Mary King steered the Bay Bridge East Span design process through choppy waters while she was both an MTC commissioner and Alameda County supervisor. “The challenges in advancing the bridge design made it a really gifted public official,” said George Miller, the current MTC executive director. For King it was a true pleasure to work with King and to watch her handle the maddening clash of interests. "Mary’s job managing the Bay Bridge Task Force was sort of like being an umpire of a three-ring circus,” Heminger said. “She had a really gifted public official. She was really smart, very funny and incredibly quick on her feet.”

In spite of the challenges, King emerged from her role on the Task Force even more optimistic about the ability of the government to give the public what it desires. The bicycle/pedestrian path on the new East Span is a testament to the power of the public and the responsiveness of the committee. At the first Task Force meeting, everyone laughed at the group helmed by Alex Zuckerman, the late bike activist to whom the path is dedicated. “It was David against Goliah,” King explained. “They didn’t have the big bucks, but they had the big heart. They never went away, and they got a bike lane on the bridge.”

Now standing proudly above the Bay, the sparkling white steel-anchored suspension span carries motorbikes, cyclists and pedestrians alike across the eastern side of the Bay. Its elegant design has made it an immediate icon, and King “deserves a lot of the credit for that,” Heminger said. King moved on to other prominent positions: president of the Association of Bay Area Governments, private consultant and various roles at AC Transit for eight years, including interim general manager. But the bridge sticks out as a crowning achievement of a full career. “Every time I see the bridge, I’m very proud. I’m very touched. I’m very happy that I was able to be a part of it,” she said. — Natalie Ornstein
Award of Merit: Helios Stretch of Highway Now a Soluble Experience

When the知名钢铁公司 failed and cut corners on material, the old steel deck that buckled 1.5 miles of the San Mateo-Hayward Expressway needed repair. Now the pair of inland replacement bridges that replaced that stretch of freeway have opened their doors to the mountain range and put the one remaining segment of bridge between Redwood City and Mountain View. The new northbound bridge was opened to vehicle traffic in June.

The award recognizes the project’s achievement in serving the community through its design and construction of the new bridge.

Award of Merit: Good Karma Bike Shop Pumps Up Mobility and Self-Esteem

For decades, cyclists have enjoyed traveling the 30-mile Coastal Trail. But many older riders were bunching up at the back of the herd because they were uncomfortable being too far ahead of the traffic. The organization has earned its Good Karma merit award, recognizing the work it does to provide stunning views of the blue ocean below.

Beyaert, trail users can walk their dogs and hike along miles of shoreline with killer views and epic scenery.

Beyaert is the recipient of the 2014 Doris W. Kahn Accessible Transportation Award for her commitment to providing reliable service to seniors and people with disabilities in her home county.

Doris W. Kahn Accessible Transportation Award: Naomi Armenta Keeps Alameda County’s Senior and Disabled Riders Moving

Naomi Armenta is the recipient of the 2014 Doris W. Kahn Accessible Transportation Award for her commitment to providing reliable service to seniors and people with disabilities in her home county. "We are financially healthy as a region and paratransit services in Alameda County. The organization has earned its Good Karma merit award, recognizing the work it does to provide stunning views of the blue ocean below.

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Photographer Joseph Blum Gets Up Close and Personal With East Span Construction Crews

While Bay Lights creator Leo Villareal explored the lines of the original West Span, it was the new East Span — brought to life in 2013 by the Laborer's Union and women who built it — that inspired photographer Joseph A. Blum. The laborer-cum-artist brought his Nikon to the construction site soon after work began on the span, and has since produced an unparalleled collection of film-based and digital images of the crew and their work. A former boilermaker and welder, Blum marries mechanical fluency with a keen sense of composition and color.

Aptly titled “The Bridge Builders,” Blum’s most recent photographic endeavor is part of the San Francisco Arts Commission at S.F. City Hall before moving to MTC’s offices for an extended stay. “I try to get as close as possible to the work and when lucky get an image that almost seems to be taken from the point of view of the worker himself,” Blum said in an artist statement. Now in his 70s, the photographer took the time to get to know each worker intimately and to judge to his or her strength, determination and courage — identifying each person by name in the captions accompanying his show.

A lot goes on here but put in long hours, and you start to feel like a robot,” an ironworker told the Organizer. “But a photographer can show the world how work is done and what it means. There’s a lot of pride in being part of something big.”

Oakland Museum’s “Above and Below: Stories From Our Changing Bay” Exhibit

While the Bay Bridge is the centerpiece of both Joe Blum and Leo Villareal’s work, in another case it was just one compelling feature of a multimedia installation. Tackling state and federal transportation initiatives with creativity, the Oakland Museum of California collaborated with Caltrans to develop an interdisciplinary exhibition about the Bay and the beauty that surrounds it. “Above and Below: Stories From Our Changing Bay,” whose opening coincided with the new East Span’s completion, was being built to work with so many different stakeholders, organizations and people who have such strong relationships with the Bay.”

A clear marker of success were the visitors who would sit and watch the Center for Land Use Interpretations 4.5-hour film of a flyover of the Bay’s 100-mile perimeter for 50 minutes at a time — "insane for a museum exhibit," Pablos said.

Art, which engineered financing and permits for the project, "is not just a work of art. It summons us and creates a sense of connection, exemplifying the metaphorical powers of bridges."

Bay Lights Art Installation Adds Sparkle to San Francisco's Waterfront

The Bay Lights is a massive art installation, designed by San Francisco native and MIT’s Media Lab alumnus, artist Leo Villareal, which aims to shine a light on the city’s beauty and majesty. The Bay Lights Art Installation Adds Sparkle to San Francisco’s Waterfront, which opened to the public in 2013, has already made a huge impact on the city’s skyline, and has become a must-see attraction for tourists and locals alike.

The Bay Lights Art Installation is a series of 25,000 energy-efficient LED lights that are arranged in a grid pattern above the Bay Bridge. The lights are installed in the cables of the bridge, creating a dazzling display of light that changes throughout the day and night.

The installation was created by the San Francisco Arts Commission, in partnership with Caltrans, to develop an interdisciplinary exhibit that explores the relationship between the arts, nature, and technology. The exhibition includes hands-on activities and artifacts that explore the science and art of the Bay Bridge.

The Bay Lights Art Installation is a unique and creative project that has brought new life to the Bay Bridge and has added a new layer of beauty to San Francisco’s skyline. The installation is a testament to the power of art and technology to create a beautiful and inspiring space for people to come together and enjoy.

The Bay Lights Art Installation has become a popular attraction for tourists and residents alike. It has become a symbol of San Francisco’s growth and development, and a reminder of the city’s commitment to innovation and creativity.

The Bay Lights Art Installation is a shining example of how art and technology can come together to create something truly remarkable. It is a reminder of the power of art to inspire and connect people, and to create a sense of wonder and awe.

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