

## State News for NSPE Members

### Florida Condo Safety Law Requires PE Inspections

Florida has enacted a law (S.B. 4-D) that increases safety requirements for condominiums following the tragic collapse of the Champlain Towers South in Surfside last year. A critical component of the law requires "milestone inspections" of the structural integrity of condominiums by a licensed engineer or architect.

Condominiums and cooperative association buildings that are three or more stories in height must obtain a "milestone inspection" to gauge structural integrity if they are 30 years of age or 25 years of age and located within three miles of a coastline. These buildings will need the initial inspection and reinspection every 10 years to be conducted by a licensed engineer or architect. If a building's certificate of occupancy was issued on or before July 1, 1992, the initial inspection must be completed before December 31, 2024, and within 180 days of notification by a local enforcement agency. [Read more.](#)

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### Proposed Light Rail Project Gains Support

Local stakeholders and the Florida Department of Transportation are advocating for light rail that would extend across Central Florida and connect commuter rail to Orlando's airport in a new white paper, [Mass Transit reports](#).

The report calls for proposals to extend the public transportation modes to the region's convention and tourism district and extend high-speed rail service to Tampa. A couple of proposed alternatives include completing the project in steps or completing the infrastructure in one massive \$6 billion project. [Read more.](#)

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### Companies Sought for Educational Program

JA Inspire North Florida, a career exploration program that exposes middle school

students to high-demand, high-growth careers, is looking for engineering companies to participate. Students prepare with classroom lessons leading up to an event and post-event activities, the [Jacksonville Daily Record reports](#).

Companies taking part will inform students about careers and real-world work in their respective fields and emphasize the importance of education and staying in school. Participation in the program will allow firms to market themselves to students, parents, educators, and others. Companies interested in sponsoring and participating in JA Inspire should contact Tiffany Guthrie at 904-398-9944 ext.230 or [tiffany@janfl.org](mailto:tiffany@janfl.org). [Read more](#).

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

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## Moving the Society Closer to Our Vision

*By Britt Smith, P.E., F.NSPE, President 2022-2023*



What does NSPE mean to you? I'd like to try to tell you what it means to me. I began my career with a small civil engineering firm with a focus on municipal engineering. After a few years, I moved to the public works department in Jefferson City, Missouri. This is the same city where my wife and I have raised our three children. As a result, I've had the privilege of working for the community that I have called home most of my career.

Like many of you, I was approached by another engineer early in my career and asked to join NSPE. I have moved through various leadership and volunteer roles at the chapter, state, and national levels. I could not be more humbled to be the president of NSPE. I never dreamed that I would be in this position. As I got involved with NSPE, I met and built friendships with many wonderful engineers within my community, around the state, and across this great country. Each time I get involved and want to give back, I seem to receive so much more than I give. Our founder David Steinman probably had similar thoughts. Steinman understood that the technical problems of the various engineering disciplines are different, but the interests of the profession are shared. He founded NSPE to unite the profession around those common interests. NSPE was created, and continues today, to be the single national professional society, with solidarity of purpose and concentration of strength, to provide for the professional interests of the engineering profession.

NSPE has adopted as our vision: A world where the public can be confident that the engineering decisions affecting their lives are made by qualified and ethically

accountable professionals. Our vision statement is a simple statement, but a very powerful message. I heard once that the average engineer holds the lives of more people in their hands than any doctor could see in a lifetime. As I considered that statement, I couldn't help but think about the awesome responsibility we carry. NSPE was created and continues today to help all members of our profession fulfill that responsibility.

[Read more.](#)

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## Nominations Open: Federal Engineer of the Year

Honoring the commitment of federal engineers to innovation and service is the hallmark of the [Federal Engineer of the Year Award](#).

Nominations for the award, which attracts participation from more than a dozen federal agencies, are open until October 31.

The FEYA ceremony is scheduled for February 24, 2023, at the National Press Club in Washington, DC. Tickets will be available for sale in January. [Apply or nominate a worthy engineer.](#)



### The 2022 Federal Engineer of the Year

**Robert Zueck, Ph.D., P.E.**, was named NSPE's 2022 Federal Engineer of the Year for his discoveries and contributions in the engineering field during a [virtual awards event](#) in February.

Prior to retirement, Zueck worked in the US Department of the Navy's Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command (NAVFAC), Expeditionary Warfare Center at Port Hueneme, California. He is heralded for applying his vibration research to military defense projects for which engineers can now design beyond the speed, agility, and stealth limitations of many military sensors, weapons, and platforms. Find out more about Zueck in a [PE article](#).



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## Access Free WORKability Wednesdays Webinars

The reviews of the [Engineering: Addressing Unintended Consequences as a Professional](#)

webinar are excellent. "Applicable to all engineering disciplines," says one attendee.

If you were busy this summer and missed it, there is time to watch this thought-provoking webinar at NSPE's PE Institute. All webinars in the [spring series](#) are available free to members. Watch for more information soon about what to expect in the fall series lineup!



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**National Society of Professional Engineers | 1420 King Street | Alexandria, VA  
22314**