



Caltrans Bay Area

# INNOVATION FAIR 2022

**Deputy District Director: Melanie Brent**

**Number of Division Employees: one**

**Contact Person Wahida Rashid**



## D4-SUPNET

### (Supervisors Network at District 4)

As part of D4's Strategic Action Plan (SAP) Implementation for 2022, Team Lead Wahida Rashid, Senior Environmental Planner from the Division of Environmental planning and Engineering at District 4 has created a virtual platform called SUPNET for Branch Chiefs and Office Chiefs across District 4 to network with one another for support and knowledge transfer. SUPNET stands for Supervisors Network.

The symbol of SUPNET is a bowl of soup that transpire the spirit of comfort and care we need on a hard cold day.

The Department is going through a massive shift of culture and values as how we serve the public with their transportation needs. The Mission, Vision, Goals and Values have added priorities such as Climate Action, Diversity Equity & Inclusion, Active Transportation and most importantly how do we build projects that serves the communities the best. These items require a lot of coordination, collaboration, consensus building challenges within the department as well as with external partners.

On top of these new challenges, we have the challenge of working mostly in a virtual environment where maintaining connection with staff and peers is a challenge by itself. This new platform offers the managers to get together as often as they want to brainstorm, ask a question or seek support from one another by SUPNET. It is a Microsoft Team group that offers video chat, meet ups and text functions.

SUPNET has launched since January 14, 2022, with 15 members and now the village has grown up to 46 members within the last 6 months of its launching. There is a quarterly meeting every 3 months and SUPNET already held two meetings successfully with BCs and OCs across the district. The topics of discussions come from the members of SUPNET. It also welcomes and introduces new BC and OCs on this platform to create an integrated body of sups for District 4.

The topics we have discussed so far are monitoring staff during virtual work, how to stay connected with team, Awards and accomplishments, introducing new BCs and OCs, how to implement Departments goals through our day-to-day work etc.



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## **SUPNET**

### **Great Benefits of SUPNET!**

**Provide information and support within the sup community**  
**Address Departmental goals towards DEI, Climate Action,**  
**Active Transportation, SAP**  
**Brainstorm on Staff development and recognition**  
**Learn from Storytelling/lessons learned**  
**Sharing promotional opportunities and information**  
**Staying connected during virtual work**