

News & Notes...

Southern Colorado Branch Has New Web Site...

Congratulations Southern Colorado Branch for your great, newly designed and updated web site at:

<http://www.asce-scbbranch.org/>

ASCE Has Peer Review Tool for Infrastructure Management...

ASCE offers a quick, confidential and affordable management improvement service for those who manage public infrastructure agencies. It is a voluntary and confidential program conducted by experienced government engineer/managers trained in the process. A review can be done quickly, within 90 days of the request. Cost is low for this kind of study since salaries of reviewers are not charged. A fee ranging from \$5000 - \$15,000 based on agency size covers reviewer travel expenses and program administration.

Reviewers study an organization's policies and, via staff interviews, determine just how effectively intended actions are implemented. Subjects covered include: Organizational Management, Project Management, Emergency Management, Technical Procedures, Human Resource Management, Finance, and Public Relations. The focus can cover an entire agency's planning, design, construction, operations, and maintenance or can be limited to just a portion. The review ends with a confidential oral report, or if requested, a written report. There is no further contact afterwards by the review team.

Peer review provides objective outside assessment of strengths and weaknesses by fellow government engineers experienced in leadership and management. They have no stake in future work. Their intent is to provide a useful service to colleagues. As a result of reviews, practices are endorsed and suggestions for improvement are made. Sometimes hidden or denied problems are surfaced. Typically, performance and political credibility both increase.

The process was "borrowed" from the American Council of Engineering Companies in late 1980's. Since its start, ASCE has conducted over 60 peer reviews for 20 cities, 11 counties, 3 metropolitan regions, 2 state agencies, and 26 federal agencies. More information, including a downloadable brochure is available on the ASCE website at http://www.asce.org/professional/peereview/peer_review.cfm. Those who have used this service agree that the process is very valuable.



Colorado Section 2006-2007 Leadership Roster

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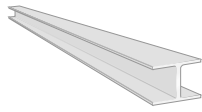
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	Vaughan Griffiths	303-273-3669
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Colorado Section ASCE Office

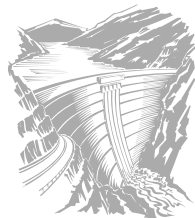
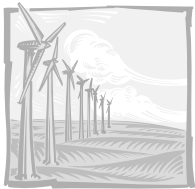
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Section Web Page: <http://sections.asce.org/colorado>
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Joint Structural & Transportation Group Meeting

Kenneth Frantz, PE, E-470 Engineering Group Design Manager, will give a presentation on the **I-70/E-470 Interchange Complex**. A partnership of the E-470 Public Highway Authority, CDOT and the City of Aurora is completing the Preliminary Engineering and Environmental Assessment (EA) of the I-70/E-470 Interchange Complex which includes not only the ultimate system to system interchange at the intersection of I-70 and E-470 but an interchange one mile to the west at I-70 and Piccadilly Road and an interchange one mile east at I-70 and Harvest Road. The draft EA is now in review. Advance safety and operational enhancement projects are earlier parts of this overall program. Accordingly, E-470 recently opened the \$30 million flyby project circumventing the traffic signals at I-70/E-470/Gun Club Road. In progress is the next step – a \$14 million flyover from northbound E-470 to westbound I-70 to be completed by October 2007. Once the EA is completed, additional stages at all three locations will be completed as dictated by demand and available funding.



Water Resources & Environmental Group Meeting

Mark Van Nostrand, PE, of the Littleton-Englewood Wastewater Treatment Plant, will discuss the **\$114 million expansion that is to protect the South Platte River**. He will be addressing the technical, environmental and institutional aspects of getting this major project underway. No samples will be available. Please be sure to RSVP and indicate if you will be attending this session.

Upcoming 2006 Section Meetings:

Thursday, November 16, 2006
Thursday, December 14, 2006 (2nd Thursday)

Geotechnical Group Meeting



Mike Mooney, Ph.D., Colorado School of Mines, will present **developments in Intelligent Soil Compaction (ISC)**. There have been a lot of advances in earthwork compaction and the QCQA of earthwork compaction in recent years, and ISC is one that will impact earthwork design and construction in the near future. ISC involves 3 components: (1) providing a continuous measurement of soil compaction using instrumentation onboard a roller compactor; (2) using feedback control of a roller compactor to improve the compaction of soil; and (3) using onboard GPS and mapping software to create maps of the compacted soil. All major roller compactor manufacturers are now beginning to offer ISC rollers. Dr. Mooney's research at the Colorado School of Mines has been involved in the development and understanding of ISC for the past number of years, and he is currently conducting a National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP) study of intelligent soil compaction systems.

GEO-volution: The Evolution of Colorado's Geotechnical and Geotechnical Engineering Practice

The 2006 geotechnical seminar, a continuation of the biennial series presented by the Geotechnical Group of the Colorado Section ASCE, CAGE, AEG, and the ASCE Geo-Institute, will be presented on Friday, November 10, 2006, at the Sheraton Denver West Hotel located at 360 Union Boulevard in Lakewood. This year's theme was chosen to focus on Colorado's storied past, the difficult engineering challenges over-come by its early population, the current state of local geotechnical and geological engineering practice, and ideas that will carry our practice into the future. The presentations will provide perspectives on Colorado's unique geology, on geotechnical and geological engineering for the challenging ground conditions present in Colorado, on emerging trends in the local engineering practice, and on current solutions to Colorado's diverse geo-problems.

Registration, sponsor and exhibitor information is available on the Section's website at <http://sections.asce.org/colorado/geotech.htm>. For more information contact Minal Parekh (mparekh@lymanhenn.com).

CSU Offers October Seminar on “Engineering for Safety and Security”

Colorado State University in partnership with the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) is offering a two-day seminar to address this issue on Thursday and Friday, October 19 & 20, 2006, at the CSU Denver Center. Seminar details are at web site: <http://www.learn.colostate.edu/courses/course.asp?course=DS+700>.

The seminar will focus on earthquakes, including seismic risk, soil dynamics, near fault forces, blast loadings and structural design, as well as Katrina flood experiences, flood hazard and the recent research on this topic. It also includes an overview of wind hazards, code emergence, human-induced threats and safety and vulnerability assessments. Participants will be issued 16 Professional Development Hours (PDHs) that can be used for continuing education credit applicable to professional licensure. CSU has been authorized as a new NCEES registered educational provider. Register today! Space is limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis. Call 303-573-6318 with questions or to register. Contact Kate Pennella, Director of Graduate & Professional Studies,

Younger Member Group

The YMG is looking forward to a great fall. We are volunteering with the Math Enrichment Program to tutor minority high school students in math. We're continuing to volunteer at the Denver Rescue Mission (a homeless shelter). We are participating in the Urban Peak Dinner Volunteering and JETS (teaching Civil Engineering to high school students).

Our co-ed Volleyball team the “Ditch Diggers” came in second in the season finale tournament! We are continuing to plan monthly happy hours, trips to sporting events, technical tours, museum exhibits and many other activities. Upcoming activities include local football tailgate parties, volunteering with local organizations and happy hours. Come join us at any of our upcoming events! We have elected many new officers, and we only have one more opening. We are looking for a Community Service Chairperson to help us with our organization. Please visit our web site at

www.ASCEcoloradoYMG.org

and click on the “Newsletter” tab for more information on current events.



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