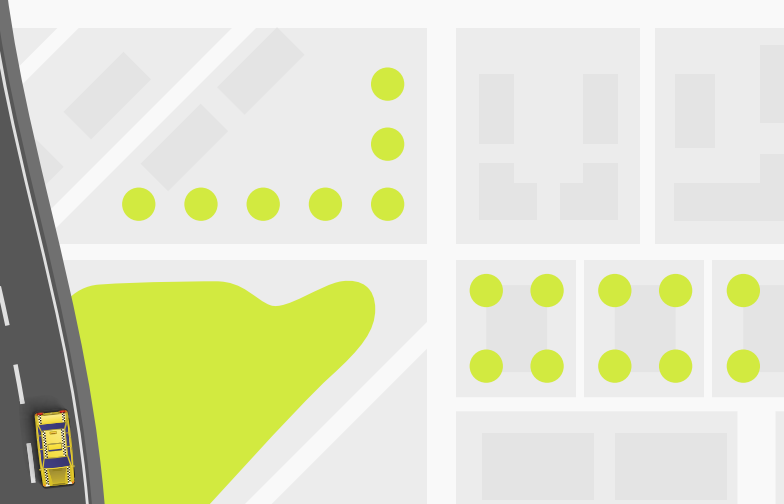
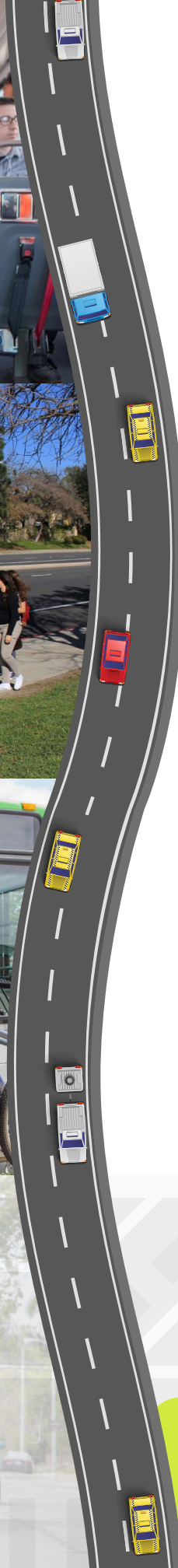
# VCPWA

CONNECTING US THROUGH TRANSIT!

In addition to creating safe roadways for motorists, pedestrian safety is also a major priority for the VCPWA Transportation Department. Route #22 is also the same bus route that serves the Rio Mesa High School area where VCPWA has proposed critical pedestrian projects to increase safety for our County residents.

The proposed Central Avenue Pedestrian Improvements Project involves installation of 1,850 feet of 5-foot-wide sidewalk with ADA ramps on the north side of Central Avenue from Rio Mesa High School to Joan Way. The new sidewalk will connect to existing sidewalk in front of Rio Mesa High School and provide a safe route to school. This project will close a 2,100-foot gap in the sidewalk network and provide access to transit stops in the area.

Transit is, of course, just one small component of the VCPWA Transportation Department – there is a lot happening every day to maintain our roads, bridges, sidewalks, bike lanes and more to ensure our citizens can move safely and with ease through our transportation networks.







**WITH TREENA GONZALEZ**  
**SENIOR TRANSPORTATION ANALYST**

We had the pleasure of sitting down with VCPWA's Senior Transportation Analyst, Treena Gonzalez, to learn more about her role in the Transportation Department and talk about some of the exciting upcoming projects she is working on to keep our County connected through transit and transportation improvements.

Q

**What do you do in your role as a Senior Transportation Analyst?**

A

I am responsible for managing and overseeing the public transportation programs serving the unincorporated areas (UA) of Ventura County. In order to serve these areas, which are spread out geographically across the County, the VCPWA Transportation Department coordinates with a number of other local transit providers, municipalities, and agencies.

**The County of Ventura participates in the following transit services:**

- 📍 **Gold Coast Transit District & GO ACCESS** ([www.goldcoasttransit.org](http://www.goldcoasttransit.org)) – serving West Ventura County
- 📍 **Ojai Trolley** ([www.ojaitrolley.com](http://www.ojaitrolley.com)) – serving Ojai, Mira Monte & Meiners Oaks
- 📍 **Valley Express** ([www.valleyexpressbus.org](http://www.valleyexpressbus.org)) – serving Santa Paula, Fillmore, and Piru
- 📍 **CONNECT Intercity Dial-A-Ride & Thousand Oaks Dial-A-Ride** ([www.totransit.org](http://www.totransit.org)) – serving East Ventura County
- 📍 **Kanan Shuttle** ([www.kananshuttle.com](http://www.kananshuttle.com)) – serving Oak Park

Q

**What was your role with the Ventura County Transportation Commission (VCTC) and what skills and knowledge from your past position will you bring to your new role with VCPWA Transportation Department?**

A

I had the pleasure of working for VCTC for five years in various capacities spanning the areas of customer service, transit operations and planning. During that time, I had the opportunity to work with, and learn from, some very knowledgeable individuals in the field.

From my past experience, I bring with me a customer-centric approach and an understanding that the more we can collaborate and communicate across departments, and across agencies, the more effective we will be in meeting the needs of the public.

Q

**What are some upcoming projects that you look forward to working on?**

A

My background is in bus transit, so I am really looking forward to working on bicycle and pedestrian projects which will be a new area for me; integration of these projects is critical in providing improved connectivity and making walking, biking, and taking transit a more viable option for the community.

Q

**What do you think is the most important thing for community members to know about transportation in Ventura County?**

A

Like many of the services Public Works provides, transportation and the trips we make (whether by driving, walking, biking, or taking transit) is such an integral, yet easily overlooked, aspect of our daily lives. In Ventura County, approximately 6 million trips are made annually on public transit. These are trips that are connecting people to medical and social services, to employment, or to educational opportunities, who often times otherwise would have no other way to make their trip.





CPWA Transportation Department is thrilled to welcome its newest team member, Norman Baculinao. Norman is a registered Civil and Traffic Engineer in California with more than 27 years of municipal traffic engineering experience from the Cities of Roseville, Stockton, Santa Clarita, and most recently Pasadena. He is enthusiastic to utilize his strong background at a county agency, and is looking forward to working on a variety of Ventura County projects.

Norman brings extensive experience in traffic operations and management of signal control systems, traffic safety analysis, traffic signal design, traffic signing and striping plans. His knowledge in the grant application process will help Transportation extend its budget beyond reach. He will also help modernize the more than 45 traffic signal systems the Department oversees with the latest technologies.

Norman enjoys the ever-changing responsibilities of work as a traffic engineer, describing it as a combination of science and art to designing roads. He also enjoys the role transportation plays in public safety for our community.

“As traffic engineers, we analyze data, identify locations where improvements need to be made to make our county’s unincorporated roads safer,” he explains. “We utilize our data and technology to be an extra eye for highway patrol to advise them on how best they can deploy their limited resources to maximize improvements on traffic safety.”

For more than 10 years, Norman has been a regular participant to the State’s Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors’ Traffic Engineering Licensing Examination Workshops, where he has helped write the state exam for those who specialize in the field. He is also an active member of the Institute of Transportation Engineers.

When he’s not dealing with traffic issues, Norman loves to spend time with his family, hike local mountain peaks and jog or bike whenever he finds free time. Norman holds a bachelor’s degree in Civil Engineering from Mapua Institute of Technology, Manila Philippines.



# WELCOME NORMAN BACULINAO!





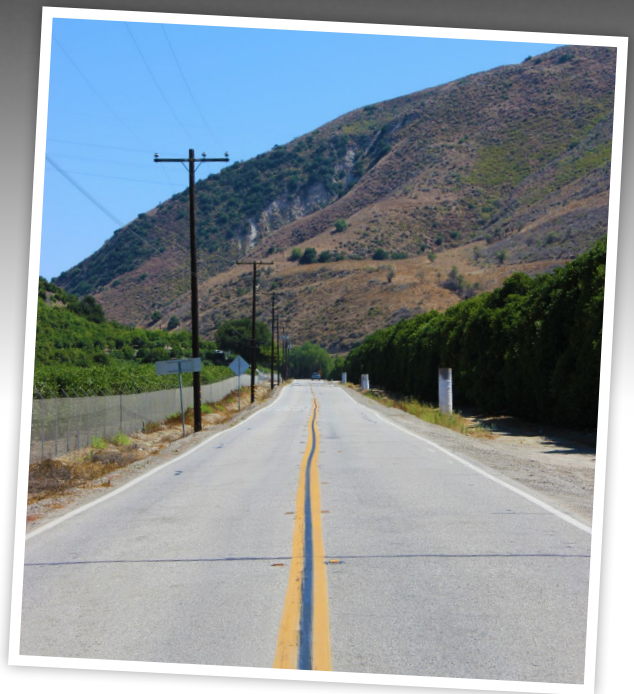
## How can I tell whether it is a city or a county road?

One way, is by the street sign. Street signs that are a neutral green signify the portion of the road maintained by the Public Works Agency. Roads maintained by cities or other agencies will be blue, brown, or another color with the corresponding city's logo. See if you can spot the green signs in our recent VCPWA Road Challenge!

# VCPWA ROAD CHALLENGE

THE KING/QUEEN OF THE ROAD IS...

We hope you had the chance to participate in our VCPWA Road Challenge on Facebook. Our six week-long challenge highlighted the 542 miles of beautiful scenic roads maintained by VCPWA. We were happy to see all of the curiosity, support, and excitement generated by this community challenge. Any suggestions for another challenge? Let us know! Follow the Ventura County Public Works Agency on [www.facebook.com/VCPWA](https://www.facebook.com/VCPWA).



# SAVE THE DATES

## STATE OF THE AGENCY

Mark your calendars for VCPWA's annual State of the Agency, October 24-26. This highly insightful meeting will create a broader awareness of each department's work, projects, and teams while helping build pride internally and externally within our agency!

October 24- 2<sup>pm</sup> to 5<sup>pm</sup>

October 25- 8<sup>am</sup> to 11<sup>am</sup>

October 26- 8<sup>am</sup> to 11<sup>am</sup>

## 32<sup>ND</sup> VCPWA PICNIC!

Join us for an Old Time Country Picnic! Enjoy a day of BBQ, Horse Shoes, Volleyball, Raffle and much more at Soule Park in Ojai! Tickets will be on sale soon. Event Sponsored by VCPWA Management.

October 7- 11<sup>am</sup> to 2:30<sup>pm</sup>