

Women In Transportation

The Dynamic Duo of Transportation



Lee Ann Eager

Diana Gomez

Diana Gomez began her career over 30 years ago in transportation with [Caltrans](#) and gained experience working in Los Angeles, Fresno and Sacramento. When learning of the high speed rail's development, Gomez stated, "I thought it would be great to get myself back to where I started: the Central Valley." Gomez currently serves as a District 6/Central Region Director for Caltrans and continues to contribute to progress on the high speed rail.

Lee Ann Eager began her career as an attorney, but then moved on to become the President and CEO of the Fresno County Economic Development Corporation in 2009. In that role she became involved in bringing the high speed rail to the Central Valley. Her role in the industry grew as she developed interests in transportation, how it relates to economic development and learning about multimodal transit systems around the world. Eager was also recently appointed by California Governor Gavin Newsom to serve as a commissioner on the [California Transportation Commission](#).

Recently, Eager and Gomez established the Central Valley's Women In Transportation chapter. Gomez stated that, with the engineering demand that the high speed rail requires, it has brought a lot of female engineers into the region's transportation industry. Eager agreed and said, "Because of this, we wanted to make sure that students at Fresno State, including women who are working in this field, had a place to come and talk to people in the industry. We want to encourage them to feel more comfortable about being a woman in the transportation industry."

The Central Valley chapter offers students volunteer experience, leadership skills, mentorships and industry-related career advice. Eager stated, "At some point, we would like to have a large conference, right here, in our backyard (Fresno)."

Both Eager and Gomez are Central Valley natives and Fresno State alumni. Through this chapter, they want to build support that was not available to them when they were pursuing their careers in Transportation. "This chapter will not only help us advocate for the Central Valley, but it will also help us advocate for one another," Gomez stated. Eager followed Gomez's statement with, "Join, join, join!"

For those interested in joining, email either Eager (leager@fresnoedc.com) or Gomez (diana.gomez@dot.ca.gov) to get involved. Eager stated, "We are a dynamic duo; we work to ensure the Central Valley's future of transportation."