

State News for NSPE Members

NSPE-NV Outreach in Action—Mobile Food Market

On October 24, NSPE-NV members were called to action to distribute goods at a Mobile Food Market hosted at Orr Middle School in Las Vegas.

This activity is just one of many coordinated by the NSPE-NV STEM Outreach Committee in conjunction with the [Just One Project](#). Since its founding in 2014, the Just One Project has become one of the fastest-growing nonprofit organizations in southern Nevada with a mission to connect the community through giving back

[Learn more about outreach opportunities.](#)

NV Considers Changes to Vehicle Fees and Taxes

Pursuit underway at the Nevada statehouse would revise a vehicle fee and tax revenue rule in place for the past 80 years. The Nevada Constitution mandates that any license fee, registration fee, or excise tax on gas or diesel be used solely for the construction, maintenance and repair of public highways.

As reported on the *Land Line* website, the Legislature's Interim Committee on Energy has voted to move forward a plan that would open the door to diverting from roads a portion of vehicle taxes and fees. Specifically, the group authorized continued pursuit of a plan to amend the constitution to allow affected revenue to be applied for all "transportation infrastructure."

The directors of multiple state agencies including the DOT and Department of Motor Vehicles submitted a letter to the committee on sustainable transportation funding. "The long-term solution should, to the greatest extent possible, address the needs of all transportation mode users, including bicyclists, pedestrians and transit users," the letter said, "as well as promote social and user equity, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and establish sustainability of the fund."

[Read more.](#)

US Senator Rosen Sponsors STEM Jobs Bill

Senators Jacky Rosen (D-NV) and Cindy Hyde-Smith (R-MS) introduced legislation that would help small and medium businesses hire and train mid-career professionals in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

The bill would provide \$50 million in grants to those employers competing for STEM workers, prioritizing businesses looking to hire women, Black and Latino workers and individuals from rural areas, as reported in *The Hill*. The measure would fund "returnships," or midcareer internships, for workers who have either left the STEM workforce, or who want to transition into the field.

[Read more.](#)

University of NV-Reno Doctorate Program Seeks to Improve Engineering Education

This fall, the College of Engineering at the University of Nevada, Reno, launched a Ph.D. in engineering education. The cross-disciplinary program will prepare graduates for research, academic and other demanding careers in engineering education from pre-kindergarten classrooms to workforce development.

For College of Engineering Dean Manos Maragakis, the recent approval of the program by the Nevada System of Higher Education is the culmination of a vision many years in the making, according to a *Nevada Today* article.

[Read more.](#)



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

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Las Vegas, NV

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NSPE President Warns Against Broad-Brush Licensing Reform



NSPE President Tricia Hatley, P.E., F.NSPE, recently challenged an opinion piece that advocates making temporary licensing deregulation permanent, measures that were enacted in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

In a letter to the editor of the *Oklahoman*, Hatley warns that efforts to weaken licensing, however well-intentioned, make no distinction for highly complex, technical professions. This is a critical distinction that broad-brush proposals like those referenced in the article fail to make—and puts thousands of lives at risk in Oklahoma and elsewhere.

She also states that professions like engineering, architecture, accounting, landscape architecture and surveying are responsible for the safety of our physical spaces and the integrity of our financial systems. Because of this, they are required to meet rigorous standards based on education, experience, and examination to demonstrate a minimum qualification level.

[Read more.](#)

An Adventure to the Moon with Future City

Future City is a project-based learning program where middle school students imagine, research, design, and build cities of the future. This year's Future City theme is "Living on the



Moon.” Teams will be challenged to design a lunar city and provide examples of how their city uses two moon resources to keep citizens safe and healthy.

Due to COVID-19, Future City [transitioned this year’s program into a virtual format](#) to offer impactful volunteer opportunities you can do from the comfort of your home or office.

Inspiring the Next Generation

Kay Bailey is a senior research and development engineer currently working on an innovative mechanical device that relieves back pain and pressure. She knows firsthand the added challenges in academia—and professional settings—when few people look like you. “When I was a middle school student, I didn’t see many examples of African Americans doing engineering,” she says.



This inspired Kay Bailey to volunteer as a Future City mentor in a predominantly African American school in Milwaukee. “I wanted to do whatever I could to show these students that it’s okay to be interested in engineering. Right away I could tell Future City would be a great way to get involved.”

Over the last two years, Bailey has loved working with these young scholars. Sometimes she helps them shape their creative ideas or explains STEM concepts, and other times they simply want to hear about what she is working on at her job. “I want these young people to be encouraged to pursue whatever they want.”

If, like Kay Bailey, you’re interested in inspiring the next generation, you can sign up to be a mentor by [clicking here](#) or email Info@FutureCity.org with any questions. This year, the program (including mentoring) will be virtual.

Upcoming Webinars: Roundabout Design Safety, the Engineering Team

PE[®] INSTITUTE

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NSPE's **PE Institute** helps members stay current in the profession, earn PDHs, and advance in their careers through webinars on important topics. The webinars are held at 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. EST at a member price of \$99 (\$129 for nonmembers).

October 28

Put Me in Coach! The Engineering Team from Concept to Completion

Within the construction industry, engineering-based decisions are made by professional engineers closely engaged with technicians. Working as an efficient team, a project moves smoothly and is successfully completed. A panel of PEs and technicians will share engineering best practices and approaches to overcoming technical challenges.

This webinar is **FREE** for members and non-members.

Presenters: Kent D. Dvorak, P.E., Chip Hollis (moderator), William Kenneth Johnson, Jr., P.G., Shannon Looney P.E., and John W. Quidley S.E.T.

November 2

Canon 1, NSPE Code of Ethics for Engineers: “Hold paramount the safety, health, and welfare of the public”

This webinar will introduce you to four of the current members of the **NSPE Board of Ethical Review** (BER). Discussion will focus on four ethics cases that illuminate multiple aspects of Canon 1, to “hold paramount the safety, health and welfare of the public.” These cases are personal favorites selected by each BER member from the more than **600 opinions** the BER has published since the late 1950s.

Presenters: Mark Dubbin, PE, FPE, Jeffrey H. Greenfield, Ph.D., P.E., BCEE, F. NSPE, David Kish, Ph.D., P.E., William D. Lawson, P.E., Ph.D., F. NSPE

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