

State News for NSPE Members

Florida's Aging Infrastructure Generates Worries About the Future

A new report from GHD, a global engineering firm, shows young Floridians have a gloomy outlook on the future of Florida's infrastructure.

CROSSROADS found that Generation X, Y, and Z Floridians were the most pessimistic out of the four major states surveyed, including New York, California, and Texas. Maria Lehman, director of US Infrastructure at GHD, says two-thirds of Floridians want better environmental sustainability.

"Because they see how that can impact," she said. "It's really important that people understand the challenges we're facing. The infrastructure is getting older, whether it's roads or bridges or airports, they're not keeping up with the capacity that they need."

Among the states surveyed, Lehman said the cost of living and environmental concerns are a top priority for Floridians, especially water. "Whether it's stormwater, the saltwater intrusion, or just having safe and clean drinking water," she said. "The concerns in Florida were very high." [Read more on WSFU Public Media.](#)

Renewable Energy Installations Are on the Rise in Florida

The Florida Public Service Commission says there has been an uptick in renewable energy installations across the state, [Bay News 9 reports](#). The agency [reports a 31% increase](#) in renewable energy installations last year, with solar panels reigning as the most popular choice when it comes to going green. Dimmitt Chevrolet in Clearwater is among the businesses who turned to solar energy in 2023, installing 2,000 solar panels on nearly an acre of rooftop.

"They're really low profile and unobtrusive," said dealership CFO Bobby Johnson.

“We’ve utilized every spot that we could, within reason, to get solar panels on there.” Johnson said the initial price tag was about \$3 million, but that cost was cut in half with tax breaks and incentives. He said the panels now generate enough energy to cover all the dealership's electric costs, and will pay for themselves in just a few more years. “The estimate that appears to be true, without inflation factored in, will save us \$3.1 million over 25 years,” Johnson said. [Read more.](#)

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

Minnesota PE Takes the Lead of NSPE



Brian Malm, P.E., F.NSPE, was installed as the NSPE 2024-2025 President during NSPECon24 in Raleigh, North Carolina on August 8. He has been an active member of NSPE for 25 years and has served in a variety of leadership roles at the chapter, state, and national level.

Malm began his career in 1996 and has spent the majority of that time as a municipal consulting engineer with experience with a variety of infrastructure projects including streets and highways, sanitary sewer, water distribution, stormwater management facilities, and capital improvement planning. He is a principal engineer with Bolton & Menk, Inc., and manages the firm's office in Rochester, Minnesota, and serves as the consultant city engineer for several cities in southeast Minnesota.

Malm is a licensed professional engineer in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Iowa. He earned a bachelor's degree in civil engineering at North Dakota State University and a master's degree in infrastructure systems engineering from the University of Minnesota.

Blueprint for Progress: Your Vote Shapes Tomorrow!

Let's make our voices heard! NSPE, the unified voice of professional engineers committed to excellence in engineering, is rallying behind the importance of voting in this election year. As professional engineers, dedicated to protecting the health, safety, and welfare of the public through your work, you understand the critical role of civic engagement. As stewards of our communities, you play a vital role in shaping our collective future. Whether it's casting your vote in the general election on November 5, your state primary, or participating in your local elections, your active involvement is invaluable. Together, let's exercise our civic duty and engineer a better tomorrow!



Before heading to the polls and casting your vote, we encourage you to [explore the educational and election resources](#), which include links to register to vote and verify voter registration.

[Access GOTV Resources](#)

Emerging Leaders Program Seeks Candidates



The [NSPE Emerging Leaders Program](#) is seeking the next group of engineering change-makers. Candidates with 5–8 years of professional experience in the engineering field who are prepared to think strategically about their career and begin taking on leadership roles are invited to apply. Selected participants come from a variety of firms with a range of engineering expertise.

The 2025 ELP syllabus and related time-commitments are available and **the application for the program is due by August 31**. Candidates accepted into the program will receive notification in October.

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