

# THE PIPELINE

News from the Ventura County Public Works Agency

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## From the Director's Desk

Jeff Pratt,  
Public Works  
Agency Director



Dear Friends,

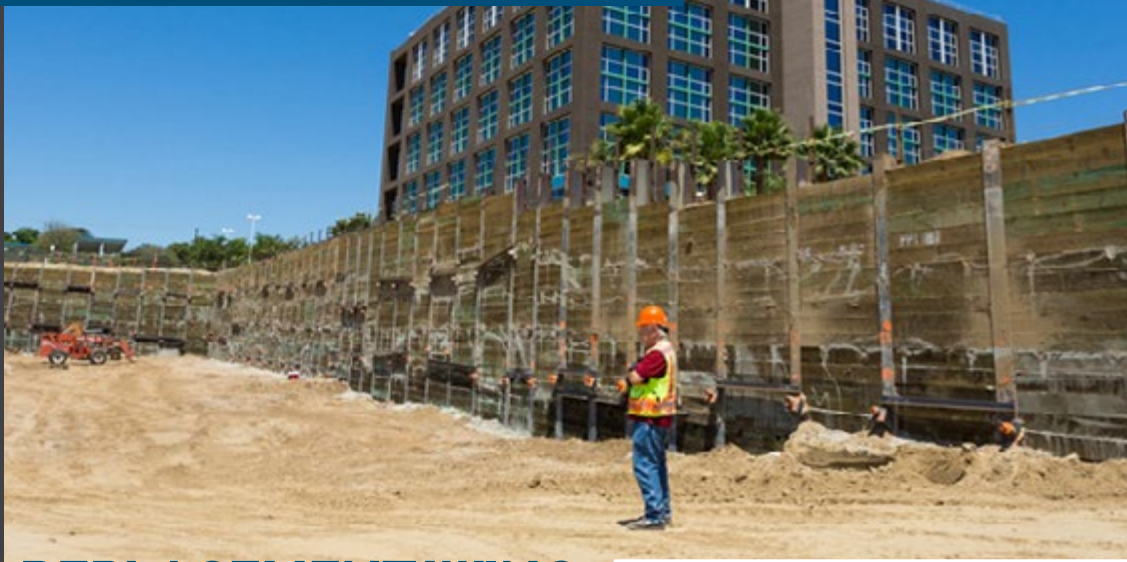
This month we're excited to tell you about one of the largest projects ever undertaken by the County, the construction of a replacement wing at the Ventura County Medical Center. PWA Engineering Services, along with many others, has been working hard on this state-of-the-art, earthquake-resistant facility. The project should wrap up in May 2017.

We hope you had a chance to come out to our annual picnic at Soule Park in Ojai. Games, dancing to fabulous '50s music, and a classic car show were some of the popular highlights. And of course, there was great food! We enjoyed the opportunity to have fun with fellow employees.

Finally, a word about some other events that took place in September. On September 13, I was honored to give a presentation to the Ventura County League of Women Voters. We also held ribbon cuttings to celebrate the West Alley Paving Project and the San Antonio Creek Spreading Grounds Rehabilitation Project. Both of these projects will greatly improve our customers' water supply.

All the Best,

Jeff Pratt  
Director



## REPLACEMENT WING takes shape

Have you been wondering what all the commotion is about at Ventura County Medical Center? The PWA Engineering Services team, along with the help of many contractors, vendors, and Health Care Agency and County leaders, has been hard at work constructing a new state-of-the-art replacement wing.

Herb Schwind, Engineering Services Department Director, says that the VCMC Hospital Replacement Wing—a \$300+ million dollar ongoing project—is one of the largest projects ever undertaken by the County.

The Engineering Services Department is busy coordinating the efforts of the many contractors, consultants, and others who

**"We've spent the last year and a half in the ground installing utilities and the foundations. The real fun and excitement will start in December when the steel starts going up and the building starts taking shape."**

Matt Ehret, P.E.  
Project Director, VCMC  
Hospital Replacement Wing

are responsible for this project. "The Engineering Services staff is one of the most highly qualified and dedicated teams I have ever been associated with. They are highly trained, educated, and experienced and can be counted on to provide excellent services to their customers and clients," says Herb Schwind, PE, LEED AP Director, Engineering Services Department.

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Demolition Day at VCMC for the new Hospital Replacement Wing.



We've rounded up the troops to construct 220,000 square feet. of care facilities for the new Hospital Replacement Wing at VCMC—the new building will replace older facilities to bring the hospital campus up to state seismic standards and to enhance the Agency's delivery of essential medical services to the County.

## (VCMC) Hospital Replacement Wing Highlights

- \$300+ million, 122 beds, 220,000-square-foot ongoing project
- One of the largest projects in the County currently under construction
- The new wing will be a state-of-the-art facility designed to meet all earthquake-resistance requirements
- Projected date of completion is May 2017
- Visit the project website at [VCMCHRW.ORG](http://VCMCHRW.ORG) or view the real-time webcam at <http://oxblue.com/open/clarkconstruction/venturacountymedical>



A 200-foot crane drills and grouts over 550 piles into the ground at VCMC to help prepare for the foundation of the new Hospital Replacement Wing.





# 2014 PWA's *Annual Picnic*

## The Fabulous Fifties!

We had a blast from the past at this year's PWA "Fabulous Fifties" picnic at Soule Park in Ojai. It was exciting to see the park filled with employees, retirees, and family who came together for a day of hoppin', skippin', and jumpin' fun. We'd like to especially thank all of our wonderful managers, committee members, and the businesses whose hard work and sponsorship helped throw the best Doo-Wop party ever.

Kicking off the day were our golfers, who hit the links bright and early for a little competition with friends and colleagues.

As soon as we kicked up the jukebox, the Daddy-O's and Hip Cats threw on their dancin' shoes to twist and shout during musical chairs. You'd have thought they were on American Bandstand. There were plenty more activities throughout the day to entertain everyone – families played volleyball, competed in hula-hoop contests, joined in the water-gun fight, and challenged each other in games of tug-of-war.

The shindig wouldn't have been complete without our Cruzin' Classic Car Show. Those cars really brought back memories of Saturday night cruizin'.

Our famous tri-tip and chicken barbeque was a hit once again, while the delicious tacos from the taco bar were definitely a crowd favorite. The retro candy shack – featuring many classic sweet treats of the era – and tasty cotton candy stand had constant lines of customers needing to reenergize before heading back out to play.

By all accounts the picnic was a huge success and we want to thank all our PWA family and friends who joined the festivities! See you all again next year!



# Around & About the County...

## Jeff Pratt Speaks With Ventura County's League of Women Voters

On September 13th, VCPWA Director Jeff Pratt gave a presentation on the County's current water issues to The League of Women Voters of Ventura County. Held at the Palm Garden Hotel in Newbury Park, the meeting was made up of a very attentive audience, which had many pressing questions prepared for their guest speaker. Jeff provided in-depth information on key issues, including groundwater use, brackish water, and more. The audience left with a deeper knowledge of how the drought has heightened the importance to conserve our County's precious water resources, and ideas on how to work together to find solutions.



## San Antonio Creek Spreading Grounds Rehabilitation Project Ribbon Cutting

On September 10th, we celebrated the completion of the San Antonio Creek Spreading Grounds Rehabilitation Project. Ventura County Supervisor Steve Bennett and staff of Ventura County Public Works Agency Watershed Protection District (VCPWA WPD) were on hand for the ribbon-cutting festivities.

The San Antonio Creek Spreading Grounds Rehabilitation Project will help augment Ojai Valley's water supply by increasing groundwater storage and recharge in the Ojai Valley Groundwater Basin. Elizabeth Martinez, VCWPD Environmental Planner, describes the project this way: "By diverting seasonal peak flows for groundwater recharge, the project will benefit Ventura County citizens by increasing groundwater in the Ojai Valley Basin and promoting sustainable water supply."

"This is a project that was sought by local water agencies," added Supervisor Steve Bennett at the ribbon-cutting ceremony, "and after many years of grant seeking and planning, it's great to bring this much-needed water-supply project into service." We think so too!







## West Alley Paving Project Ribbon Cutting!

In every issue of *The Pipeline*, we bring you more news of how we're "Building Today for Tomorrow." On September 3rd, a ribbon-cutting ceremony was held to celebrate the completion of another project with an eye toward the future: the West Alley Paving section of the VCWWD #19 Water Pipelines Replacement Project. Ventura County Supervisor Linda Parks, VCPWA Director of Water and Sanitation Reddy Pakala, and the Ventura County Waterworks District 19 (VCWWD #19) Advisory Board

joined other dignitaries for the ceremony.

The project, which is an ongoing process, consists of replacing existing water pipelines that are more than 50 years old with new water lines — an estimated 9,800 feet in total. A new blending station at Well 4 was constructed to facilitate the blending of the local well water with imported state water, which will improve water quality and reduce the salt level for customers.



Don't forget the "King of the Road" challenge on Facebook has begun! Each week we will feature photos and "King of the Road" clues focusing on one of VCPWA's unincorporated roads. You'll be given the chance to guess the name of the road featured, and the person who guesses the most roads accurately during the challenge will get "King of the Road" bragging rights and a certificate.

Come test your knowledge of some of the most scenic roads in our lovely Ventura County! **Go to [www.facebook.com/VCPWA](http://www.facebook.com/VCPWA)**

