

# LOS ANGELES SECTION

**PE** PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS  
**CG** IN CALIFORNIA GOVERNMENT

SECTION QUARTERLY REPORT

December 2018

## Section Events Overview

### Officers

Refugio Dominguez  
*President*

John Vassiliades  
*Director*

John K. Lee  
*President-Elect*

Ohannes Anserlian  
*VP Rank & File*

Oswald Elizondo  
*VP Supervisory*

David Koo  
*VP At-Large*

Fouad Dagher  
*Treasurer*

Sujaya Kalainesan  
*Secretary*

### Caltrans District 7 Innovation Fair

The Caltrans District 7 Innovation Fair was held on October 29th, 2018 to highlight new technology and innovative concepts in transportation. Caltrans employees, local transportation agencies and private industry presented new approaches including carbon footprint reduction and response to climate change, safety improvements, congestion reduction, efficient project delivery acceleration, and higher quality requiring less maintenance. PECG LA Section was one of the many sponsors of the event.

### LA Section Executive Committee Meeting - Installation of Officers

The LA Section monthly Executive Committee meeting was held on September 26, 2018 and the newly elected section officers and delegates were administered the Oath of Office. LA section was pleased to welcome BU9 Chair, Matt Hanson who administered the Oath of Office to our new Executive Committee. The Section also presented a plaque of appreciation to Matt Hanson and his team for their successful negotiation of our new MOU.

### Waterboard's At Large Office Member's Outreach

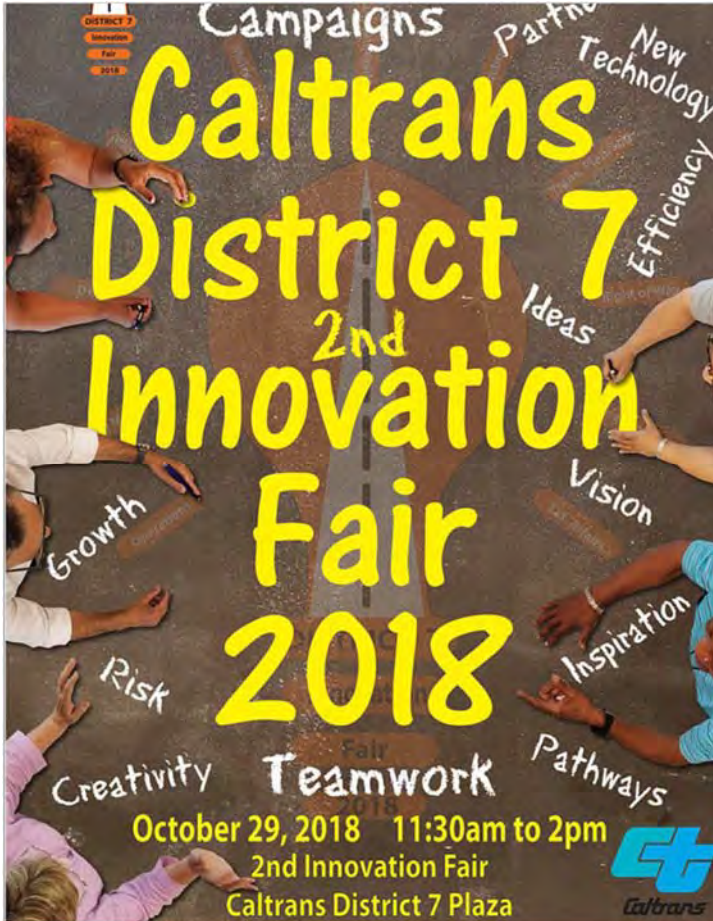
This last quarter and as part of the LA Section main At-Large outreach activities an outreach meeting was held at the Los Angeles office of the Regional Water Quality Control Board. This meeting also included CPUC members who also work in the same building. About 90 PECG participants attended the meeting which highlighted many important labor related topics and the members were given time for a Q and A to answer their specific concerns. The meeting was successful and received many praises by the attendees.

### Political Action Outreach

PECG LA section officers and PECG PAC volunteers participated in various political outreach activities this quarter towards the 2018 Mid Term Election canvassing during October and early November prior to election day for Assembly Candidates Sharon Quirk-Silva, Josh Lowenthal and Senate candidate Tom Umberg all endorsed by PECG. Other activities included attending fundraising events for candidates Mike Eng, Judy Chu, Tom Umberg, Alan and Josh Lowenthal.

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This year the Los Angeles Section is continuing its tradition of getting new members involved thus making the organization more inclusive and open for all members to be involved. The Executive committee comprises of 8 officers, President, 3 VP's, Director, Treasurer, Secretary and a President Elect, as well as about 40 delegates who oversee and vote all section meetings. There are representatives from At-Large as well as Caltrans outlying field offices.

Shown in photographs below are pictures from the Oath of Office ceremony and the presentation of the appreciation plaque to our Bargaining Unit Chair, Mr. Matt Hanson.



# RWQCB & CPUC At Large Member's Outreach

The Los Angeles Section represents nearly 2,000 Rank and File as well as Supervisory employees and about 1,700 are members. Following the US Supreme Court's ruling on Janus vs Teachers union, the Section embarked on a vigorous new outreach campaign to get informed members of the ramifications of this decision and to get everyone's support to unite our base. The Officers of the LA Section organized two such outreach activities, one at the At Large office of Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board and another one at the DSA and OSHPD office. Of particular interest to our members was the office relocation at the DSA/OSHPD where members are facing increases to parking fees upwards of several hundred dollars a month. This meeting was well attended and members were pleased to have this opportunity to speak directly to their Section leadership.

Photographs below are from the RWQCB and CPUC Outreach Meeting, showing PECG's Labor Representative Jesse Rodriguez and officers John Vassiliades and John Lee speaking to the members.



# Political Action Outreach

PECG LA section officers and PECG PAC volunteers participated in various political outreach activities this quarter including the 2018 Mid Term Election canvassing for Assembly Candidates Sharon Quirk-Silva, Josh Lowenthal and Tom Umberg all endorsed by PECG. The November 2018 Mid Term Election was considered one of the most important elections ever, especially in the aftermath of the Supreme Court's Decision on Fair Share Fees assessment by unions. The Fair Share fee assessment was challenged by a teacher and the case eventually made it to the Supreme Court of the US. With this ruling the employees assigned to collective bargaining units are now free to abstain from paying their fair share cost of representation, while at the same time they directly benefit by the collective bargaining agreements between unions and employers. Important decisions as such cannot be ignored and our members must be aware of the consequences. That message was carried out by the Section leadership and our member volunteers showed up to assist in 3 targeted races for candidates Tom Umberg, Mike Eng for State Senate, and Josh Lowenthal for Assembly.



## Political Action Outreach (cont.)

In other PEGG PAC events, section officers occasionally are invited to attend local special meetings that are typically organized by the candidates who run for office. One such event was held at the CDP Convention (photos below with Section Director John Vassiliades and US Senator Dianne Feinstein). The November 2018 Mid-Term Election netted many changes in local, State and National seats with newly now elected officials that lean more in favor of the middle class and are pro-labor. In Orange County for instance which for many years was the bastion of anti-government and anti-tax movement, all 6 congressional seats are now switched to pro-labor members of congress, such as Gil Cisneros below, introduced to the crowd in a Buena Park union hall by assembly-woman Sharon Quirk-Silva.

