



VIDEO: In Remembrance: Honoring Our Fallen Workers

Join Caltrans for a powerful and inspiring look at the 26th annual Workers Memorial ceremony, where Caltrans honors its 184 fallen workers. The memorial is a tribute to those who gave their lives to build, maintain and keep California's transportation system safe.



Honoring Caltrans' Fallen Workers

CT District Offices Around the State are Honoring their Fallen Colleagues

District 6 (Southern Central Valley)



District 7 (Los Angeles and Ventura)



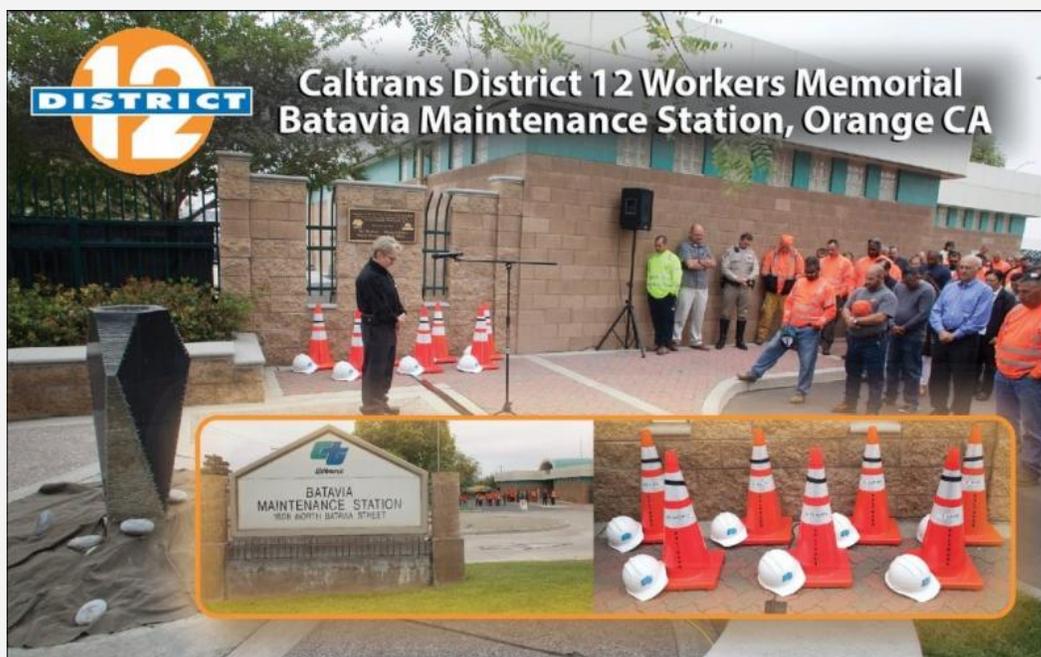
District 9 (Mono and Inyo)



District 11 (San Diego and Imperial)



District 12 (Orange County)



Caltrans, SDSU, Save a Lot of Water

(San Diego Union-Tribune) The City of San Diego's top 10 governmental water customers reduced combined annual use by a almost half a billion gallons last year, with many attributing the savings to recent investments in water-wise infrastructure and policy.

The biggest water-savers said they focused on reducing waste in existing irrigation systems, installed more efficient fixtures and cut way back on irrigation to realize meaningful conservation.



The California Department of Transportation was the top governmental customer for conservation in 2015, reducing its water use by 30 percent compared to the year before, according to the city's data. [Read More](#)

With State Transportation Funds Strained, Counties Ask Voters for Help

(The California Report, KQED) Adoption of the governor's budget proposals, or of any long-term fix for funding the state's transportation infrastructure, depends largely on a special session of the Legislature the governor called last year. So far, the special session has gone nowhere.

That leaves cities and counties across the state waiting to find out what long-term role the state will play in helping pay for their transportation needs. The funding problems are



prompting local governments and transit agencies to take it upon themselves to raise money. [Read More](#)

How Politics are Getting in the Way of Better Roads and Bridges

(The Hill) It's the problem that no one has been able to solve.

For years, Washington policymakers have widely agreed that the nation is facing an infrastructure crisis, with dangerously congested roads and deficient bridges threatening public safety and trade.



Photo: Getty Images

Time and again, lawmakers in both parties have expressed consensus that something should be done.

Yet, congressional attempts to revitalize the country's transportation infrastructure - which now ranks 11th in the world after slipping from No. 1, according to the World Economic Forum - have gone nowhere. [Read More](#)

How Battery-Powered Rides Could Transform Your Commute

A new wave of electric-powered vehicles-scooters, longboards, unicycles-is ready to whisk you from your mass-transit stop to your final destination. But are cities ready?

(The Wall Street Journal) When it comes to the first/last mile-what experts call the distance to and from mass-transportation centers (airports, rail stations and bus lines) on travelers' routes-what really matters is the condition in which they arrive at their destination. Hot and sweaty? Wet and cold? Exhausted? Massively stung by bees?



Photo: Stigobike

Now some designers and inventors are trying to hack the last mile, thanks to an unexpected windfall: cheap, powerful batteries and motors, sourced from China, part of a world-wide boom in electrically assisted bikes that Americans generally don't know about. [Read More](#)

Rebuilding America will be Harder than it Sounds

(CNBC) Rebuilding America won't be easy. Across the 50 states, rising costs of operating and maintaining transportation, power and water systems are consuming a larger share of overall spending.

And many in the workforce now handling this are approaching retirement, creating a potential shortage of skilled workers to take over those jobs, according to Joseph Kane, a researcher at the Brookings Metropolitan Policy Program.

"There is a real retirement crisis as many of these workers are aging and reaching the end of their careers," he said. "We need millions of these rail workers, highway workers, logisticians, cargo agents, through the country to fill long-term positions. But right now there is an overemphasis on the short-term construction work." [Read More and Watch Video](#)



TransForm/CalBike Summit Tackles Transportation Equity, Including Funding

(StreetsBlog California) In a wide-ranging conversation at the TransForm/CalBike Equity Summit, Malcolm Dougherty kept right on saying things that advocates are not used to hearing from the director of Caltrans. He reiterated Caltrans' commitment to its goals of tripling biking trips and doubling the number of walking trips in the state. He said that California is investing more in transit than it ever has before, and he even said there are freeways in the state "that may not be serving their original purpose" and maybe should be removed, using the Embarcadero Freeway in San Francisco as an example of the improvements that could bring. [Read More](#)

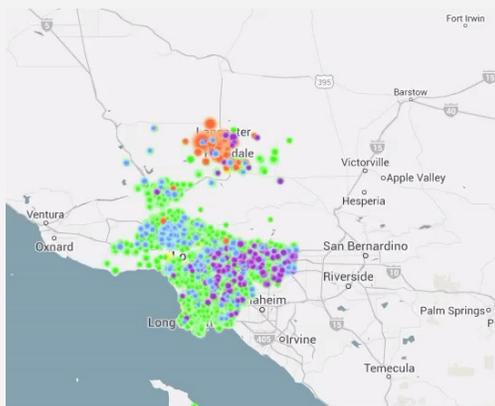


Advocates prepare to meet with legislative staff on Advocacy Day. Photo: Melanie Curry/Streetsblog

FUN WITH DATA: America's Heinous Commutes, Mapped in Pretty GIFs

(WIRED Magazine) If you're one of the 128.3 million Americans who travel to work every day, chances are that your commute sucks.

And yet, Mark Evans has managed to make that collective experience bewitching-beautiful, even. Using data from the US Census Bureau's American Community Survey covering 2006 through 2010, Evans built an [interactive map](#) that charts the daily work-related travels of every person in the United States.



Los Angeles Commuters Point of Origins

(Click to see GIF)

The map allows anyone to look at commutes to or from the county of their choice. Once you set a location, sit back and watch the sea of dots (the colors are based on popular destinations or origins) flow back and forth. [Read More](#)

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