



Transportation Vanguard Award Nomination Form

2014

INFORMATION ON NOMINEE:

Last Name: Mraovich	First Name: Emily	Date: September 16, 2014	
Email: Emily.Mraovich@dot.ca.gov		Position Title: Associate Transportation Planner	
Department: California Department of Transportation		Phone: 916.653.3087	
Street Address: 1120 N Street (MS-32)	City: Sacramento	State: California	Zipcode: 95814
AASHTO Committee Membership (optional) N/A			

NOMINATOR INFORMATION:

Last Name: Begley	First Name: Alyssa	Date: September 16, 2014	
Email: Alyssa.Begley@dot.ca.gov		Position Title: Chief, Office of Community Planning	
Department: California Department of Transportation		Phone: 916.651.6882	
Street Address: 1120 N Street	City: Sacramento	State: California	Zipcode: 95814
Endorsement of Member Department Secretary/Director: Endorsed by Malcolm Dougherty, Director			

INSTRUCTIONS:

Using a maximum of 2 additional single-sided pages, please provide reasoning as to why this individual should be selected as the Transportation Vanguard Award recipient. Please include as much specific information about the candidate as possible, including special projects, personal attributes, dedication, etc.

Send nominations by **Friday, September 26, 2014**, via e-mail to mvitale@ashto.org. Nominations must be submitted as a single file in MS Word format using ***TVA2014_Nomination_Nominee_Name.doc*** as the file name.

Emily Mraovich is an Associate Transportation Planner leading the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) to further innovative, cutting-edge Complete Streets implementation. She is a dedicated Planner, a member of the American Planning Association, and exemplifies a vanguard at the forefront of new developments and ideas. Through Emily's professionalism and planning expertise, she has achieved major progress in implementing this cross-functional initiative that will change the way Caltrans plans, designs, and deliver Complete Streets infrastructure.

Caltrans' first Complete Streets Implementation Action Plan (CSIAP) was released in March 2010 and complete in June 2013. The Complete Streets effort involved convening many internal and external working groups, providing education and tools to implement this new concept. The CSIAP listed 73 action items. More than three-quarters of those action items were completed and the majority of other items had made substantial progress.

Emily leads the CSIAP update, known as CSIAP 2.0. The updated plan identifies over 100 complete streets-related implementation actions that Caltrans will complete through the end of 2016. The action items are in one of eight categories: 1) Guidance, Manuals, and Handbooks; 2) Policy and Plans; 3) Funding and Project Selection; 4) Awareness and Outreach; 5) Data and Performance Measures; 6) Training; 7) Research; and 8) Partnerships and Coordination.

Emily worked with functional units within Caltrans to discuss the action items listed in the first CSIAP, consider next steps, and determine new areas to target implementation efforts. That required negotiating a balance of pushing implementation further with realistic expectations of what can be accomplished within existing staffing and funding. She completed this at first with her supervisor, and then stepped up to the lead role when her supervisor moved into a different position. She ensured it was a seamless transition and management is entirely confident in her ability to complete the plan. She leads discussions with Executive Management explaining the plan's process, content, and recommendations.

A public comment component with our complete streets partners was conducted in April 2014 when the draft CSIAP 2.0 was sent out for comment and input by members of the California Pedestrian Advisory Committee (CalPED), the California Bicycle Advisory Committee (CBAC), and Caltrans Active Transportation and Livable Communities (ATLC) group. Emily presented to these groups and took feedback from our external partners. It resulted in follow-up with functional units, creation of new action items, and a matrix detailing Caltrans response to each comment. She also develops agendas, facilitates meetings, and reports to the Caltrans Complete Street Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). The Complete Streets TAC is an internal working group with representative from functional units and each of the twelve districts around the state. The group discusses best practices and identifies complete streets-related issues that need to be addressed or elevated.

Caltrans is proud that the draft CSIAP 2.0 reflects important steps forward in implementation, such as development of a statewide bicycle plan, complete streets training courses and integration of complete streets into existing training processes, and ensuring complete streets questions are asked in the National Household Travel Survey. It is in final draft form currently and should soon be approved by Caltrans Complete Streets Executive Committee.

In 2013, Emily was instrumental in ensuring that Caltrans Transportation Planning contracted with UC Berkeley Tech Transfer to develop and deliver a complete streets overview training course specifically for Caltrans employees. Caltrans Transportation Planning, along with a cross-functional steering committee helped give feedback on the development of the course material. A pilot delivery of the course was given to the Complete Streets (TAC) members who provided additional feedback to improve the curriculum. The first course began in January 2014. Students taking this course gain an understanding of the complete streets approach and its application to all facets of Caltrans work. Emily helped organize the six course deliveries scheduled throughout the state in 2014 and the continuation of the course through 2015 is underway.

This week she delivered a presentation on smart mobility in multi-modal corridors at the California APA meeting. Emily is an asset to Caltrans and the California transportation community. She is a future leader for implementing State goals to provide a safe, sustainable, multi-modal transportation system for California's livability and economy.