

## State News for NSPE Members

### Orlando Pulling Plug on Coal-Fired Generation

The Orlando Utilities Commission (OUC) said it plans to eliminate the group's use of coal for power generation no later than 2027, including converting two coal-fired units at its Stanton Energy Center to run on natural gas, according to a *Power* magazine article.

The Florida utility's management on October 14 made the recommendation as part of its Electric Integrated Resource Plan process. Management on Wednesday said it supports a strategic plan for net-zero emissions of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) by 2050, as well as interim targets of a 50% emissions reduction by 2030, and a 75% cut by 2040.

OUC said it plans to make solar power its main source of new generation, and also will invest in "energy storage and other clean technologies to ensure reliability and resiliency are maintained," according to a news release.

[Read more.](#)

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### Gainesville Named as Top STEM City

Gainesville, Florida was recognized as a 2020 Top STEM City for being a community showcasing exceptional dedication to science, technology, engineering, and math education and careers.

The data science team at Insurify (an insurance quotes comparison site) analyzed both proprietary and publicly-accessible data to determine the top STEM city in each state. The team identified cities with the highest proportion of residents in STEM-based careers and compiled data from Niche on the colleges and graduate schools with the best programs in STEM, as well as the best cities for women in tech.

[Read more.](#)

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## USDOT: Connected Vehicle Pilot More Complex Than Expected

Recent analysis of a connected vehicle pilot test in Tampa, Florida, conducted by the US Department of Transportation's Intelligent Transportation Systems Joint Program Office finds that the complexities of field testing and technology integration were "significantly underestimated," according to an *ASSHTO Journal* article.

The ITS JPO conducted a review of the [Tampa Hillsborough Expressway Authority or THEA Connected Vehicle Pilot](#) that encompassed 47 roadside units (RSUs) deployed along THEA's Reversible Express Lane and in Tampa's Central Business District. At its peak, THEA deployed over 1,000 onboard units or OBUs in personal vehicles, buses, and streetcars.

In a [blog post](#), the office noted that most of the vendors involved in the project demonstrated basic vehicle-to-vehicle applications such as Forward Collision Warning, Emergency Electronic Brake Light, and Intersection Movement Assist, with others demonstrating vehicle-to-infrastructure applications that were specific to their product roadmap.

[Read more.](#)

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NSPE's **Job Board** is your one-stop resource for professional engineering employment. Whether you are on the hunt for your next career move or looking for today's top engineering leaders and talent, you will find it here.

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

### Featured Jobs

Senior Electrical Engineer

Tampa, FL

Principal Engineer – Dam Safety Program Manager

West Palm Beach, FL

*Find more job openings or reach the right employees on the [NSPE Job Board](#).*

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

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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.](#)

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## 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](mailto:Info@FutureCity.org) with any questions. This year, the program (including mentoring) will be virtual.

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## **Upcoming Webinars: Roundabout Design Safety, the Engineering Team**



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, P.E., 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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