

State News for NSPE Members

Governor Signs Bills Funding \$500 Million in Infrastructure Projects

Governor Greg Gianforte signed into law a package of legislation containing more than \$500 million to fund infrastructure projects across the state, according to a *Bozeman Daily Chronicle* report.

That's mostly in addition to hundreds of millions of dollars that will be flowing into Montana from the federal American Relief Plan Act. Most of that money was appropriated in separate legislation once lawmakers gained more clarity on the federal relief funds.

The package of nine bills Gianforte signed into law all passed with broad bipartisan support, a departure from recent sessions marked by bitter fights over funding priorities for infrastructure.

[Read more.](#)

MSU-developed, Money-saving Concrete to Be Used in Bridges Near Wisdom

An exceptionally strong and durable concrete developed at Montana State University is slated to be used for the first time, paving the way for potential widespread future application in Montana, according to the *MSU News Service*.

[Developed over the past five years](#) in collaboration with the Montana Department of Transportation, the ultra-high performance concrete will form parts of two replacement bridges scheduled for installation this summer on Highway 43 near the southwest Montana town of Wisdom.

[Read more.](#)

The History of Montana's Overlooked Engineering Wonder

In the 1940s and 1950s, the federal government sought to create hydroelectricity and provide flood control within the Columbia River Basin. In 1961, the US signed a treaty with Canada to build four dams in the basin, including one on the Kootenai River north of Libby. The flooding of the Kootenai Valley north of the dam—creating the 90-mile-long Lake Koocanusa—required relocating roads, railways and, in some cases, entire towns. But the most expensive part of the project was relocating 60 miles of Great Northern Railway track through the valley. The new line would require a tunnel beneath Elk Mountain.

[Read more in *Flathead Living*.](#)



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 Job

[Civil Engineer – Hydrology/Hydraulics](#)

Helena, MT

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](#).

New Jersey Student Wins MATHCOUNTS Title

Marvin Mao, an eighth-grade student from Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey, was named the [2021 Raytheon](#)

[MATHCOUNTS National Competition](#) champion during the virtual event held May 8-10. Mao will receive a \$10,000 scholarship.



This year's national competition engaged 224 students representing 56 US states and territories in four rounds: Sprint, Target, Team, and Countdown.

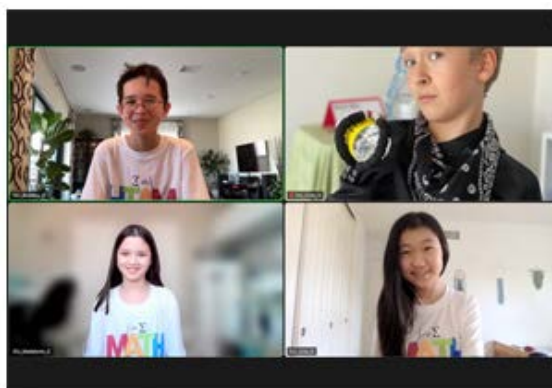
The runner-up for the individual competition was Bohan Yao, an eighth-grader from Redmond, Washington, who will receive a \$5,000 scholarship. Ten finalists will receive \$3,000 scholarships.

Mao is also a member of the first-place New Jersey team consisting of fellow eighth-grade students Evan Fan, Ying Lu, and Alexander Wang. The team will receive a trip to the US Space Camp. The California team finished in second place and the New York team placed third.

California Team Captures Math Video Award

A video combining algebraic equations with an exciting heist won the [2021 Math Video Challenge](#) for a team representing the Elite Academic Academy in southern California.

Team members Bradley Carpiuc (eighth grade), Madelynn Carpiuc (sixth grade), Zoe Kim (eighth grade) and Cole Seelman (sixth grade) each won a \$1,000 college scholarship for their "[The Sanitizer Stealers](#)" video during the challenge finals on May 9. The video is about a group of thieves who steal overpriced hand sanitizer from a store.



The crime is caught on camera, and the owner uses math to piece together just how much the thieves got away with.

The Math Video Challenge is a national program sponsored by MATHCOUNTS and the Department of Defense (DoDSTEM). More than 200 students who advanced to the national level of the MATHCOUNTS competition voted to determine the winning video.

[Access the 2021 finalist videos.](#)

Nominations Open for the QBS Awards

Every year, ACEC and NSPE partner to administer the [QBS Awards](#), recognizing public and private entities that make exemplary use of the qualifications-based selection process at the federal, state, and local levels. Award winners serve as examples of how well the QBS process works, and they help promote the practice in jurisdictions that do not use or underuse QBS to procure engineering services.

ACEC and NSPE are now seeking nominations for the 2021 QBS Awards by the deadline **Monday, June 7**. The awards are administered in three categories: federal government sector; state government sector; and nongovernment sector.

Nominations may originate from an ACEC member organization, an NSPE state society, a public or private entity, or an individual in the public or private sector. Self-nomination is not permitted.

[Learn more and download a nomination form.](#)

Boost Your Career with NSPE's Spring Webinars



This season's NSPE webinars will take place on Wednesdays starting at 2 p.m. EST. The webinars are available to members for \$99 (\$129 for nonmembers) and will include an online discussion and a 10-question quiz for the sessions to qualify for continuing education credit.

May 26: [Catapult Your Win Rate by 50%](#)

June 2: [Engineering Challenges of the 21st Century: A Discussion with Leaders of Engineering Change Lab – USA](#)

June 9: [Tools to Ensure Effective Litigation Preparation and Testimony as an Engineering Professional](#)

[Register now.](#)

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