



# APRIL 2004 NEWSLETTER

INSTITUTE OF TRANSPORTATION ENGINEERS - Northern California Section



## 2004 Student Award Winner

The 2004 student award winner is Sondra Rosenberg. Sondra will get to attend the Intermountain Section Annual Meeting in Jackson Hole, Wyoming on May 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>. She expects to get her Master of Science degree in Technology and Policy in June from the University of California, Davis. She may continue on and get a PhD.

## Golf Tournament

The annual ITE Golf Tournament is scheduled for August 27<sup>th</sup>. The tournament will be held at the Wildhawk Golf Course in Sacramento. The tournament is a scramble format. Mark your calendars now and watch for the flyer with more information.

## FUTURE MEETINGS

- May 21, 2004 – Annual Awards luncheon at Andiamo's. Mr. Jeff Clark is going to give an overview of the Sacramento County Mobility Strategies for County Corridors.
- June 18, 2004 – Special lunch meeting at a location to be announced.

## Measure A Renewal Debate

Mr. Mike Penrose, Chief of the Sacramento County Department of Transportation, gave an Overview of Measure A and the issues facing the renewal of that program. Measure A is a ½ cent addition to the sales tax in Sacramento County. It was initially passed by a simple majority of voters in 1988 and is due to sunset in 2008. The proceeds have funded transit operations and improvements, roadway improvements and maintenance, bike improvements, and pedestrian facility installations.

The renewal will need to be passed by a 2/3 majority of voters. Polling has shown that this can be achieved at the current ½ cent level with the right mix of projects. The goal is to get the measure to the voters in November. The Sacramento Transportation Authority (STA) Board is currently having hearings to determine what is the right mix of projects.

The debate in front of the STA Board is how to split up the “pie”. Currently the “pie” is split 1/3 for Regional Transit, 1/3 for road maintenance (split between the cities in Sacramento County and the County) and 1/3 for road improvement projects. The proposed package would change the split to 40% for Regional Transit, 33% for maintenance and 27% for road projects. The renewal is proposed to be for 30 years. There are groups that feel that more money should go to transit, others don't like specific projects (HOV lanes or regional connectors) and others want more money for roads.

Stay tuned for the final outcome.