



Section Report

Central California Section

January 2006 Meeting

Our January 18th 2006 meeting was held at the Visalia Holiday Inn Hotel & Conference Center and sponsored by VRPA Technologies.

Over 35 members and guest enjoyed an excellent cold deli lunch buffet.

Technical Sessions

Our first speaker was Erik Ruehr, P.E., Director of Traffic Engineering for VRPA Technologies who spoke on the *New Directions in Highway Capacity*

Erik's presentation provided an update on ongoing efforts to maintain, improve, and update the 2000 Highway Capacity Manual. He provided a status report on upcoming updates for interchanges, roundabouts, freeway weaving, arterial streets, and traffic simulation. Erik also included an overview of the Transportation Research Board's Committee on Highway Capacity and Quality of Service, which has the responsibility for maintaining and updating the HCM. A spirited question and answer period followed.

Raffle

Raffle prizes were provided by VRPA Technologies, portable DVD player and the City of Clovis which provided a wireless weather station. Winners were Bruce Deeter who won the Wireless Thermometer and Gary Mills who took home the DVD Player.

Our second speaker was Brent Green, Business Development Director, City of Shafter who spoke on the California Integrated Logistics Center.

Brent shared with us the vision of implementing a California intra-state rail shuttle from the Port of Oakland to the City of Shafter. The City of Shafter believes that this project will benefit the entire state and nation by using existing infrastructure and extracting efficiencies out of the current inefficient system. This project will be both economically and environmentally beneficial. Brent's presentation was very interesting and prompted a lot of questions.

Future Meetings

April 19, 2006 – Luncheon - Fresno

July 19, 2006 – Luncheon – Visalia

October 18, 2006 – Luncheon – Fresno

Submitted by;
Mike Bitner - President