

Mississippi's Proposed Long-Range Transportation Plans Available for Review

The Mississippi Department of Transportation and three of the state's Metropolitan Planning Organizations are seeking public input on the draft Mississippi Unified Long-Range Transportation Infrastructure Plan 2050, MDOT's draft Public Participation Process and Plan 2026, and MDOT's draft Local Consultation Process and Plan 2026.

MULTIPLAN 2050 is a coordinated effort to develop MDOT's statewide long-range transportation plan and long-range plans for the Central Mississippi Planning and Development District MPO, the Hattiesburg-Petal-Forrest-Lamar MPO, and the Gulf Regional Planning Commission MPO. MULTIPLAN 2050 addresses transportation needs over a 25-year horizon and is updated every five years.

The draft PPP 2026 is intended to establish MDOT's methods for providing the general public and other interested parties with ongoing timely information about transportation issues and the transportation decision-making process. The draft LCP 2026 documents MDOT's procedures for consulting with non-metropolitan local officials. These processes and plans are reviewed for effectiveness at least every five years. [Read more.](#)

Mayor Horhn Asks State for Water Funding Help, Envisions how Jackson Could Regain System

Jackson Mayor John Horhn asked state lawmakers for help raising money for the city's water system during a recent committee hearing at the Capitol.

JXN Water, the city's third-party water manager, raised the alarm several times this year over funding shortfalls and said last month the system was "insolvent." The utility is losing \$3 million a month, it says.

“We think that the state’s assistance is going to be required,” Horhn told members of the Capital City Revitalization Select Committee. “We have to come up with an additional revenue stream, at least temporarily, over the next few years until we can get the water system back to solvency.”

The mayor, a Democrat who took office July 1, listed a few avenues for funding, such as increasing tax diversions from the Capitol Complex Improvement District or increasing the city’s 1% sales tax. The latter, though, may put local businesses in a tough position, he added.

JXN Water’s funding shortfall includes money for debt payments. The utility warned in September that if it can’t make debt payments, the state would have to start diverting some of the city’s sales tax revenue. Horhn confirmed that was the case, but said Jackson was able to pay the \$5 million owed by December. It’s unclear how much longer the city would be able to cover those payments without additional water funding. [Read more in Mississippi Today.](#)

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

Call for NSPE Vice President Nominations

NSPE is seeking nominees to serve as vice president on the Board of Directors. The vice president serves four consecutive years: 2026-27 as vice president, 2027-28 as president-elect, 2028-29 as president, and 2029-30 as immediate past president. To learn more about qualifications, time and financial commitments, and how to apply, [please view the call for nominations packet in the governance section of the leadership toolbox](#).

Nominations are due to the NSPE Secretary at executive@nspe.org by **January 12, 2026**. Additional questions can be sent to executive@nspe.org.

Nominations Deadline Extended for FEYA

Federal engineers are at the forefront of our nation’s most vital priorities from infrastructure and innovation to defense, public health, and safety. Honoring the commitment of federal engineers to innovation and service is the hallmark of the Federal Engineer of the Year Award (FEYA). Nominations for the 2026 award have been extended until November 30, 2025. [Visit the online](#)



[portal for full guidelines and submission details.](#)

Why Does FEYA Matter?

Lt. Col. Brigham Moore, Ph.D., P.E., PMP, was named the 2025 Federal Engineer of the Year. Here's what Lt. Col. Moore had to say about the impact this award has had on his career: *"Being selected as Top Ten Finalist and ultimately as the Federal Engineer of the Year this past year has been an incredible highlight of my career. Within the Air Force, it has provided me opportunities to mentor and give back to the engineering community that I love. Professionally, it has reconnected me with previous advisors and engineering faculty, opening up doors and networking me with some people that I did not previously know. Finally, and personally, it served as a huge bolster to my confidence and commitment to continue making meaningful change with each project and major decision as I move forward."*

[Learn about Moore's government service and contributions to the profession.](#)



Engineers Week 2026 Resources and Outreach Grants

It's time to start planning for Engineers Week and Introduce a Girl to Engineering activities. NSPE members can [access resources on the NSPE website](#) .

Outreach Grants

DiscoverE's grant opportunities are designed to



support volunteer and educator efforts to inspire the next generation of innovators through hands-on exploration of engineering. Grants range from \$250 to \$1,000. The application period for the grants will close on November 3. [Access more information and apply.](#)

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