

State News for NSPE Members

Superstructure Repair Project Will Shore Up Decades-Old Bridge

The Hawaii Department of Transportation is breaking ground for repair work to be done on the Wailua River Bridge on Kauai, according to a [news release](#).

The \$55.7 million project will get underway in July and is slated to be completed in 2024. Most of the funding will come from the federal government, and about \$11 million from the state. “This is a critical infrastructure project for Kauai,” said Jade Butay, DOT director.

The 424-foot-long bridge, which was constructed in 1945, is supported by seven concrete piers. Those are supported by timber piles that were driven into the riverbed more than seven decades ago.

The wooden piles will be replaced by reinforced concrete piles, which will much better stand up to the scouring of heavy rains and flooding, DOT says. A new pier will also be constructed between the piles to offer support to the existing superstructure.

Proposed Bill Could Hurt Clean Energy Efforts, Critics Say

Clean energy advocates in Hawaii are asking Governor David Ige to veto SB 2510, which calls for one-third of renewable energy to come from “firm” sources, [PV Magazine reports](#).

Solar energy advocacy groups and numerous local solar companies attended a rally at the state capitol in early June to make their call. Some islands, such as Kauai, are already over the threshold of 33.3%, meaning they would have to halt new construction of solar energy infrastructure and cut jobs. Approximately 3,000 Hawaiians are currently employed in the industry.

The major sponsor of the bill, Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, said it is “scary” to

rely on intermittent energy sources. Some critics of the bill say a biomass producer is behind it. The governor has until June 27 to make a decision.

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

NSPECon 2022 Open for Registration

Engineers from all disciplines are invited to register for the [2022 Professional Engineers Conference](#) (NSPECon 2022) in Philadelphia, August 1-3. Early-bird registration is available until June 30.

Invited speakers will address sustainability, emerging technology, the post-covid workplace and even, construction on the moon. Licensed professional engineers and those aspiring to be one are invited to join this multi-discipline community to engage with colleagues and hear more about relevant engineering topics.



Sponsorship and Exhibitor Opportunities

Prospective conference sponsors and exhibitors will see [newly created opportunities](#) to highlight their companies and organizations throughout the conference. Sponsors can welcome attendees to the “Feel the Philly Love” opening reception, support a conference education track featuring seven unique sessions, or demonstrate how their solutions help clients overcome specific challenges by exhibiting.

PE Day

On the final day of the conference, attendees can celebrate [PE Day](#) in person and raise awareness about the importance of PEs as qualified and ethical professionals. Before attending, everyone is invited to gear up with [PE Day logo wear](#) to show PE Pride at the conference.

Call for 2022-2023 Volunteers

Volunteers are the [heart of NSPE](#) and essential to helping the Society carry out its [vision and mission and meet the goals of the strategic plan](#). Volunteer positions begin in mid-August and end at the 2023 Professional Engineers Conference.

There are three types of volunteer opportunities:

- **Level 1 (Highest Engagement)–Standing Boards and Committees**
Often includes attending at least one in-person meeting. Most meetings held via video conference. Terms may be up to three years.
- **Level 2 (Intermediate Engagement)–Ad Hoc Committees and Task Forces**
Activities primarily include online correspondence and video conference meetings.
- **Level 3 (Lowest Engagement)–Ad Hoc Volunteer**
Volunteer on a project-by-project basis.

[Submit an application by July 15 to be considered for a 2022-2023 term.](#)

House of Delegates Virtual General Assembly and Annual Meeting

The House of Delegates Virtual General Assembly will be live streamed on [NSPE's YouTube channel](#) for members on **June 30** (2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. EST). Following the live stream of the General Assembly, NSPE members will have an opportunity to ask questions and talk with President-Elect Britt Smith, P.E., F.NSPE, and CEO Monika Schulz through a Reddit style AMA (Ask Me Anything) format in the [Annual Meeting online community](#) . All members are welcome.

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