



Volume 18, Issue 4 - March 2018

From Our President...



In the last letter I opened with a mention of the inclement weather we were having. Now, many in our region are facing the aftermath of the highest river levels since 1997. I can glimpse down Vine Street in Cincinnati and see that much of Smale Park is still underwater. It is both amazing and devastating to see the true power of our waterways and the damage they can inflict. I wish those of you well who may have been impacted by the flooding.

At the Donald C. Schramm Transportation Improvement Awards meeting in January, we heard presentations on seven interesting and deserving projects (in record time, I might add). Thank you to those that submitted and presented. It is always fascinating to hear the details of what went into the projects that impact our lives everyday right here in our region. The winners in the under \$5

Million and over \$5 Million categories will receive their plaques at the upcoming March meeting.

It is scholarship season! Please encourage any co-ops or college students you know to apply for the ASHE Scholarships. Additional information follows in the newsletter.

Last month, President Trump released his "Rebuilding Infrastructure in America" plan. You have likely read through it yourself. If not, the PIN Report in this newsletter will summarize the highlights. I am not sure what, if anything, this does for our industry immediately. At the March meeting, we have invited a panel of local public officials to highlight their upcoming capital improvements projects, but mostly to participate in a panel discussion. Representatives from the various County Engineer's Offices, ODOT, City of Cincinnati, KYTC, GCWW, SD1, NKWD, Duke and MSD will be on hand. Panelists have been asked to bring handouts summarizing each organization's list of design and construction projects for the year. The floor will be open for audience participation. Please come with questions you have for our panel, which may include, what impact, if any, President Trump's plan could have on their programs. If you have a question you would like to submit in advance, please send to Steve Mary.

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ASHE - TRIKO Valley Section
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The mission of the American Society of Highway Engineers is to provide a forum for members and partners of the highway industry that supports education, innovation, and fellowship; promoting a safe and efficient highway system for mobility now and in the future.

Another reminder, the ASHE National Conference is back in Ohio. The event will take place in Cleveland at the Westin downtown from May 17th-20th. Hopefully, I will see some of you there.

Finally, I would like to make an open request to our membership. Would you like to be more involved with ASHE? Did you know we have 10 active committees covering a variety of interests from website to scholarship to golf? Many of our committees are led by board members but we are always looking for more volunteers. Additionally, my time as President is rapidly coming to an end, which reminds me that we will be in search of a new board member. If you would like to nominate yourself or someone you know, please contact any member of the board.

Vanessa Nghiem
AECOM

Event Announcements

Reds Game

Join your fellow ASHE AND WTS members for a night at ballpark at the Reds game on June 6th at 7:10 PM vs. the Colorado Rockies We will have a block of seats in the sun/moon deck area. Details to follow for registration and cost.

Golf Outing

Save the Date! The 2018 Lloyd Wallace Memorial Golf Outing is tentatively scheduled for Monday, May 7, 2018 at the Aston Oaks Golf Club. More information on registration and sponsorship opportunities to come.

ASHE PIN Report

Since the last ASHE PIN, President Trump has released his outline for a new infrastructure bill. This bill is not limited to transportation projects, but includes all infrastructure, including water ports, airports, and railroad, to name a few. This outline is not a funding bill, as the highway funding bill is still in effect. The outline calls for \$200B in federal funding over the next 10 years. This money is divided into of pots of \$100B each. The first pot is assigned to standard funding mandated by law, such as the Highway Trust programs. This funding would continue to utilize the traditional 80-20 funding split. However, it is the other \$100B that has everyone talking. This outline lays out new ideas, where public-private partnership and non-traditional funding sources can shine. The Infrastructure Incentive Initiative program would only provide a 20% federal match, requiring the locals to come up with the 80% match for core infrastructure projects. Rural infrastructure would be a focus with investments to facilitate freight movements, to improved access to reliable and affordable transportation, and to improve access to high-speed broadband. The Transformative Project Programs would provide \$20B for innovative projects not currently supported by the market, such as Hyperloop. The TIFPIA program would be expanded to provide funding for water port and airport infrastructure. Passenger facility charges at airports and rail facilities would be expanded for the good of those facilities. Private Activity Bonds, comparable to municipal bonds, could be used for broadband, flood control, and energy projects. Tolling for new road expansion and rest area commercialization could aid interstate projects. Capital Investment Grants can have a 50% match for transit purposes. While these new funding ideas were presented, streamlining processes was also addressed. Projects requiring only a 20% federal match would not be required to follow federal processes. The NEPA timeline would be altered as well, in that utilities could be relocated and right of way acquisition could start in advance of a final NEPA approval. An environmental challenge to a NEPA ruling is limited to 150 days instead of 3 years.

While this outline presents new ideas, it lacked what everyone was hoping for, a funding stream solution. President Trump said that he would support a 25 cent increase in the gas tax. However, both houses of Congress have pushed back on this idea. While it has yet to be seen if Congress will act on any of the ideas that President Trump outlined in the new infrastructure bill, the ideas are now out there. Congressman Bill Schuster suggested that if a bill to support the President's outline didn't pass by the end of July, a lame duck session of congress could pass it as late at December of this year.

The ASHE PIN encourages you to contact your Congressional legislator to discuss the pros and cons of these ideas in the outline.

General Membership Meeting Minutes

January 23, 2018 - The Original Montgomery Inn

President Vanessa Nghiem called the meeting to order at 11:35 a.m.

Brian Rhodes announced the new section members and kicked off a new member drive.

University of Cincinnati presented on this year's Construction project and was awarded a \$500 donation from Triko Valley.

It was noted that the PIN report was published in the newsletter.

President Nghiem introduced the Schramm Awards project presentations as follows:

Project Name	Marburg Ave at Wasson
Project Cost	\$2,098,818.03
Contractor	John R Jurgensen
Consultant	City of Cincinnati
Owner	City of Cincinnati
Speaker	Rob Lichter

Project Name	I-75 Southbound Ramps at I-275
Project Cost	\$2,200,000.00
Contractor	Barrett Paving
Consultant	AECOM
Owner	ODOT
Speaker	Dennis Brunton & Charlie Rowe

Project Name	Blue Rock St/Colerain Ave/Elmore St./Spring Grove Ave
Project Cost	\$4,275,000.00
Contractor	Prus Construction
Consultant	IBI Group
Owner	City of Cincinnati
Speaker	Mike Murray

Project Name	Old 74 Widening
Project Cost	\$5,462,000.00
Contractor	Rack and Ballauer Excavating
Consultant	American Structure Point
Owner	Clermont County TID
Speaker	Tyler Holden

General Membership Meeting Minutes

Project Name Harshman Road over Mad River
Project Cost \$7,300,000.00
Contractor Eagle Bridge
Consultant AECOM
Owner Montgomery County Engineer's Office
Speaker Travis Baker

Project Name Lytle Tunnel Rehab
Project Cost \$33,000,000.00
Contractor Great Lakes Construction
Consultant Mott MacDonald
Owner ODOT
Speaker Joe Smithson

Project Name HAM 71-3.81 MLK Interchange
Project Cost \$80,808,083.00
Contractor Kokosing Construction
Consultant HDR
Owner ODOT
Speaker Jake Stremmel

After the project presentations, Eric Beck raised a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Eric Kistner and carried.

President Nghiem adjourned the meeting at 12:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Dave Emerick
TRIKO Valley Section Secretary



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ASHE TRIKO VALLEY MEETING

Capital Improvement Program

Location: Original Montgomery Inn (Montgomery, OH)

Date: Tuesday, March 13, 2018, 11:30 AM

After the general membership meeting, there will be a panel discussion with our local public officials. Take this time to gather a question for your local representative. Handouts will be provided summarizing the list of design and construction projects for the year. Also, the winners of the Schramm Awards will be presented.

Cost: \$25 per person if you pay online and \$30 at the door

**Please RSVP whether paying online or at the door.
RSVP at 2017 ASHE TRIKO Valley Holiday Party**

2017 - 2018 Board of Directors

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Past President	Nathan Moore			moore.nmm@gmail.com

Committee Chair Person Contact Information

The ASHE TRIKO Valley Board of Directors has several committees to help promote our organization in a variety of ways. Listed below, you can find the contact information of the chair person for each committee. If you would like to share an idea or would like to volunteer to serve on a committee, please contact the appropriate chair person. The Board thanks you for your continued support and dedication to the transportation industry.

Committee	Chair Person	Contact Information
Schramm Award	Eric Beck	Eric.Beck@hamilton-co.org
Scholarship	Nathan Moore	moore.nmm@gmail.com
Program	Steve Mary	smary8380@gmail.com
Social	Vanessa Nghiem	Vanessa.Nghiem@aecom.com
Membership	Brian Rhodes	brhodes@jmt.com
Student Chapter	Aaron Muck	ajmuck@terracon.com
Golf Outing	Katie Dillenburger	katiedillenburger@bayerbecker.com
Newsletter	Stan Harris	stan.harris@stantec.com
Website	Matt Loeffler	loefflerm@bceo.org
Legislative Review (PIN)	Caroline Duffy	143engineers@gmail.com
Online Payments/PayPal	Eric Kistner	eric.kistner@stantec.com
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2018 Membership Referral Reward

ASHE Triko Valley has a lot to offer its membership, and we appreciate when our current members invite others to join ASHE. ASHE Triko Valley would like to reward current members who sponsor new members with a chance to win a \$100 gift card. Each time a new member applies for membership (it only costs \$50 the first year), with your name listed as the sponsoring member, you will be entered into the drawing. The more members you sponsor, the better your chance to win. The drawing will take place at the 2018 Holiday Party. Membership has its rewards, and so does telling your co-workers and peers about all the great things going on at the ASHE Triko Valley Section!

ASHE TRIKO Valley Scholarships

ASHE TRIKO Valley is pleased to announce the kickoff of our 2018 Scholarship season! Please refer to our website for scholarship applications and details. Multiple scholarships are available to students attending the following schools: University of Dayton, University of Cincinnati (College of Engineering and Applied Sciences), Cincinnati State and Technical College, and Northern Kentucky University. Students who are full time residents within the ASHE TRIKO Valley geographic areas of southwest Ohio, northern Kentucky or southeast Indiana are eligible to apply as well. Applications are due Friday, May 18, 2018 by 4pm, and can be found at <http://trikovalley.ashe.pro/>



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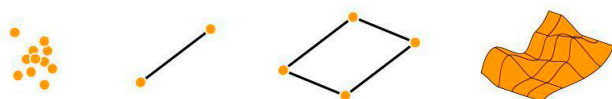


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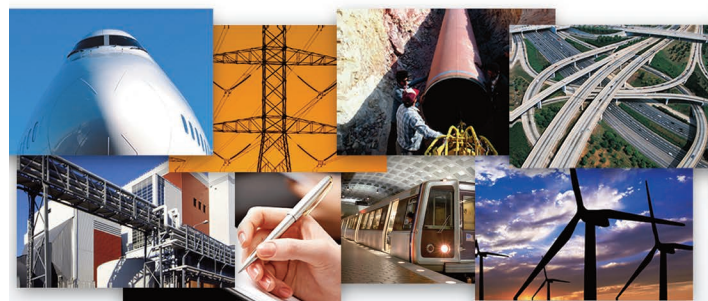
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