

Calaveras public works director going to Butte Co.

By Nick Baptista / The Valley Springs News / December 2, 2020

Calaveras County Public Works Director Joshua Pack is resigning to assume the same roll in Butte County.

Although Butte County is a larger county and his new job will include more areas of responsibility, Pack told The Valley Springs News his main reason for leaving was family considerations.

Pack's family lives in Nevada City and he has been commuting and living in an apartment in Mokelumne Hill since he began working in Calaveras County in October of 2018.

"It's time to get back home and ease the burden on my wife who has been incredible," Pack said.

He listed the Butte Fire Road Restoration Project as a major accomplishment during his tenure in Calaveras County. This past summer, 50 miles of roads in the fire-damaged area were repaired and resurfaced using money from the county's settlement with Pacific Gas & Electric Co.

Although the project does not replace the nearly 500 homes destroyed in the 2015 blaze, Pack said he has a sense of pride helping to provide those who suffered in the fire with the benefit of having "top notch roads."

Another area of accomplishment was completing 17 different projects this year, when rural public works departments generally complete only three to five a year, he said, and this was despite staffing and COVID-19 challenges.

"This has been the most rewarding and enjoyable position in my career. We have a great team, great people and working with the Board (of Supervisors) has been a pleasure."

Nobody has been selected to replace Pack on an interim or permanent basis. The board is scheduled to meet on Dec. 8 and it could be an agenda item.

The department has a lot of momentum going forward and Pack suspects many will see the Calaveras County public works directorship as an "attractive position."