

State News for NSPE Members

‘Culture Change’ Coming for WV Department of Transportation

Governor Patrick Morrisey recently announced an “overhaul” of the state’s Department of Transportation, saying years of financial mismanagement and outsized investment in new projects instead of maintaining existing infrastructure has left the agency broke.

The new “culture change” at DOT will include refocusing existing resources toward “long overdue” deferred maintenance of the state’s bridges and roads, reducing administrative overhead costs by cutting unspecified positions with “too high [of] salaries” and increasing transparency regarding details of the agency’s ongoing projects, the West Virginia Watch reports.

“We’re getting rid of the bureaucracy. We’re going to put more money in the roads and the bridges,” Morrisey said. “That’s what the people want. That’s what the people deserve.”

According to the Federal Highway Administration, as of 2024 West Virginia holds the second highest rate of bridges in the nation ranked in “poor” condition. Per an analysis of that data, more than 18% of the state’s bridges are in “poor” condition while 56% are considered to be “fair” and 25% are classified as being in “good” condition.

Between 2020 and 2023, West Virginia had the highest percentage of bridges in poor condition of any state. In 2024 — the most recent year with data on record — Iowa outpaced West Virginia with 19% of its bridges considered to be in poor condition.

Though he cited different data from unnamed sources, Morrisey said he wants to see the state get its rate of bridges in poor condition below 10% by 2028. [Read more.](#)

New Grants Awarded for Water and Sewer Projects Across West Virginia

Governor Patrick Morrisey awarded three new grants to support critical water and sewer projects in communities across the Mountain State. These grants will advance long-overdue infrastructure upgrades, improve public health, and support economic growth.

“Today, we are making an investment in West Virginia’s future,” said Governor Morrisey. “Infrastructure projects like these are critical for the daily lives of our residents and their continual improvement will help attract new residents, businesses, and jobs to the Mountain State.”

The three grants approved by the Infrastructure and Jobs Development Council (IJDC) include:

Pleasant Hill Public Service District; Calhoun County – Pleasant Hill Public Service District received an IJDC grant in the amount of \$500,000 to extend public water service to 62 new customers in Calhoun County in the areas of Cain, Big Root, and Bull River Run. These funds, along with other funding programs, provide a total of \$4,440,000 for this project. [Read more.](#)

WV Officials Celebrate While Advocates Worry as EPA Proposes Loosening Carbon Emission Standards

[According to the West Virginia Watch](#), West Virginia elected officials this week celebrated proposals from the federal Environmental Protection Agency to roll back regulations on emissions from power plants that advocates worry will threaten public health as well as the environment.

The standards the EPA is looking to ease require existing coal-fired and new natural gas power plants to cut 90% of carbon emissions and tightens emission standards for toxic metals like mercury from coal-fired power plants by 70%.

EPA Administrator Lee Zeldin officially announced the proposed regulatory changes at a news conference Wednesday, where he was joined by Rep. Carol Miller, R-W.Va, among other congressional representatives from across the country. [Read more.](#)

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

Get Ready to Celebrate PE Day

The annual [Professional Engineers Day](#) will be celebrated on August 6, 2025. Save the date and get ready to share your photos and selfies as part of the online virtual event using the hashtag #LicensedPEday on X (Twitter), Facebook, Instagram or LinkedIn.

Share your reasons for being a PE and give special recognition to your colleagues and teams. Prepare for the celebration and gear up by visiting the [PE Day Logo Store](#).



Showcase the Contributions of PEs During National Safety

Month

NSPE is recognizing [National Safety Month](#) on our social media channels during June. This is a great way to promote professional engineers and the ways in which your companies/organizations are keeping the public and employees safe in all the work that you do.

If you have any onsite/project related photos and messaging (details to summarize activities and safety philosophy) that will illustrate the following topics areas -- Employee Engagement (June 8-14), Roadway Safety (June 15-21) and Wellbeing (June 22-30)—share them on your own social media channels using the hashtag #NationalSafetyMonth and tag NSPE so we can help spread the word!

2025 Spring Webinar Series Available On-Demand

Did you miss any of our spring WORKability Wednesdays Webinars? No worries! Members can access recordings of the following webinars free of charge through the [PE Institute](#). *Members are advised to consult their state licensing board to determine requirements for PDH or CPD credits.

- [Board of Ethical Review: Case Review and Discussion](#)
- [My Way or the Highway? The Impact: Designing Flexible and Future-Ready RTO Policies That Work](#)
- [Trust Matters: Empowering Leaders to Foster Team Trust and Performance](#)
- [Design Liability in a Changing Climate](#)
- [Using Your Engineering Expertise as a Forensic Expert](#)
- [How Has Technology Shaped Workstyles Across Generations?](#)

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