



BASELINE

American Society of Highway Engineers Region 6– Southern New Jersey Section



President's Message - Joe Fiocco

Thank you to all of the members of ASHE-SNJ for electing me as your president for the 2011-2012 year. I am very excited about this year; we have an excellent group of professionals in South Jersey that are very dedicated to providing a safe and efficient road system that many drivers take for granted on a daily basis.

My advice to our membership...get involved! Our Board of Directors (BOD) meets on a monthly basis immediately prior to our dinner meetings, and I invite you to attend our BOD meeting to find out what we are doing. Our Safety Committee also meets on a monthly basis to discuss how we can provide timely information to our members to help them design, construct, and maintain safer roads. Our safety committee meetings are open to everyone interested in seeing safer roads in South Jersey.

Our first dinner meeting has been set for September 21st at the Cranbury Inn in

Table of Contents

2010-2011 Event Calendar:	2
Membership Update:	3
Safety Page:	4
Sponsors/Advertisements:	5-7
This Month's Meeting:	8
New Sections Report:	9-11
Legislative Update:	12-13
Sponsorship Info:	14

Cranbury, NJ. This is a joint meeting with North Central ASHE and will provide you with the opportunity to network with your peers throughout New Jersey as well as hear from NJDOT Deputy Commissioner, Joe Mrozek.

Thank you for your support!

Joe Fiocco
President, ASHE Southern New Jersey

Calendar of Events 2010-2011

DATE	EVENT	SPEAKERS/LOCATION
9/21/2011	Joint Meeting w/ ASHE-N/C NJ NJDOT Deputy Commissioner	Joe Mrozek Cranbury Inn, Cranbury, NJ
10/12/2011	30/130 Collingswood Circle	Mike Kasbekar (NJDOT) & Dewberry Villa Romanza, Yardville, NJ
11/9/2011	Joint Meeting w/ MASITE	TBD Maggiano's, Cherry Hill, NJ
12/14/2011	Joint Meeting w/ ASCE South NJ Chapter	TBD
1/11/2012	Walt Whitman Bridge Deck Replacement	Mike Venuto (DRPA) TBD
2/8/2012	Route 72 Manahawkin Bay Bridge	Joe Mumber (Parsons Brinckerhoff)
3/16/2012	Social Night	TBD
4/12/2012	Project of the Year Joint Meeting w/ ASHE-N/C NJ	Cranbury Inn, Cranbury, NJ
5/9/2012	Route 52 Causeway Field Trip	TBD

NEW in 2011-12: Two Levels of Meeting Sponsorship!
[Click here](#) or see page 14 for more details.

Board of Directors 2011-2012

ASHE - SOUTHERN NJ SECTION BOARD OF DIRECTORS (2011 - 2012)			
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SNJ ASHE Membership Update

Please RENEW your membership for the upcoming year & join us in welcoming the following members to the South NJ Chapter:

Robert Johnston	Dewberry
Minhu Paul Hu	Stantec
Joe Zarriello	KS Engineers
George Broberg	KS Engineers
Imer Bauta	AECOM

Invite your friends and colleagues to join!

Click the link below to complete an application online!

<http://www.ashesnj.org/membership.html>

Total Section
Members:

167

Dear SNJ ASHE Members,

This month's safety page is focusing on pedestrian safety and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance.

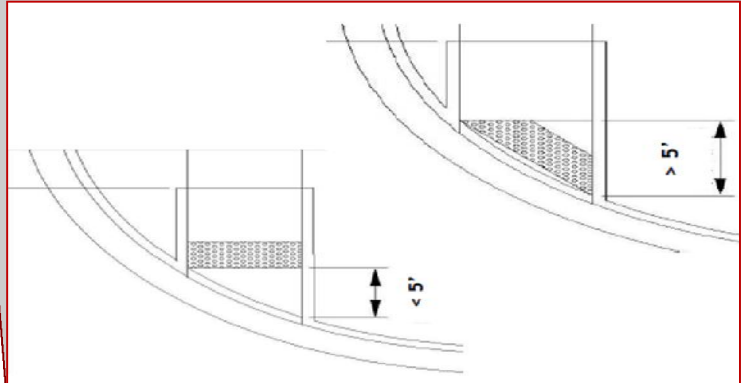
ADA compliance of pedestrian facilities is required by federal law. These regulatory requirements not only ensure all users have the opportunity of an accessible transportation system, but ensures safety.

Please be reminded that our Safety Committee meetings are open to everyone. If you are interested in seeing safer highways in South Jersey, we are interested in seeing you.

Sincerely,
Joe Fiocco, Safety Committee

**Next Safety
Committee Meeting**

**September 13, 2011
Foran Bldg @ NJDOT
Joint Mtg w/CAMTEA
9:30am — 12 pm All
are welcome!**



Detectable warnings are intended to provide a tactile equivalent underfoot of the visible curb line; those placed too far from the street edge because of a large curb radius may compromise effective crossing analysis, so if one corner of the DWS is located greater than 5' from the back of curb - it should be designed as a radial application.

What are the issues with the pedestrian accommodations in the photo below? For answers visit <http://www.ashesnj.org/safety/>

Pedestrian Facilities

- ADA compliant curb ramps provide level landing areas of adequate width and length to provide users in mobility assisted devices to safely make their maneuvers to line up with the ramp section and crosswalks.
- Proper placement of detectable warning surfaces provides information to users with visual impairments about the sidewalk to street transition where with parallel curb ramps and blended transition curb ramps, the detectable warning surfaces with truncated domes may be applied in a square or radial grid pattern in line with the pedestrian crossing.
- Regulations require accessibility to be established during the planning of projects and included during the design of projects. It is the responsibility of the designers to ensure pedestrian facilities can be constructed to provide pedestrian safety and ADA compliant accessibility. For alteration projects, there is a flexibility built into the ADA requirements of providing accessibility to the maximum extent feasible and designers are responsible to prove technical infeasibility.
- All new construction, reconstruction, and resurfacing projects are subject to the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) Accessibility Guidelines which includes providing curb ramps. In alterations to existing facilities where compliance with the ADA Accessibility Guidelines is technically infeasible, the alteration shall comply with these standards to the maximum extent feasible. For less extensive projects, limited improvements to accessibility would generally be expected. For example, if an existing portion of sidewalk along a residential block were rebuilt or replaced, at a minimum the new portion of sidewalk would be subject to the ADA guidelines including curb ramps, among other things. However, compliance with these guidelines would not extend to untouched sections of sidewalk outside the planned alterations. AASHTO recommends that "roadway preservation and preventative maintenance should be exempt from the requirement to provide accessible upgrades."



SOURCES & HELPFUL LINKS:

FHWA Accessibility Resource Library

<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/accessibility/index.cfm>

<http://www.access-board.gov/prowac/draft.htm>

<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/sidewalk2/>

<http://www.state.nj.us/transporation/eng/documents/RDM>

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 for 2011-2012. (p. 14)
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 Stokes (joanne@stokescg.com) for
 more information.

SEPTEMBER DINNER MEETING REGISTRATION INFORMATION



Joint Meeting with
ASHE North Jersey
Section

Mr. Joseph Mrozek NJDOT Deputy Commissioner Future Design/Construction Opportunities in New Jersey

DATE: **Wednesday, September 21, 2011**

LOCATION: Cranbury Inn
21 South Main Street
Cranbury, NJ 08512
609-655-5595

**RSVP/
PAYMENT:** By **Wednesday, September 14, 2011**

All Registrations Must Be Made via the Following Website:
<http://ashesnj.org/meetings.html>

DIRECTIONS: *Directions Available at: <http://www.thecranburyinn.com/directions.html>*

SCHEDULE: *Social Hour at 5pm
Dinner at 6pm
Presentation at 7pm*

COST: \$45 per Member
\$55 Non-Member
\$35 per Public Employee Member
\$25 Students

SPECIAL REGISTRATION INFORMATION:

Reservations for this event are via the listed website only: <http://ashesnj.org/meetings.html>
Please be sure to **RSVP by Wednesday, September 14th.**

Committee is comprised of:

Sam Mody, PE (Chairman)	SNJ Section	smody@hntb.com
Al Algazi, PE (Board Liaison)	SNJ Section	aalgazi@hardesty-hanover.com
Nicole Reutlinger, PE	Georgia Section	ngreutlinger@pbsj.com
Edward McMahon, III, PE	SNJ Section	emcmahon@jmt.com
Jeffrey Konrad, PE	SNJ Section	jkonrad@hntb.com
Tammy Johnson	Retired (FL)	wjohnson90@cfl.rr.com

PORTLAND / SALEM, OREGON**NEW SECTION LOCAL CHAMPION – TBA**

May, 2011 - Sharon Crowland, formerly based in the Philadelphia area and a member of the Delaware Valley section, has re-affirmed her support to this initiative in a “non-leadership” role due to her limited time availability balancing her job responsibilities, graduate school and family demands.

June, 2011 – An e-mail was sent out to all the attendees who participated in our kickoff meeting held on March 23, 2010. Kevin Duris (former ASHE National President), Bill Warden (former New Sections Committee member) and I made an introductory presentation to folks based in the Pacific Northwest to gauge their interest in expanding the ASHE organization in a geographic location where we currently do not have an active presence. We are hoping that a local “champion” emerges from this outreach to spearhead this initiative.

The following firms were represented at the kickoff meeting and contacted by e-mail:

Kittelson & Associates, Inc.	Shannon & Wilson
David Evans & Associates	Pacific Geotechnical
Quincy Engineering	HNTB
PBS&J (an Atkins Company)	Cardno WRG
Kleinfelder	Murray, Smith & Associates, Inc.

ALABAMA**NEW SECTION LOCAL CHAMPION, TOM ZIEGLER**

April - June, 2011 – Tom continues to speak to William Adams and Don Vaughn from Alabama DOT about their support in starting an ASHE Chapter in Alabama (cities of Montgomery, Birmingham or Mobile being entertained). In addition, he has spoken to several local consultants about ASHE but somewhat discouraged about the lack of support/interest. Tom has been attending/monitoring other professional groups (ie: ITE, ASCE, ACEC, etc.) and very surprised about the low involvement from consultants. In fact, a senior manager with Volkert (a large ALDOT firm based in Mobile, AL) requested Tom’s assistance to help generate more interest in the already established professional societies/groups instead of starting a new group.

Over the next 3 months, the committee will conduct the following activities:

- Continue to seek support from Adams, Vaughn, and ALDOT staff
- Use ALDOT attendee list from a meeting that ALDOT hosts along with Auburn University each year to seek individuals interested in becoming members
- Dialogue will continue with state consultants and local contacts to establish a core group
- Organize a formal start up meeting in the Fall to seek and measure support
- Make a go/no go decision in the late fall/early winter time frame

HAGERSTOWN, MD**NEW SECTION LOCAL CHAMPION – BRADLEY REYNOLDS**

May, 2011 - At the recommendation of Kevin Duris, I have maintained contact with Brad Reynolds and Brooke Wenger, both employed by Triad Engineering and who have expressed an interest in expanding the ASHE organization into western Maryland. Although this is something Brad and Brooke are interested in spearheading, unfortunately they have not made any progress in the past quarter. They did commit to discuss this initiative at their next regional meeting and begin startup activities.

GREAT LAKES REGION - MICHIGAN**NEW SECTION LOCAL CHAMPION – ANA PETROVIC**

May, 2011 - I have conducted a conference call with Andy Langenderfer and Ana Petrovic from Tetra Tech, subsequent to exchange of several e-mails, to discuss details in spearheading a new section in Michigan. At the Great Lakes Region Board meeting, the startup of a new section in Michigan has been discussed before I was contacted.

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS**NEW SECTION LOCAL CHAMPION – TBA**

May - June, 2011 - At the recommendation of Caroline Duffy, I have continued to maintain outreach efforts with Ted Coffet from AECOM's Chicago office who has expressed an interest in spearheading a new section in the local area.

OUTREACH STRATEGIES:

- Prepare database comprised of 35+ prospective members from 12 geographic locations noted below
- Follow up e-mail distribution from April, 2011 with a personal phone call to each prospective member to ascertain their level of involvement
- Identify point of contact from national firms, consisting of AECOM, Jacobs, PB, HNTB, Parsons, Gannett Fleming and URS, who form a strong base of ASHE membership, and assist our committee with “opening doors” with colleagues from other offices
- Distribute Scanner and other forms of promotional literature to prospective members
- Consideration of recruiting prospective new members as “members at large” until a section is chartered in their geographic location

OTHER INITIATIVES:

Over the past 6 months, new outreach initiatives were conducted with representatives from the following geographic regions who contacted ASHE through our National website:

- California – Berkeley, Los Angeles, San Francisco
- Colorado – Castle Rock, Denver
- Kansas - Topeka
- Iowa - Ames
- Massachusetts – Boston
- Minnesota - Wayzata
- New Hampshire – Concord, Portsmouth
- Oklahoma - Owasso

- South Carolina – Charleston, Columbia
- Texas – Austin, Irving, Ft. Worth , San Antonio
- Washington State - Seattle
- Wisconsin

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Samir D. Mody". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Samir D. Mody, PE
ASHE, New Sections Committee Chairman

cc: New Sections Committee
Jud Wible, SNJ Section Secretary

By George M. Lobman

*Information from the ASHE Legislative Group;
National Public Radio;
A.G.C & U.T.C.A. & Better Roads
NJ Chamber of Commerce*

There has been no real decision or even a real feeling that things are going to be fixed real soon on the Transportation Funding of this country. It is always been an understanding that how goes Construction goes the economy both in State or Nationally. The last attempt at this was called Shovel ready projects which offered many opportunities for work which were very short in duration and cleared up the small non-designed related projects from the lists available by owners. These projects did nothing to support long term predictions of work and only resulted in eliminating smaller projects for the foreseeable future. Much the same as the dollars for clunkers killed the market for second hand car owners; moving work up at a faster pace didn't accomplish much for the workforce in the opinion of the General Public.

The Senate has proposed several too many Transportation Bills which have all fallen by the wayside because of the inability of the Congress and the President to understand the need for Construction and the need to fix a failing infrastructure in America. The Design community has been slow to stopped for almost a year on new projects. This lack of work on our side is going to put a lot of pressure on the Construction Industry in the next year or two.

AASHTO President, Susan Martinovich who is also the Director of the Nevada Department of Transportation, has recently appeared before the United States Senate to appeal for a bipartisan reauthorization. That is going to be a very important decision that has to be made by both parties in Congress and the Senate. The Democrats want to pass this legislation because of the desire to have an additional stimulus to the economy while the Republicans want to be true to their word in actually cutting spending and fixing the economy. In this case it is easy to see it accomplishes both parties desires even though they do not both see it. The one thing that is certain in this time is that if the sustainable funding of transportation programs is not accomplished there will be a great deal of increased un-employment at a time when it will be devastating to this country as well as to the world.

A recent report by "Building America's Future" has an article "Falling Apart and Falling Behind". The report depicts two main ideas and as its title suggests it is how America infrastructure has fallen apart in recent times and how it can keep from falling farther behind. The US Infrastructure has fallen from 1st in Global competitiveness in 2005 to 15th in 2010. The basis of this is judged as being the drop in spending on Transportation as a percentage of the gross domestic product since the 1960's. Some suggestions on building the program are;

1. A new six year bill that devotes significant funding to air traffic control systems, freight and transit transportation and high speed rail lines in the N.E. Corridor, California and Chicago.
2. A strong Highway Maintenance Program.
3. A National Infrastructure bank to help leverage private investment.
4. Higher Gas Taxes "Once the economy improves" or an alternate road revenue system such as congestion pricing or vehicle-miles traveled.

It is well understood that these are not new proposals and are mostly going to be looked at by the House as Non-starters. The report states that a national plan should be 10 years and spur \$200 billion dollars a year in infrastructure investment which would create 5 million sustainable jobs in the process.

Americans are fed up with crumbling jammed roadways. Recently HNTB in their national transportation practice, has conducted a survey which shows 54% of the driving public feels that we have poor roadways conditions and 50% believe that it is because they are too jammed with users. This survey mentions the need for alternate modes of transportation, especially in the mega-regions. 25 % believe that truck need to have the dedicated lanes that are constructed for that use and not having them on the roadways doing the most damage.

In 2007, the U.S. Department of Transportation announced a plan to reconstruct and expand 6 interstate highways, which carry 22.7% of the nation's interstate travel. These highways are #5, 10, 15, 69, 70 and 95. They are referred to as the Corridors of the future. The survey shows that Americans believe tolling is better than gas taxes. 66 % of Americas have stated that they prefer tolls go to the highway systems directly for the benefit of repairing or rebuilding worn out roadways and bridges.

And lastly Roads & Bridges has presented an article on the HOV lanes and their heading toward extinction. These lanes were anticipated to result in gas savings and improve transportation times. There are many states that are now considering the conversion of these lanes toward the use of all travelers to the potential of hybrid-toll lanes collecting tolls for the exclusive use of those interested. It's all about the money and the desire to pay more for a smoother and speedier commute or trip.

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For questions regarding the annual sponsorships, please contact Patricia Saulino at psaulino@dewberry.com or Joanne Stokes at joanne@stokescg.com.

Sign up to be a Meeting Sponsor!

We are continuing Meeting Sponsorships for our monthly dinner meetings. This year, we will have two meeting sponsor levels. As a sponsor of a particular dinner meeting, you will receive the following benefits:

PRIMARY MEETING SPONSORSHIP - \$250 each

- Ten minute presentation to all attendees – promote your firm or your product

- A seat at the head table with guest speakers for the evening. (Includes cost of one registration / dinner).

SECONDARY MEETING SPONSORSHIP - \$150 each

- Logo on screen at meeting

- Includes cost of one registration / dinner.

We expect to have a number of owners and industry leaders present their programs in 2011-2012.

To reserve your space as a Meeting Sponsor, please [click here](#) and complete the form provided on the ASHE-SNJ website. Please contact Richard Grubb at rgrubb@richardgrubb.com with any questions regarding the Meeting Sponsorships.

Golf Sponsorship Information

We will continue our annual golf outing program which fully funds SNJ ASHE's scholarship program. Each year, our section awards multiple scholarships to support students from southern New Jersey that are pursuing civil engineering degrees. Sponsorship information for this event will be distributed with registration information in the Spring.