

ASCE Richmond Branch Newsletter



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Upcoming Events

January 10: ASCE/APWA Younger Professional Happy Hour

January 27: Technical Lunch Meeting (1.0 PDH)

February: Annual Virginia House of Delegates Meet and Greet (*details to come*)

President's Message

Dear ASCE Richmond Branch Members,

Greeting from ASCE! I hope this message find you and yours well.

The Virginia Section of ASCE released the 2022 Report Card for Virginia's Infrastructure on December 6. The 2022 Report Card discusses the condition of 11 infrastructure categories for the Commonwealth. The Commonwealth's overall grade of C indicates our infrastructure is in Mediocre condition. I encourage you to read up on the report card so you can discuss the issues with legislature, co-workers, and the public. This report card does influence our legislature on what projects receive funding. More details on the report card can be found at these two links.



[2022 Virginia Infrastructure Report Card](#)

[Virginia Civil Engineers Give the State's Infrastructure a "C" Grade](#)

Also, Vic Crawford, Chair of the 2022 Report Card, will be providing our branch a virtual presentation on the report card in January 2023.

Announcing Project Spotlight! We have a new feature in this edition of the newsletter; Project Spotlight where an interesting local project is presented. If you have an interesting project you would like to see presented, please contact Paige Lazar at Paige.Lazar@Timmons.com.

2023 looks to be an active year for our branch. Look for upcoming 2023 events in the newsletter. I hope to see you at one of our activities.

Wishing you Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year!!

Jeffrey T. Huffman, MS, PE, F.ASCE

Upcoming Events

ASCE/APWA Younger Professional Happy Hour

The ASCE Richmond Branch Younger Member Group will be joining forces with American Public Works Association (APWA) for a joint happy hour in January! General event information is below. Stay tuned for more information regarding event specifics and signups.

What: ASCE/APWA Younger Professional Happy Hour

Where: [Hardwood West Creek](#)

When: Tuesday, January 10th 2023



January Technical Meeting

On **January 27th**, Ryan Tinsley of GSI will be providing a presentation focused on Rock and Slope Hazard Mitigation

An email blast with registration information will be sent out at a later date. Meeting will be held at same venue as of late ([2810: a community gathering place](#)).

Project Spotlight (NEW!!)

Stratton Park Connector Trail

Project: Stratton Park Connector Trail

Location: Chesterfield County, VA

Engineer: Timmons Group

Contractor: Dickerson Construction LLC

The Stratton Park Connector Trail project was recently an honorable mention in the 'Less than \$10 Million (Other)' category at the 2022 VTCA Transportation Engineering Awards. The project included adding a new half-mile long shared use path through Stratton Park to Ronson Road. In addition, approximately a half-mile long sidewalk along Ronson Road was constructed to provide a contiguous ADA/PROWAG-compliant pedestrian route from Hening Elementary School to the Stratton Park entrance. After its grand opening in May 2022, residents of the surrounding communities, school, and visitors to nearby nationally recognized athletics venues (SwimRVA's Collegiate School Aquatics Center and Ukrops Park) are now able to venture into the park and escape to the great outdoors.

Design Challenges: The shared-use path component of the project presented challenges that far exceeded those along the sidewalk segment in both count and complexity. While the terrain within the park presented challenges specific to meeting the maximum allowable longitudinal shared-use path grades, ancillary challenges of the terrain also

proved just as important to overcome. Approximately 1,800 feet of the 2,600 feet of total path lie within a Resource Protection Area (RPA) due to the proximity to the various streams and Falling Creek. Sensitive to unnecessary impacts to streams as well as wide areas of clearing within the RPA, two bridges were incorporated into the project at stream crossings instead of a traditional culvert approach. A design-build procurement method was utilized for the bridge portion of the project to overcome cost and installation challenges while the remainder of the project utilized the traditional design-bid-build method.

Project Spotlight Courtesy of Kyle Hogan, EIT (Timmons Group)



**Have you worked on a challenging and interesting project this year?
Share the challenges, obstacles, and solutions that were encountered with your
industry peers!**

ASCE Richmond wants to highlight your projects in our monthly newsletter. If you have a project you want to share, email a blurb to Paige Lazar at Paige.Lazar@Timmons.com and we will feature you in our future newsletter. There is no specific format or word count requirement, and photos are encouraged.

Announcements

Calling All Civil Engineering Students: Apply For ASCE Scholarship

We are pleased to announce that **two \$1,000** higher education scholarships will be awarded by the ASCE Richmond Branch to students pursuing a civil engineering degree at the following universities in the Commonwealth of Virginia: Virginia Tech, University of Virginia, Old Dominion University, Virginia Military Institute, George Mason University, and Liberty University. For information on eligibility, evaluation criteria, and the application process, please visit www.ascerichmond.org.

Applications must be received by the scholarship committee by
December 31 at 5:00 pm.
Scholarships will be funded before the Spring 2023 semester.

D.V. Terrell Paper Competition 2023

The Region 4 Assembly is conducting the *D.V. Terrell Paper Competition* for Younger Members who reside within Region 4.

The D.V. Terrell award, named after Daniel V. Terrell of the Kentucky ASCE Section, is presented annually for the outstanding paper submitted on a topic established by the Region 4 Assembly. The competition involves a submitted paper and an oral presentation at the Region 4 Spring Assembly.

The Daniel V. Terrell competition topic (same as the topic for the society's Daniel W. Mead

Prize) must address professional ethics with respect to the following question or statement:

Per ASCE's Code of Ethics, engineers govern their professional careers on fundamental principles that, above all else, protect and advance the health, safety, and welfare of the public through the practice of Civil Engineering.

Most engineering designs rely on regulations that trickle down from federal, state, and county levels. In some situations, regulations and the ethical considerations of engineers may not always align due to regulations requiring updates to incorporate new standards of practice or as a result of outside influences.

How does an engineer balance regulations and ethics?

The winner of the D.V. Terrell award receives Society and Peer acclaim as well as an impressive bronze plaque and a cash prize. The deadline for the paper is March 1, 2023.

[Click Here For More Information](#)

Past Events

Bi-Annual Roadway Cleanup

On Saturday, December 10, several of our Richmond members gathered in our bi-annual roadway clean up to keep our adopted portion of Lakeside Avenue beautiful. We collected seven full trash bags of litter from the roadway, sidewalks, and median; thanks to all who showed up and helped! Please stay tuned through our newsletters, social media, and website on upcoming volunteer events.

Our next event, the popsicle stick bridge competition, will occur in early 2023. Send any feedback or ideas to Isabelle Stern (isstern@sgh.com).



Job Posting

Interested in posting a job listing in our monthly newsletter and/or our website?

Our newsletter reaches hundreds of local engineering professionals, and our website is where our members register for Richmond ASCE events.

Email Paige Lazar at Paige.Lazar@Timmons.com for more information!

Sponsorship

Interested in sponsoring a future ASCE Richmond event?

For information on how your company could sponsor future ASCE Richmond events please contact Nate Sauer at nsauer@conteches.com.

Comments? Questions? Ideas?

Send me an email at Paige.Lazar@Timmons.com and I would love to discuss.

Thank you,

Paige Lazar, PE

ASCE Richmond Branch Communications Chair



Follow Us On Social Media!

Stay up to date on ASCE events in your local civil engineering community.