



# Inland Empire Section September 2023 Section Report

**THE SECTION  
2022-2023  
OFFICERS:**

**Reyna Baeza-Oregel**  
*Director*

**Omar Perez**  
*President*

**Sylvia Rivas**  
*President-Elect*

**Almabeth Anderson**  
*VP Supervisory*

**Aaron Brady**  
*VP Rank & File*

**Amanda Chapman**  
*VP at Large*

**Tim Curran**  
*Secretary*

**JC Alvarez**  
*Treasurer*

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## DIRECTOR'S VISIT



**TONY TAVARES,  
CALTRANS DIRECTOR**  
Tuesday July 25th, 2023



Join INLAND EMPIRE PECG as we welcome Caltrans Director Tony Tavares. Food will be provided. Spaces are limited.



Caltrans Director Tony Tavares attended our Section Meeting on July 25th. He spoke about Caltrans and PECG issues and also held a Q & A session. We also had the District 8 Director Catalino Pining and Dawn Grosodonia from our LA office in attendance. Close to 100 members were in attendance with more online for this successful event!

# Section Events “Scholarship Luncheon”



Our Section held a luncheon for the Science Fair Scholarship winners and their families in June. This gave the winners an opportunity to talk about their projects and enjoy a tasty lunch. Representatives from the two School Boards were in attendance also and spoke about the importance of PECG’s support of the Science Fairs over the years.



# Section Events

## “CARB-IE PEGG Section Meeting”



On September 6th, Section Leaders Ryan Atencio, Omar Perez, Amanda Chapman, Joya Gilster-Nava and Leo Ortega attended our Section Meeting with CARB employees at their new office in Riverside. Jesse Rodriguez also attended this informative meeting where they met our Officers and learned about our Section. They were also able to get the latest PEGG information and get their questions answered.

# Section Events “Coffee with IE PECG”

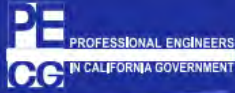
## Coffee with IE PECG

Join us Wednesday June 14th in front of the Caltrans District 8 Office 6:45am-9:30am

Come by for coffee and doughnuts and to ask us your questions.



# Section Events “Member Appreciation”



**PECG  
MEMBER  
APPRECIATION  
EVENT**

**INLAND EMPIRE  
SECTION**



**Tuesday,  
June 27**  
11:00am-1:00pm

**FREE FOOD  
& SWAG**

[Click to RSVP](#)

Join PECG at the Caltrans District 8 Building, in the Basement Training Room at 464 4<sup>th</sup> Street for free food and swag! Get your questions answered! Become a PECG member!

If you are new to state service, this is a great opportunity to learn more about PECG, your MOU, and the importance of PECG membership.



We held a Member Appreciation Day on June 27th where we had lunch and PECG SWAG for our Members. Brandon Cheathon and Jesse Rodriguez also attended to answer any questions that our Members had.

# Section Events “Baseball Night”



On September 7th, we sponsored “Baseball Night” at the Ontario Quakes Stadium in Rancho Cucamonga. It was a great night with perfect weather for our members and their families to enjoy a close game against the Visalia Rawhide.



# Section Sponsored Events "District WE Program"

The D8 WOMEN's Empowerment Program Presents

THE ART  
OF  
SAYING  
NO

September 12, 2023  
11:30am - 12:30pm

District Office  
Training Room  
(Basement)  
or via WebEx



Sunnie House is the founding principal of Sunnie House Strategies, a consulting firm offering a wide range of strategic and business management and development solutions.

WOMEN  
EMPOWERMENT  
PROGRAM  
DISTRICT 8



## PURPOSE

Inspire, encourage, and empower staff in seeking leadership prospects in the field of transportation by attracting, sustaining, and advancing their careers.

Create a network system in the transportation industry that improves gender diversity in the workplace by empowering staff through training, mentoring, and leadership opportunities.



Kurt Heidelberg is Deputy District Director of the Environmental Division at Caltrans District 8.

Please register in advance. A link to attend virtually will be emailed.

[REGISTER NOW](#)

Thanks to our  
Event Sponsor  
IE PECG!



We recently sponsored this District event with refreshments.



# Section Sponsored Events “Women Empowerment Program”



Caltrans District 7 began this effort back in 2019 and is known as the CTD7WE. The Los Angeles PEGG Section is a strong supporter of this effort. Having several PEGG members involved in the CTD7WE committee and as founding members, the LA section has sponsored several events. The IE Section is excited and looking forward to aligning upcoming virtual WE events with D7 and the LA Section to provide a strong PEGG presence. Section Director Reyna Baeza-Oregel attended this meeting last month in District 7.



# Section Sponsored Events “AASHTO Outreach” & “WBL”

## PECG / PREP AASHTO STEM OUTREACH

- San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools (SBCSS)
- September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023
- 8:00 AM to 3:30 PM
- Dorothy Inghram Learning Center (670 Carnegie Dr, San Bernardino, CA 92408)
- Caltrans HQ and D8 / IE PECG
- Champions – Donna Berry & Amy Fong



<https://prepfoundation.org/>



<https://pecg.org/communications/prep/>

## Work-based Learning Collaborative (WBL)

WBL comprised of educators & partners focused on a regional work-based learning system to achieve the long-term goal of increasing the rate of successful entry into local careers that provide family-supporting wages.

- ▶ Meetings occur every four months or three times a year.
- ▶ Stakeholders: Learn about business partners that can be leveraged for countywide WBL initiatives
- ▶ Share best practices and resources
- ▶ Receive progress update



# Section Sponsored Events “Mentoring Opportunities”

## IE PECG Mentoring Opportunities

San Bernardino County  
Superintendent of Schools  
(SBCSS)

- ▶ Micro-Internships
- ▶ Nepris

## IE PECG Mentoring Opportunities

Please contact Reyna if your staff  
are interested in participating in  
any of these programs:

- ▶ Nepris
- ▶ Micro-Internships



Welcome to Alliance for Education



San Bernardino County Superintendent of  
Schools (SBCSS)

- ▶ Nepris: Connects business and community organizations to education. An online platform, powered by Nepris, where business Professionals can share knowledge and expertise with Students throughout the area.
- ▶ Micro-Internships: Virtual interactions that connect regional Industry partners with Students to teach specific skills in a short time. Students can ask questions, gain feedback and receive coaching.



# 2023-24 Section Officers

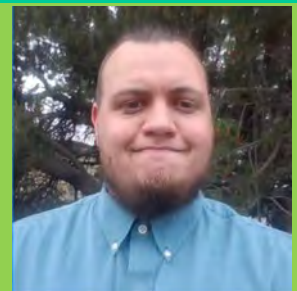
**Elections were held in August and below  
are the  
New Section Officers**



**SYLVIA RIVAS**  
President



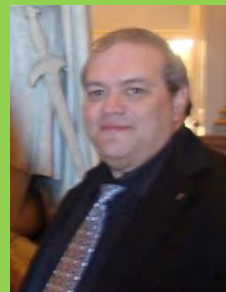
**OMAR PEREZ**  
Director



**TIM CURRAN**  
President-Elect



**ALMABETH ANDERSON**  
VP Supervisory



**AARON BRADY**  
VP Rank & File



**AMANDA CHAPMAN**  
VP At-Large

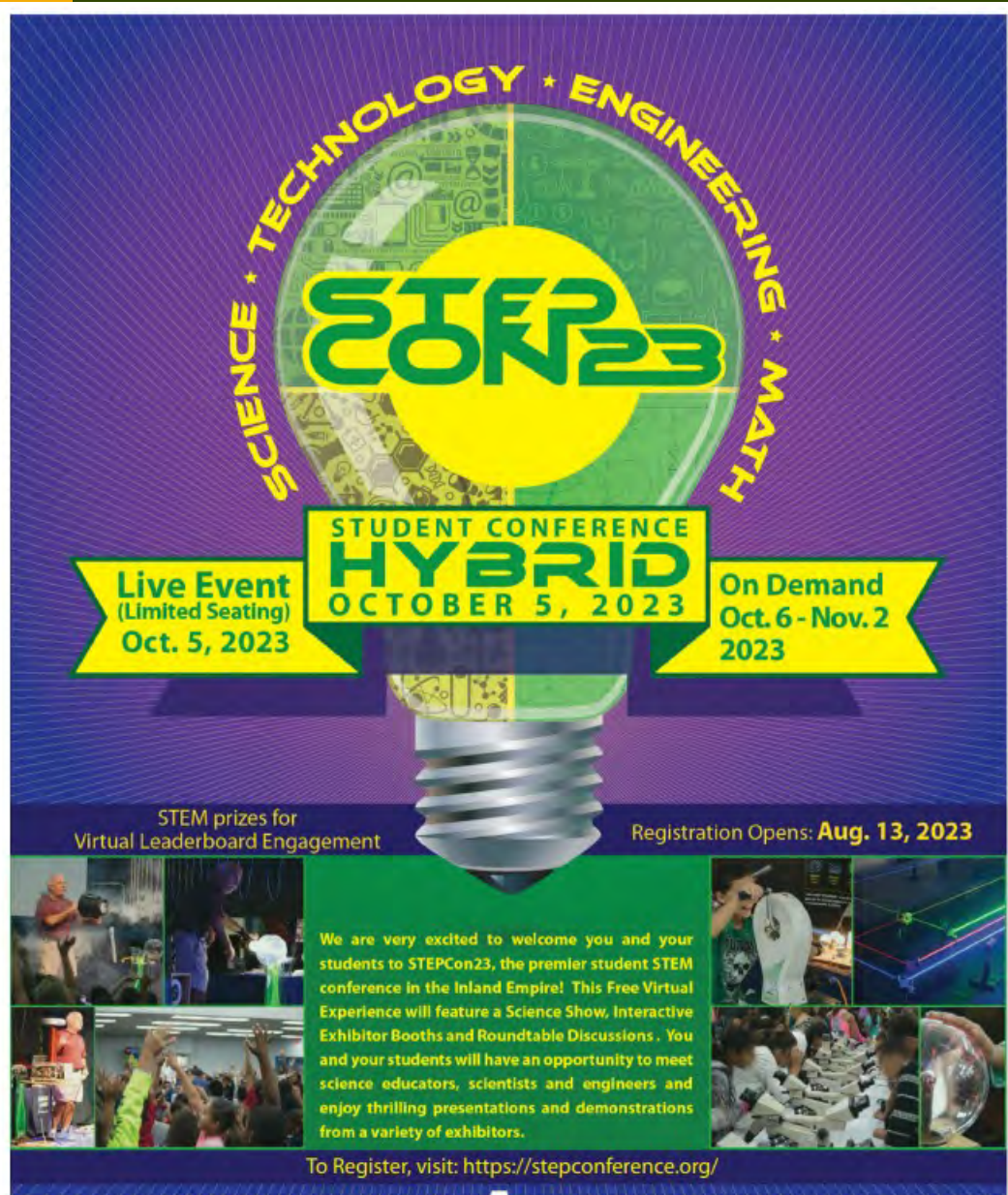


**ASIF RAHMAN**  
Treasurer



**LEO ORTEGA**  
Secretary

# Upcoming Events



The poster features a central lightbulb graphic with a yellow glow. The words "SCIENCE \* TECHNOLOGY \* ENGINEERING \* MATH" are arranged in a circular path around the bulb. The text "STEPCon 23" is prominently displayed in the center of the bulb. Below this, a banner reads "STUDENT CONFERENCE HYBRID OCTOBER 5, 2023". Two side banners indicate "Live Event (Limited Seating) Oct. 5, 2023" and "On Demand Oct. 6 - Nov. 2 2023". At the bottom, there are two sections: "STEM prizes for Virtual Leaderboard Engagement" and "Registration Opens: Aug. 13, 2023". A central text block describes the event as a free virtual experience with a science show, interactive booths, and roundtable discussions. The bottom of the poster includes a registration link: <https://stepconference.org/>. Small inset images show students participating in various activities.

STEM prizes for Virtual Leaderboard Engagement

Registration Opens: **Aug. 13, 2023**

We are very excited to welcome you and your students to STEPCon23, the premier student STEM conference in the Inland Empire! This Free Virtual Experience will feature a Science Show, Interactive Exhibitor Booths and Roundtable Discussions. You and your students will have an opportunity to meet science educators, scientists and engineers and enjoy thrilling presentations and demonstrations from a variety of exhibitors.

To Register, visit: <https://stepconference.org/>

**Student STEPCon** is the premier student STEM conference in the Inland Empire! Participants can experience hands-on Science experiments, interactive technology exhibits and Roundtable discussions, an exciting Science Show, and visit one-on-one with college educators and industry professionals, and enjoy thrilling presentations and demonstrations from a variety of exhibitors. The experience is targeted for 4th grade through 12th grade students.

# Upcoming Events

## “Caltrans Career Day”



### The following Section Officers/Members will be attending Career Day:

- **Tariq Jouzi** - Milor High Career Day- 266 W Randall Ave Rialto
- **Lima Saft/ Reyna Baeza-Oregel** - Eleanor Roosevelt High School in Eastvale
- **Tim Curran** - Tuscany Hills Elementary in Lake Elsinore
- **Almabeth Anderson** - Bradley Elementary Career Day in San Bernardino



# Retirements



**Joe Williams** retired last month with over 25 years of State service with Caltrans. He held various positions in Design and finished in the Hydraulics department.

Also retiring recently are members Tony Calvillo with the Landscape department and Wil Ochoa and Chee Ong with Project Management.