

# CALTRANS COLLABORATION...

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE CALTRANS PARTNERING PROGRAM

OCT-DEC 2012

## TEAM SPOTLIGHT:

### *TWO ROUTE 710 PROJECTS PARTNER TOGETHER FOR SUCCESS!*

Despite challenges with traffic congestion, multiple City jurisdictions and limited 55-hour weekend work windows two District 7 project teams and their contractors Sully Miller Contracting Company and Atkinson Contractors used Partnering to help successfully complete BOTH projects.

These Route 710 projects encountered conflicting project plans and right-of-ways as well as issues arising from concurrent construction in adjacent corridors. Coordination between projects required on-going communication and commitment. Facilitated cross-project partnering sessions allowed discussion and resolution of issues between the two projects, built working relationships and helped deliver successful projects for both contractors and Caltrans.

The team for the **Route 710 Reconstruction project from 105 Separation to Firestone Boulevard**, a 2012 Excellence in Partnering gold project, completed the project using Partnering with only seven extended weekend closures instead of the ten allowed by the contract.

On the **Route 710 Improvements project from Route 405 to Firestone Boulevard**, a 2012 Excellence in Partnering silver award-winner, the team used partnering best practices to complete the work more than two years early. Atkinson completed the pavement rehabilitation work in 25 weekends – nine fewer than allowed by the contract.

### *Route 710 Best Partnering Practices used*

- Adjacent Project Partnering
- Professional Facilitator
- Partnering Charters
- Monthly Scorecards
- Kick-off and Follow-up Sessions
- Teams Attended Partnering Skills Development Together
- Field Team and Subcontractors Attended Partnering Sessions
- Dispute Resolution Ladders
- Lessons Learned Sessions
- Teambuilding events



## PARTNERING TIP

*ESTABLISH MUTUAL GOALS, WRITE THEM DOWN, TRACK YOUR PROGRESS!*

*“When everyone on the team is committed to specific goals, the team tends to accomplish these goals.”*

— Caltrans Field Guide to Partnering

Partnering on Caltrans projects requires each team to establish Core Goals for the following:

- Safety
- On Time
- On Budget
- Quality Met
- Fundamentals of Partnering Training

Teams may also establish project-specific goals such as:

- Environmental commitments met
- Disputes resolved
- Teamwork/communication
- Partnering maintenance plan
- Public image/public relations
- Third party coordination
- Minimizing public impact
- Having fun/job satisfaction

For each goal, make sure your team establishes specific criteria, typically something that can be measured and/or verified. For example, the goal for “on time” could be “To complete the project before the Rose Parade, January 1, 2013.”



# PARTNERING PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENTS



Based on comments and feedback, the 2013 partnering award applications have been improved and are now available on the partnering program website: [www.CaltransPartnering.com](http://www.CaltransPartnering.com). See below for some of the improvements

## NEW SIZE-BASED AWARDS CATEGORIES

Gold, silver and bronze recognition for Excellence in Partnering will now be evaluated and awarded for projects in three categories:

- Projects Less than \$10 million
- Projects \$10 million to \$50 million
- Projects Greater than \$50 million

## UPDATED AWARDS APPLICATION

Although the basics remain the same, the awards application has received a tune-up. The information requested, the questions and the explanations have been updated for better clarity. The goal of the application is to help teams demonstrate their partnering success stories and use of best practices so that the judges can evaluate each project and score it accordingly.

## MORE POINTS FOR NARRATIVE “WHY THIS PROJECT?”

In the 2012 application, this question “ Why this Project” was worth up to 14 points. In 2013, it will be worth a whopping 30 points. Why? The judges will use this question to help them understand the interrelationship between effective Partnering practices and the successful outcomes on the project. Answer this question with your best stories. Share examples of when your team co-created solutions and any lessons learned that other teams could apply to their projects.

## CALENDAR

### PARTNERING AWARDS

Excellence in Partnering and Success in Motion award applications are due January 15, 2013. See award application for details.



### HQ PARTNERING COORDINATOR

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## 10 TIPS FOR AN AWARD-WINNING APPLICATION

1. **TELL YOUR STORY** – Write about why/how Partnering made a difference. Give examples. Help the judges stand in your shoes.
2. **BE SPECIFIC** – Provide details, facts and figures (\$\$\$, days, %).
3. **USE BEST PRACTICES** – Tell about the ones you used, presume the judges know nothing! (See *Field Guide to Partnering* at [www.CaltransPartnering.com](http://www.CaltransPartnering.com))
4. **GET SUPPORT** – Get letters/quotes or newspaper articles praising your team. Tie praise to specific successes.
5. **START EARLY** – Start looking at the application now!
6. **BE COLLABORATIVE** – Use your team to develop the application – it’s how you built the project!
7. **USE PICTURES** – Take before and after shots with your team members having fun. Number the photos and reference them in the text.
8. **BE THOROUGH** – Fully answer every question. Use Application Checklist to verify you’ve completed everything. (Get application and checklist at [www.CaltransPartnering.com](http://www.CaltransPartnering.com))
9. **PROOFREAD** – Quality of application is a reflection of your team.
10. **HAVE FUN** – The awards are about recognizing your team for a job well done – enjoy it!

For more information on Partnering Awards, see sample award-winning applications and the 2013 Excellence in Partnering Awards program at [www.CaltransPartnering.com](http://www.CaltransPartnering.com).