



SOUTHWEST CONCRETE PAVEMENT ASSOCIATION

# Concrete Matters

October 2013

## In This Issue

### Upcoming Events

Federal Government Shutdown

NIC Conference Update

Transportation Funding  
Shortfall

### Quick Links

Newsletter Archives

Just in Time Training

ACPA Publications

More About Us

**Our Sponsor for this  
Edition:**

Welcome to Concrete Matters, the monthly newsletter from the Southwest Concrete Pavement Association. This monthly newsletter contains the latest news and information of interest to the concrete pavement industry in California and Nevada. Please feel free to distribute this newsletter to others who may be interested in long lasting pavements.



## Federal Government Shutdown starts Oct 1, FHWA not affected

At press time, the country is waiting for Congress to pass a Continuing Resolution to keep the government funded. However, the local FHWA offices are spared shutting down this week because the MAP-21 bill is a two-year authorization. Only about 40 percent of the federal government is subject to a

## CTS Cement



### Upcoming Events:

**Oct. 10 - Caltrans / Industry Concrete Task Group Meeting.** Translab Sacramento 10 a.m.

**Oct. 11 - Recycled Concrete Project Team Meeting,** Translab and call in number available, 10 a.m. - noon

**Oct. 20-24 - ACI Fall Convention,** Phoenix, register at [www.concrete.org](http://www.concrete.org)

**Oct. 30 Caltrans Rock Products Committee Meeting,** 1-4 p.m. Translab (industry meeting in the morning at Granite Construction)

**Nov. 5 - Nevada Infrastructure Concrete Conference,** Reno

**Nov. 7 - Nevada Infrastructure Concrete Conference,** Las Vegas

shutdown this week.

### Nevada Infrastructure Concrete Conference One Month Away



The annual NICC is scheduled for early November. This once a year program features program tracks on topics like concrete pavements, bridges, materials, construction and economics. This year, the subjects of bridge decks, concrete pavement types, materials testing, Project Neon and cross-agency coordination will be featured. Speakers from around the country will be on-hand to educate and answer your questions. Like last year, the program will be held in Reno at the UNR Joe Crowley Student Union and in Las Vegas at the UNLV Stan Fulton Building. Contact Craig Hennings at SWCPA or Jessica Palmer at SNCA for registration.

### Congress, Not Fuel-Efficient Cars, to Blame for Transportation Funding Shortfall

On Oct. 1, the federal gas tax will mark exactly 20 years stuck at the rate of 18.4 cents per gallon. Against a backdrop of chronic infrastructure underfunding and federal budget crises, a new report from the Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy (ITEP) marks this anniversary and explains exactly why gas tax revenues are falling short. "A Federal Gas Tax for the Future" concludes that just 22 percent of the current gas tax revenue shortfall can be attributed to rising vehicle fuel-efficiency taking a bite out of gasoline purchases. The other 78 percent of lost gas tax revenues are due to inflation, inevitable growth in the cost of asphalt, machinery, and other construction inputs with which our 20-year-old gas tax has not kept pace.

"A lot of people are focusing on hybrid and fuel-efficient vehicles as the reason the gas tax is falling short," said Carl Davis, senior analyst at ITEP and author of the study. "But predictable growth in the cost of asphalt, machinery, and other construction materials has been the bigger issue by far." Davis added: "If Congress had just planned for inflation when they last overhauled the gas tax, three-quarters of the revenue shortfall we're facing today wouldn't exist. If

**Nov. 13 - NDOT/Industry  
Quality Pavement  
Committee Meeting**, Carson  
City, 1:30 - 4 p.m.

**Dec. 3-6 - ACPA Annual  
Meeting**, Rio Grande, Puerto  
Rico, register at  
[www.acpa.org](http://www.acpa.org)

they'd also indexed the tax to fuel efficiency, we'd have no shortfall at all."

[Click here](#) to read the report.

Sincerely,

*Craig Hennings*  
Southwest Concrete Pavement Association



[Forward this email](#)

ACPA-Southwest | 3430 Tully Rd | Suite 20-107 | Modesto | CA | 95350



Try it FREE today.

