



APAO June 2016 Newsletter

Below are summaries of some of APAO's activities. Because we know your time is limited, we mention only highlights. Please contact John or Becky (see second item below) with any questions (jhickey@apao.org; btallent@apao.org).

APAO Newsletter

We are sending this first edition of our newsletter to our member contact list. If there are employees within your company who are not on our member contact list, but who want or should receive our newsletter, please provide their e-mail address to Becky.

APAO Office Manager Position

Samantha Phillips left APAO last month and we filled the office manager position with Becky Tallent. Becky has years of experience with the local section of the US Tennis Association and has a bachelor's degree in business. We believe Becky is going to be a great fit. Please take the time at one of our upcoming events to introduce yourself to Becky.

Construction Workzone Safety

ODOT is committed to maintaining safety and mobility, and continuously monitoring both throughout the lifecycle of a facility. Part of its strategy to maintain safety is to separate workers from traffic whenever practicable. ODOT has created a decision tree to help it evaluate design and construction decisions that could affect safety, and Matt Garrett has made it clear within ODOT that designers and managers should not reject opportunities to increase separation between workers and traffic just because the opportunities may increase cost or time. ODOT's guiding principle and decision tree will be available in eBIDS and ODOT is committed to evaluating opportunities according to the principle and decision tree.

APAO Mid-Year Meeting at Sunriver Resort – July 15-16

This is an opportunity to raise money for our scholarship fund, find out what has been going on at APAO, and have some fun with your colleagues and family. The weekend is packed full of fun stuff in a great setting. Our traditions include family bingo and golf, with time to relax with friends and family.

Additionally, at our Friday business meeting, the ODOT Director of Civil Rights will be presenting on the new disparity study, changes to the ODOT DBE program, and "commercially useful function" determinations. Don't miss what is sure to be a lively discussion.

APAO is now on Facebook

Please like us on Facebook. We regularly post APAO business as well as industry information from the National Asphalt Pavement Association and other resources. It is great way to stay up to date on APAO and industry news.

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Workforce Development Efforts

APAO is working with Willamette Education Service District to educate high school students and teachers about career opportunities in the asphalt pavement industry. This winter and spring APAO participated in career fairs and spoke to classrooms of high school students. The message was consistent – careers in asphalt pavement provide family wage jobs regardless of whether someone has an advanced degree (i.e., the paving industry values the person, not the degree). We are also supporting efforts to bring vocational education back to our high schools and planning on creating a careers page on our website. We are always looking for suggestions and volunteers on workforce development issues.

Asphalt Pavement Presentations

APAO recently presented on porous asphalt pavement at the Oregon APWA's Spring Conference. With development increasing and great performance of porous asphalt pavement in Oregon (e.g., Terminal 6 at the Port of Portland and the Pringle Creek subdivision in Salem), we expect a resurgence in porous asphalt pavement and want to make sure that engineers and contractors apply our lessons learned.

Additionally, APAO presented on asphalt pavement workmanship and Thinlays for the surface maintenance division of the Oregon APWA. We also presented at a Central Oregon Public Works Coalition meeting on mix design best practices in a challenging climate such as central Oregon.

APAO Specification Committee

This summer and fall we will be working with ODOT on specification changes to improve the durability of our pavements, address the future of intelligent compaction in Oregon, and refine how issues such as weather and time are addressed in the standard specifications.

Accountability in Public Contracting (*fka*, Construct-by-Contract)

APAO is part of a coalition of Oregon construction industry associations working to stop public entities from violating the Public Contracting Code by constructing public improvement projects with their own forces without showing that they can do it in-house at least cost. Although we have examples of violations, we are always in search of more and ask that you let John or Becky know if you see or suspect a violation related to paving or otherwise.

APAO Annual Meeting

Remember to put APAO's Annual Meeting on your calendar – December 8-9, 2016, The Heathman Hotel & The Portland Art Museum. Our Annual Meeting is a great opportunity to get details on APAO's activities and to hear from industry experts and ODOT.