

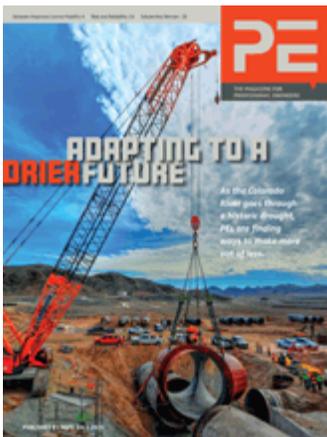
State News for NSPE Members

Upcoming NSPE-AZ Board Meeting

NSPE-AZ will host its next Board of Directors meeting on **Thursday, November 18** starting at 11:30 a.m. (MT).

Access the [NSPE-AZ website](#) for information on upcoming events.

Adapting to a Drier Future in Phoenix



In August, drought conditions and low reservoir levels led the federal government to make the first-ever shortage declaration for the Colorado River. This declaration didn't come as a surprise to professional engineers who are working on solutions for life with less water.

In the latest *PE* cover feature, **Troy Hayes, P.E.**, director of the Phoenix Water Services Department, discusses how the department is managing water resources and infrastructure to improve water delivery. If there's one thing that Arizonans understand, says Hayes, it's the great value of water. "Because water in everybody's community is the foundation of public health, economic opportunity, and the quality of life, we took it upon ourselves to make sure that we [maintain] a reliable water delivery system."

[Read more.](#)

Company's Unique Self-Driving Car Could Save People from the Heat

Chandler-based Local Motors has created an interactive, self-driving car that can carry up to 12 people. The sustainable vehicle contains some 3D-printed parts and can be summoned to a person's location using an app, [techaz.org reports](#). Olli is the first vehicle to use the cloud-based cognitive computing capability of IBM Watson IoT to synthesize and use large amounts of transportation data.

"Olli," as the car is called, could be used to help people avoid the Arizona summer heat by driving them from home to a bus stop, or across large parking lots at places like amusement parks. "Olli solves the first and last mile problem of transportation," Local Motors Public Relations Manager Jacqueline Keidel told TechAZ.

Solar Complex to Be Constructed in Arizona

Construction of a new 504-MW DC solar project in Arizona will begin in early 2022, according to [Renewables Now](#). Moss Solar is acting as the engineering, procurement, and construction contractor for the project, and solar tracking systems maker FTC Solar will provide necessary equipment.

The solar and energy storage project will be located in Maricopa County, and will have a capacity of up to 504 megawatts DC of clean, renewable, solar power, combined with 260 megawatts AC of energy storage. It represents a significant capital investment in Arizona beyond PV panels and batteries. The complex is planned to enter commercial operations in 2023.

State Licensing Board Meeting

The Arizona State Board of Technical Registration held meetings on October 21 and November 2. The meeting agendas and audio can be accessed [here](#). The board will hold its next meeting on **Tuesday, December 7**.

Individuals that want to attend the meeting remotely must make a request in advance and are advised to read the meeting agenda prior to making a request. Contact Kurt Winter at kurt.winter@azbtr.gov if you're interested in attending remotely.



NSPE's **Job Board** is your one-stop resource for professional engineering employment. Whether you are on the hunt for your next career move or looking for today's top engineering leaders and talent, you will find it here.

NSPE provides the tools PEs need to keep current in the profession and advance their careers.

Featured Jobs

[Assistant City Engineer](#)

Mesa, AZ

[Northern Regional Transportation Engineer \(P.E.\)](#)

Prescott Valley, AZ

Find more job openings or reach the right employees on the [NSPE Job Board](#).

Stay up to date on legislative issues through the [NSPE Advocacy Center](#).

Share Your Story: #IAMNSPE

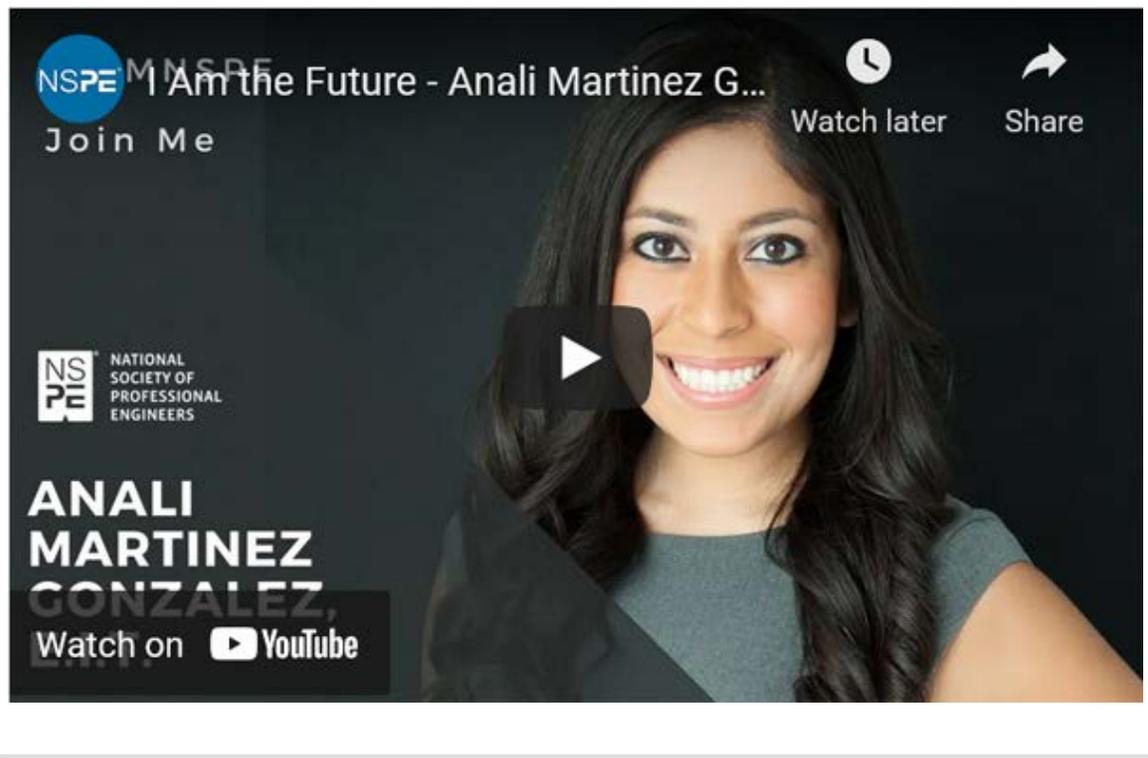


NSPE is its members. It's a society made up of dedicated individuals who each bring a unique story and perspective to the engineering profession. NSPE members are leaders. They are connected, inclusive, committed to ethical practice, and so much more. Members are [sharing their stories](#)....join them. #IAMNSPE

I Am the Future

Anali Martinez Gonzalez, E.I.T.
Civil Engineer
NSPE Emerging Leader Class of 2020

“I have taken advantage of opportunities to grow as a leader and seek to inspire the next generation of girls and women, especially Latinas, who want to be engineers one day.”



PECon 2022: Now Accepting Presentation Proposals

NSPE is now accepting presentation submissions for consideration for the 2022 Professional Engineers Conference, August 1–3, in Philadelphia. The deadline for proposals is **November 30**.

The Professional Engineers Conference provides presenters an opportunity to share their expertise at a national conference. The 2022 conference will focus on the theme of harnessing the power of PEs to create a better world.

Conference Topics

- Amplify Your Leadership Power Skills—Beyond being technically qualified and committed to ethical practices, PEs are leaders. Presentations will be skills-focused for all career levels.

Stay Informed About Issues and Trends Impacting the Profession—The workplace environment is constantly changing and evolving. Presentations should address the latest issues and trends impacting PEs and the engineering industry.

- Invest in Your Career—Choosing a career as a professional engineer is an intentional act by engineers committed to the public health, safety, and welfare. Presentations should address career development topics that will help engineers at all career stages achieve their highest potential.

[Learn more and submit a proposal.](#)

Maryland Society Defends PE Requirement for Public Works Director

The Maryland Society of Professional Engineers is opposing efforts to end the requirement for a PE to serve as director of the Baltimore County Department of Public Works and Transportation. MDSPE believes a licensed professional engineer can provide the most effective administration to protect public health and safety.

In August, the Baltimore County Council revised the required qualifications for the director position, allowing an unlicensed individual to hold the position if they have at least 10 years of supervisory experience in infrastructure planning and construction, or transportation engineering and management. The existing county charter requires the director to hold a Maryland PE license and have at least 10 years of experience in responsible charge of engineering work. As this modification will require a change to the county charter, voters will have the final say in a ballot initiative on November 8, 2022.

In a letter to the county council chair, MDSPE emphasized that the county charter has historically required the department's director and deputy directors to be licensed professional engineers with extensive experience in their areas of practice because the department is responsible for significant engineering activities.

Without a license, the director would not be permitted to resolve differences in engineering decision-making between the PEs on staff, sign off on plans, or change plans without the approval of the PE. MDSPE believes that if an unlicensed director imposes undue influence on professional engineering decisions, it might create significant ethical and legal problems for the department and county.

To update your e-mail address, visit www.nspe.org and login to manage your account.

If you do not wish to receive any more issues of *PE Matters*, [click here to unsubscribe](#) .

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