

## State News for NSPE Members

### NSPE-NV Virtual Conference Recap—Charitable Organizations and Holiday Fun

On December 17, NSPE-NV joined other professional societies during the **APWA ReNVision Virtual Conference** to hear from charitable organizations involved in the Stuff the Stocking Drive.

Members were challenged to support a \$7500 fundraising goal to help the APWA Southern NV Branch support [The Just One Project](#), a local non-profit providing fresh food and necessities to food insecure neighborhoods.

The event also provided an opportunity for some holiday fun with a game of jeopardy and contests for the best Zoom background and ugly sweater.

**Thanks to our sponsor for this event!**



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**Thanks to our virtual platform (zoom) sponsor!**



Stay tuned for information on the next virtual meeting for the New Year!

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## Volunteers Needed at Mobile Markets

What: Mobile Food Market - Distribute food from a semi-truck into trunks or backseats of vehicles.

When: **Saturday, January 23, 2021**

Where: **Hyde Park Middle School** (900 Hinson St, Las Vegas, NV 89107) at **8:45 a.m.–11:30 a.m.** or **Clark High School** (4291 Pennwood Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89102) at **7:45 a.m.–10:30 a.m.**

Gloves will be provided. [The Just One Project](#) is asking volunteers to bring their own masks...they can be homemade.

If you can volunteer, **please RSVP which location you can be at** to [brook.demitropoulos@jacobs.com](mailto:brook.demitropoulos@jacobs.com) or 702-336-9896.

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## PE Takes the Lead as Las Vegas City Manager

In November, **Jorge Cervantes, P.E.**, began serving as City Manager of Las Vegas. Cervantes joined the City of Las Vegas in 1998 as a project manager and was promoted to assistant city traffic engineer in 1999. He was later promoted to city engineer/deputy director in 2006, director of Public Works in 2008 and appointed executive director of community development in 2014.



Cervantes earned a bachelor of science degree in Civil Engineering and a master's of business administration from the University of Texas at El Paso. He is a licensed engineer in Nevada and Texas, and was one of the first in Nevada to be registered as a professional traffic operations engineer.

Since taking on this role, Cervantes has filled key positions for the city government. Chief Operations and Development Officer Tom Perrigo; Executive Director of Community Development Mike Janssen, who is a licensed professional engineer; Fire & Rescue Chief Jeff Buchanan; and Department of Public Safety Chief Louis Molina.

[Watch a KTVN news interview with Jorge Cervantes.](#)

[Also read a \*Las Vegas Review-Journal\* article highlighting Jorge Cervantes' new role.](#)

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## **Construction Forecast Remains Steady Despite Pandemic**

Economists say that characteristic of the industry's post-recession rebound may prove crucial as the state weathers the effects of the pandemic. As of October, construction made up 7.3% of the state's jobs, or roughly 1 in 14, according to a *Nevada Independent* article.

"This is not an overinflated sector," said David Schmidt, chief economist for the Nevada Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation. "It's actually at a pretty normal place right now."

Construction was one of the few industries exempt from coronavirus-related shutdowns this year. Governor Steve Sisolak declared construction essential alongside other sectors such as health care, public transportation, and mail delivery. That move alone helped spare the building trades from some of the mass layoffs experienced by service-providing industries.

[Read more.](#)

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## **Industrial Park Planned for Reno to Tap Solar and Geothermal Energy**

Planned large-scale investment of up to \$3 billion has been announced in Reno, Nevada. TerraScale, a Southern California-based clean infrastructure design and development company, is planning this ambitious green technology project.

The Energos Reno development is centered around two key strategies, according to a Think Geoenergy article. The first is the development of critical infrastructure (roadways and utilities) that meet the demands of digital data/technology, manufacturing, distribution and warehousing for the US supply chain. The second is the development of renewable power by expanding the existing solar and geothermal sources; along with, future development of other potential technologies under discussion.

[Read more.](#)

[Also read this \*Nevada Appeal\* report on the Energos Reno project.](#)

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## Where Does Nevada Rank on Highway Performance?

Nevada's highway system ranks 27th in the nation in overall cost-effectiveness and condition, according to the Annual Highway Report by the Reason Foundation. This is no change from the previous report, where Nevada also ranked 27th overall.

In safety and performance categories, Nevada ranks 27th in overall fatality rate, 2nd in structurally deficient bridges, 18th in traffic congestion, 24th in urban interstate pavement condition, and 20th in rural interstate pavement condition. On spending, Nevada ranks 30th in total spending per mile and 33rd in capital and bridge costs per mile.

"To improve in the rankings, Nevada needs to decrease its administrative spending per mile and rural fatality rate. Nevada is in the bottom 10 states for both categories. Compared to neighboring states, the report finds Nevada's overall highway performance is better than California (ranks 43rd) and Oregon (28th), but worse than Idaho (5th)," said Baruch Feigenbaum, lead author of the Annual Highway Report and senior managing director of transportation policy at Reason Foundation. "Nevada is doing worse than comparable states like Arizona (23rd) and Utah (ranks 17th)."

The foundation's Annual Highway Report measures the condition and cost-effectiveness of state-controlled highways in 13 categories, including pavement condition, traffic congestion, structurally deficient bridges, traffic fatalities, and spending (capital, maintenance, administrative, overall) per mile.

[Access the full report.](#)



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

[Principal Engineer](#)

Incline Village, NV

[Project Manager \(Civil Engineering\)](#)

Reno, NV

[Project Civil Engineer](#)

Reno, NV

*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](#).*

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## NSPE Government Relations Staff Releases 2020 Advocacy Report

NSPE's Government Relations staff has released its year-end report—**By the Numbers**—a semi-deep dive into how advocacy campaigns performed, which issues staff tracked and how often, and which members of Congress were most and least supportive of NSPE issues.

The report provides summaries of lessons learned and establishes best practices. It also draws some fact-based conclusions on who are NSPE allies on the Hill, and which offices need a little more prompting before they get on board. It's an excellent capstone to an unexpected and difficult, but ultimately successful year!

[Access the report.](#)

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## Education Foundation Celebrates 60 Years of Giving Back



For 60 years, the NSPE Education Foundation has been a major source of support for the educational and ethical practice needs of engineering students, engineering teachers, and practicing professionals.

This past year, the foundation gave out five scholarships to [deserving engineering students](#) and supported young professionals in NSPE's [Emerging Leaders Program](#). In the coming year, the foundation will explore additional programs to broaden its reach and impact, and NSPE member support will mean more than ever before.

In this season of giving, and in honor of the NSPE Education Foundation's 60th anniversary, a donation of \$60 will help further its mission to support students, educators, young professionals, and the profession at large.

[Donate today.](#)

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## **EJCDC Releases New Owner and Engineer Task Order Docs**

The Engineers Joint Contract Documents Committee has released a new document: [EJCDC E-505 2020, Agreement Between Owner and Engineer for Professional Services—Task Order Edition](#). This document is available to NSPE members at a 50% discount.

EJCDC E-505 defines individual task orders for specific professional assignments. In a task order, the owner and engineer agree to task-specific terms, such as scope of services, schedule, and compensation, for each specific assignment. When a task order is issued, no drafting or negotiating is needed for provisions such as indemnification, insurance, claims, dispute resolution, suspension, or termination because these provisions will have been negotiated previously and set in place in the E-505 Main Agreement and its exhibits.

The E-505 is designed for multiple or recurring assignments ("tasks") related to one or several projects; it is similar to the E-500 Agreement Between Owner-Engineer for Professional Services in structure, terminology, and conditions. Updates to the EJCDC E-505 include enhanced and reorganized exhibits to the E-505 main agreement and task order form to reflect evolving contract practice and improve ease of use. This edition is published in four parts, which are included in a downloadable zip file.

[Learn more.](#)

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**It's Not Too Late: Get Your 15 Free PDHs for 2020**

Act now to take advantage of the annual NSPE membership benefit of 15 free PDHs. Access to the [2020 lineup of courses](#) will end after **December 31**.

Members may earn credits by viewing the webinars from the comfort of their home or office and will receive an attendance certificate after passing a quiz with a score of 70% or higher. PDHs from these courses are recognized by most US states, including Florida.



Don't have time to view the 15 free courses before December 31? Simply "purchase" the webinars by December 31 and add them to your NSPE member account. That way you can view them when you are ready. Webinars in your account can be accessed for up to one year.

Here's a sample of available webinar topics:

- [Engineering Ethics: The obligation to conduct themselves honorably, responsibly, ethically and lawfully](#)
- [Drones: The Sky's the Limit](#)
- [How Not to Fail as a Leader](#)
- [Professional Engineer's Role on Application of Artificial Intelligence and Technology](#)
- [Texts and Emails That Fuel Engineering Success](#)

Act now to access the [2020 free courses](#) .

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