

State News for NSPE Members

NSPE-NV Meeting Recap—City of Las Vegas 2050 Master Plan

On November 16, NSPE-NV members gathered to get insight on the future of the City of Las Vegas as outlined in the [2050 Master Plan](#). Marco Velotta, a member of the city's Office of Sustainability, served as the presenter at the luncheon meeting held at Lawry's The Prime Rib.

The [2050 Master Plan](#), adopted in July, develops a comprehensive, clear vision and framework for the future of Las Vegas. The plan includes a wide range of public involvement that is inclusive and transparent and is broadly-supported by community consensus. It is developed using guiding principles that measure success, weigh recommendations, foster community-driven implementation, and improve quality of life for all residents:

- Equitable: Las Vegas is welcoming and accessible to all people.
- Resilient: the city is prepared and adaptable to shocks and stresses.
- Healthy: residents can improve personal health outcomes.
- Livable: quality of life is distinct and uniquely "Vegas."
- Innovative: the region educates and attracts the boldest and brightest.

[Access a copy of the 2050 Master Plan.](#)

The Presenter—Marco Velotta



Marco Velotta, MS, AICP, LEED, is a member of the City of Las Vegas Office of Sustainability and assists with the implementation of the city's sustainability initiative. He leads the management and implementation of the Strategy for Community Resilience, Net-Zero Energy, and Sustainability to conserve and reduce the consumption of energy, water, and waste by overseeing renewable energy, energy efficiency, water conservation, recycling, and alternative transportation efforts.

As a part of the Planning Department's Long Range Planning Division, Velotta led the development of the 2050 Master Plan, a 30-year vision for the future of Las Vegas, and manages its implementation. He also works on a variety of programs, including Nevada's first Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (C-PACE) program, climate mitigation and adaptation efforts, EV charging infrastructure, TOD planning for future high capacity transit, bicycle infrastructure development, and the development of a form-based zoning code for Downtown Las Vegas.

Velotta is the professional development officer of the American Planning Association's Nevada Chapter. He graduated from the University of Nevada in 2006 with a bachelor's degree in geography (math minor) and earned a master's degree in city planning in 2008.

Special Thanks!

NSPE-NV would like to thank the sponsor of this month's meeting—Atkins.

ATKINS

Member of the SNC-Lavalin Group

Influence the Profession with NSPE Volunteer Service

NSPE-NV Past Chairman Craig S. Sisco, P.E., F.NSPE, joined NSPE Immediate Past President Tricia Hatley, P.E., F.NSPE, and NSPE Interest Group Director Megan Schultz, P.E., to explore the rewards, benefits, and requirements of volunteer service during a webinar on November 1. NSPE President Rick Guerra, P.E., F.NSPE, served as the moderator.

Do you desire to influence the future of our profession? Are you a young professional looking to advance your career? Have your professional achievements created a desire to give back and serve? The webinar provides information on the opportunities available and offered insight on the skills and abilities desired for these positions. The panelists shared real life stories of how volunteer service with NSPE has improved their careers and provided fulfillment of their goals and

aspirations.

[Access the webinar.](#)



Adapting to a Drier Future in Southern Nevada



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.

The latest issue of *PE* features **Colby Pellegrino, P.E.**, the deputy general manager of resources for the Southern Nevada Water Authority and Las Vegas Valley Water District (SNWA/LVVWD).

Pellegrino provides insight on the water resources management and infrastructure projects designed to deal with drought conditions. Knowing that these conditions were on the horizon, the SNWA/LVVWD developed a 50-year resource plan. "We put conservation plans in place because we knew a shortage declaration was imminent," she says. "The community has to conserve across all sectors in order for us to continue to be ahead of the drought."

[Read more.](#)

Nevada to Receive \$2.5 Billion in Transportation Funds Under Infrastructure Legislation

The Nevada Department of Transportation is applauding the signing of the new five-year federal infrastructure funding bill, which will support the department's ability to maintain and build the state's vast network of roads, highways, and bridges. The funding bill will provide \$2.5 billion to the Nevada State Highway Fund over the course of five years, according to a [Nevada DOT press release](#).

Over the next year, that will mean an additional \$83.5 million, an approximate 21% increase, in federal transportation funding allocated to Nevada. Funding will ultimately increase to \$520.7 million in fiscal year 2026, a 31% increase over current funding, when the legislation expires. Also included in the transportation bill is funding for bridge preservation to help maintain the state's more than 2,100 bridges amid a \$171 million backlog in bridge preservation work statewide.

November Volunteer Opportunity

NSPE-NV is calling on members to volunteer for the next Mobile Food Market distribution project on **Saturday, November 20** (7:45 a.m.-11 a.m.) at Canyon Springs High School (350 E Alexander Rd, North Las Vegas, NV 89032).

If you can volunteer, please send an RSVP to Brook Demitropoulos [via email](#) or call 702-336-9896. If you can't make it to this location, you can still [register online](#) for a different location.

State Licensing Board Meetings

The licensing board will conduct a virtual public hearing to receive comments about the adoption of regulations that pertain to Chapter 625 of the Nevada Administrative Code.

The public hearing will be held [virtually via Zoom](#) on **Thursday, November 18** at 9:15 a.m. Access the hearing agenda [here](#). The board will also hold a [Professional Association Liaison Committee](#) meeting (8 a.m.) and a [regular board meeting](#) (10 a.m.).

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

Share Your Story: #IAMNSPE

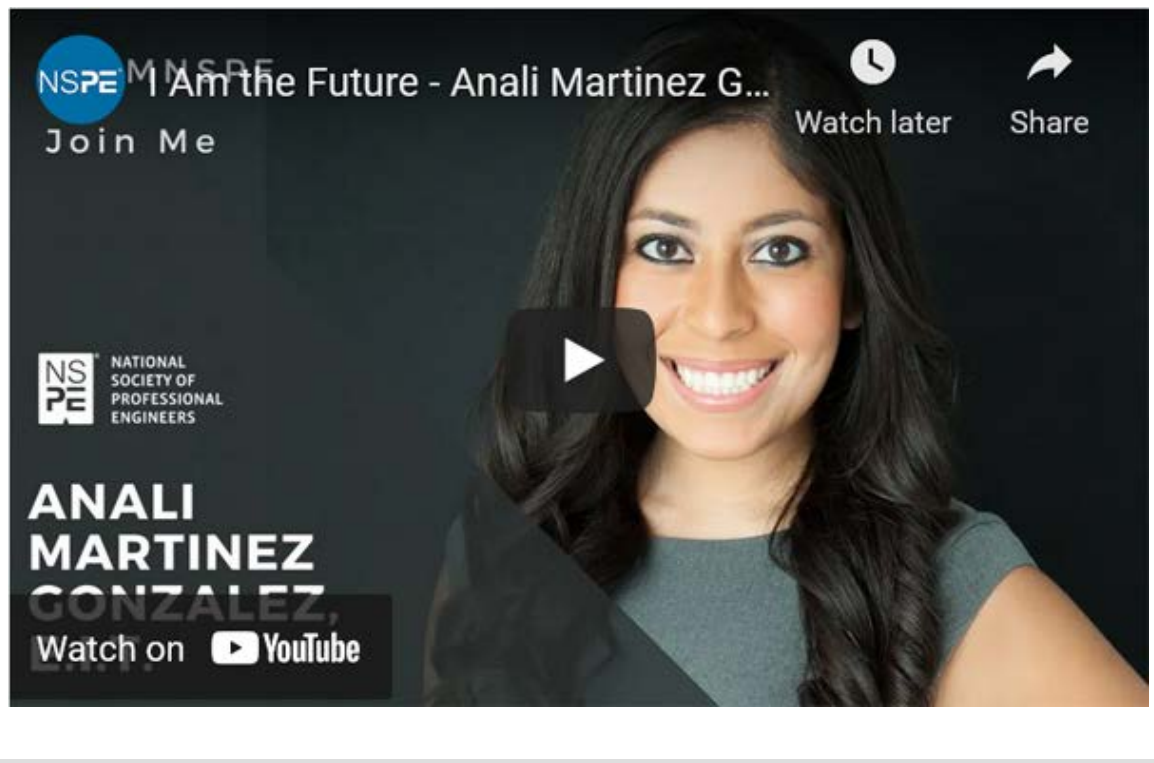


NSPE is its members. It's a society made up of dedicated individuals who each bring a unique story and perspective to the engineering profession. NSPE members are leaders. They are connected, inclusive, committed to ethical practice, and so much more. Members are [sharing their stories](#)....join them.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

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