

# LOS ANGELES SECTION

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

**SECTION QUARTERLY REPORT**

**March 2024**

## Section Officers

Jalil Khan, CT  
*President*

Ed Jackson, DGS Fire  
*Director*

MD Bhuiyan, CT  
*President-Elect*

Nguyen Hua, CT  
*VP Rank & File*

Refugio Dominguez, CT  
*VP Supervisory*

Deborah Kennedy  
*VP At-Large*

John Vassiliades, CT  
*Treasurer*

Sam Luk  
*Secretary*

## Section Events Overview

Los Angeles Section Officers, delegates and members would like to welcome all Corporate, Section leaders, Committee Chairs, and members to the March 2024 Board of Directors Meeting.

In the beginning of the new year, and as the largest Section of this great organization we are constantly challenging and striving to better ourselves in how we can be more effective in conducting our affairs and serve the vast and diverse Caltrans and At-large PECG membership. The LA Section Executive Committee (EC), which is 32 strong, represent a total of 1740 members. Among numerous awards, the most notable was being awarded for the highest percentage of Rank-and-File members compared to our other Sections. Over the years LA Section has been actively involved in recruiting and retaining its members, being actively involved with political outreach and fund-raising events, various outreach events both with multiple State Departments and external entities, Science and Engineering Fairs, Goodwill efforts, etc. To serve our membership holistically the officers and delegates must uphold higher ethical standards and as a team and continue to be more accountable and transparent on how our Section functions and conducts its business. We are also trying to actively recruit new EC members who will adequately represent a diverse cross section of our membership and encourage participation and involvement of a new generation of members to bring forth issues that are important to them as we transcend into the future and while supporting and encouraging them to be our next generation of Section and Corporate leaders.

### **New LA Section Executive Committee Members & Officers:**

This year like all other years, the Los Angeles Section is continuing its efforts of getting the new employees signed up for PEGC Membership. The Executive Committee comprises of eight (8) elected Section Officers that include the President, President-Elect, 3 VP's, Director, Treasurer, and Secretary, as well as 26 Section Delegates who oversee and vote on all section matters.

### **Section Meetings (Annual, Monthly EC, At-Large, Supervisory & Fed-PAC ):**

The LA Section Officers regularly conduct monthly EC meeting in every month other than any scheduled events etc. The Section decided to hold the Annual Holiday and Fed-Pac party on December 5, 2023, at Stevens Stake House. Also, we decided to hold a Quarterly Luncheon on December 27, 2023. The section will hold three (3) more Quarterly Section Luncheons with all its members. As the largest Fed-PAC members by far of this organization, the officers decided to accommodate all its Fed-PAC members in the annual holiday party. We as a section, are very diversified with multiple At-Large Departments and to be inclusive of all, we will continue to promote the involvement of its At-large membership through Section-wide meetings and any other Department-specific meeting opportunities that we may take advantage of. We are planning to hold a few in-person meetings in near future through New Membership Appreciation events in various departments. We also plan to hold Supervisory specific meetings throughout the year. Stay tuned to all the exciting Section Activities planned this year!

### **PEGC members retirement party at Stevens Stake House held on November 27, 2023:**

**PEGC was involved and officers participated for the retirement party of loyal & in good standing PEGC members 1) Sam Almaden, Office Chief and 2) Mansoor Khan, Senior Transportation Engineer, Caltrans District 7. PEGC presented them with a Plaque and Certificate of Appreciation.**



## **Budget for supporting members and various activities:**

The Section officers have already conferred a couple of times over the course of the past few months or so to discuss Section activities and budget matters. The officers recognize that the Section budget is for the benefit of the members and in supporting various activities that benefit and provide well-deserved exposure of this organization. We will strive to make contributions for Section activities that effectively highlight the mission and vision of PEGG. The officers may also consider giving back to the membership to encourage their participation in the form of gift-cards and/or Section merchandise to display their PEGG pride.

## **PEGG Corporate Annual Board meeting:**

The PEGG Board meeting was held on December 1-2, 2023, at Sacramento. Mr. Jalil Khan, President LA Section; Ed Jackson, Director LA Section; Md. R. Bhuiyan, with another Committee member from LA Section, attended.





**LA Section Annual Holiday and Fed-PAC Party:**

The Los Angeles Section annual holiday and Fed-PAC party was held in person on December 5, 2023, at Stevens Steakhouse. About 80 EC and Fed-PAC members participated in person. All the LA Section EC and Fed-PAC members were highly appreciative of the event. We conducted raffle draw and distributed gifts, etc. for this occasion.



## LA Section Quarterly Luncheon:

The Los Angeles Section Quarterly Luncheon and meeting event was held on December 27, 2023, at Stevens Steakhouse. About 200 members attended. PECG Corporate President Mr. Brad Shelton was kind enough to participate as Keynote Speaker despite his busy schedule during holiday period. He delivered his valuable speech highlighting all the activities & services offered by PECG for their members. He encouraged nonmembers to join PECG in order for them to take advantage of all the services provided in case of layoff, etc. LA Section President Mr. Jalil Khan discussed the 2023-24 budget short fall and requested all PECG members to encourage their next-door new employees to join PECG, as these all nonmembers get free ride for everything at the cost of your membership.



## District 7 Official Retirement Party:

On December 17, 2023, Caltrans Los Angeles office arranged a retirement party for the farewell of few PEGC members in the district office. Many employees of Caltrans District 7 participated and bid farewell. On behalf of PEGC LA Section, President Mr. Jalil Khan attended and presented Plaques, Appreciation Certificates, Pins, etc. provided by PEGC Corporate Office.



## **PECG LA Section attended Fundraising Event for Senate Member Josh Lowenthal:**

PECG LA Section sponsored a fundraising event on December 5, 2023, in Long Beach for the State Senate candidate Josh Lowenthal. LA section President Jalil Khan and Treasurer John Vassiliades attended the event.



## **LA County 2024 Science & Engineering Fair (74th Annual LACSF Planning Ahead!!):**

LA Section is continuing its decades-long tradition of involvement with the annual planning of the LA County Science and Engineering Fair (LACSF). PECG LA Section has a seat on the Executive Board and provides volunteers who judge and select the winning projects for the PECG (James Roberts & Marilyn Reece) Annual Special Awards. The 74th Annual LACSF will be held in March. Following the announcement of the Award Winners, the students will be invited to the Caltrans D7 Office Building to receive their \$1000 awards, glass trophies, medals, and certificates. At the end of the ceremony the students will be photographed, and their name tags will be posted on the two perpetual plaques next to the James Roberts Memorial and Marilyn Reece Memorial plaques.

## **New Employee Orientation (NEO) and Save Opportunity:**

Section officers have been attending Caltrans New Employee Orientation (NEO) meetings. We have also engaged in Save opportunities, which are conversations with members who may be inclined to drop their PECG affiliation. Since the LA section is the largest, it has been an incredible effort by our team. Kudos to all the volunteering officers (Jalil, John, Refugio, Ed, Sam, MD & Varoujan) who have stepped up to this challenging task! The Membership Committee has successfully recruited quite a few new employees to become PECG members.

## **Section Committee Appointments and Active Delegate Participation:**

Being a Section Officer or a Delegate without active participation does not serve our membership adequately. A namesake title may sound impressive but does not hold any value unless it's put into action. This year we will continue to make strides in getting the EC more actively involved in Section Committees and activities. As the year progresses, we may add on more Ad-Hoc. The following are some of the committees proposed this year and the Chairs assigned to them.

- Policy and Bylaws – Vairoujan
- Outreach, Awards, Events coordinator – John Vassiliades / Saed Batarseh.
- Information Technology (website, quarterly reports, etc.) coordinator – Ed Jackson
- Nominating and Elections – MD Bhuiyan
- Membership Committee –
  - i. Rank & File (Caltrans) – MD Bhuyian
  - ii. Rank & File (At-Large) – Samuel Luk
  - iii. Supervisors (Caltrans) – Refugio Dominguez
  - iv. Supervisors (At-Large) – Deborah Kennedy
- Corporate PEGG PAC Trustee/ Science and Engineering Fair – Jalil Khan / John Vassiliades
- Benefits – Ed Jackson

**Informational Technology:**

Recently we had several members contacted by an outside vendor looking for information on our retirement plans. The vendor gained our contact information from our website. We are looking to implement a higher level of security without compromising the ability of our members to reach out to us. Teleworking and online meetings, to some degree, have become new ways to conduct business across the board for all our represented agencies. We embrace change and welcome new ideas to make things easier for our members. We will also be updating our section website, so be on the lookout for that!