



News from the Florida Association of County Engineers & Road Superintendents

FACERS Annual Meeting

After careful consideration, the Florida Association of County Engineers and Road Superintendents (FACERS) has decided to cancel the 2020 FACERS Annual Meeting. For those who have already registered for the conference, you will receive a separate email regarding your registration.

In the interim, even though the conference has been canceled, the business of FACERS must be attended to, including the swearing in of FACERS Officers. On Friday, June 12, the FACERS Annual Board of Directors & General Membership Meeting will be held virtually. All members are encouraged to attend.

More information regarding the FACERS Annual Board of Directors & General Membership Meeting, including the officer elections ballots will be sent out via email in the coming weeks.

[Register for the FACERS Annual Board of Directors & General Membership Meeting](#)

Bills Reviewed by FACERS Filed for 2020 Session

During the 2020 Session of the Florida Legislature, FACERS reviewed and provided recommendations for several bills that pertained to local agency public works organizations and operations. The following summary is an excerpt from a complete review of the session prepared by the Florida Association of Counties. It is available [here](#). The complete text of these bills and final disposition of all bills can be found [here](#).

Local Government Construction Bill Passes

HB 279—Local Government Public Construction Works by Representative David Smith was considered on the House Floor. The bill was amended to make technical changes and removed a requirement that the report be submitted to the Auditor General and instead allows the report be made available to the Auditor General. The bill passed 114-1. A companion legislation, SB 504 (Local Government Public Construction Works) by Senator Perry, was substituted on the Senate Floor for HB 279. The bill passed 36-1 and now heads to the Governor for final approval.

FACERS did not support.

Continuing Contracts Legislation Passes

SB 506—Public Procurement of Services by Senator Perry was substituted on the Senate

Floor for HB 441 (Public Procurement of Services) by Representative DiCeglie. The bill revises the maximum dollar amount for continuing contracts for construction projects under the Consultants' Competitive Negotiation Act (CCNA) from \$2 million to \$4 million, while study activity is raised from \$200,000 to \$500,000. The bill passed 40-0 and now heads to the Governor for final approval.

FACERS supported.

Occupational Deregulation Sunset Legislation Passes House, Fails this Session

HB 707—Legislative Review of Occupational Regulations by Representative Renner passed the House but stalled in Senate committee. The bill establishes a schedule for systematic review of the costs and benefits of occupational regulatory programs to determine whether to allow the program to expire, renew without modifications, renew with modifications, or provide for other appropriate actions. Any occupational regulatory program that expires through scheduled repeal may not be subsequently regulated by a local government. The regulation of any occupation repealed by this act is preempted to the state unless local regulation of such occupation is expressly authorized by law and provides for a schedule of repeal for occupational regulatory programs. A companion legislation, SB 1124 (Legislative Review of Occupational Regulations) by Senator Diaz, stalled with two committee stops remaining.

FACERS objected to sunset of licenses for engineers and surveyors.

Growth Management Bill Passes without 2/3rds Threshold HB 203

Growth Management by Representative McClain was substituted for SB 410 (Growth Management) by Senator Perry and considered on the House and Senate Floors. The bill requires local governments to include a private property rights component in its comprehensive plan. The bill also requires that preference for technical assistance funding be given to counties with populations less than 200,000 when determining whether they have appropriate land uses and natural resource protections in relation to a multi-use corridor interchange.

FACERS objected to the provision requiring all permits to be processed in the same timetable as communications service providers.

For the complete list of bills reviewed by FACERS, click [here](#).

President's Message

Brian Singleton

Greetings FACERS Members,

I hope this message finds you well during these uncertain times. As we all learn how to provide physical services while practicing social distancing, we have never been as connected as we are now. Let's be sure to use our FACERS and NACE resources while overcoming new challenges. If you have implemented a unique process or procedure to overcome a speed bump, please share.



If you've hit a road block that you can't seem to get around, please don't hesitate to ask for assistance through myself or any Board member. My favorite benefit of FACERS has

always been the fluid sharing of ideas and information on the similar issues we face in our unique communities.

During our January Board meeting, we adopted an updated budget & I'm happy to report that we are in a great position to continue our organizational mission & goals for years to come. I'm also thankful for the continued and increasing support we are receiving from our affiliate organization, FAC. Our Board has been able to work seamlessly with FAC to meet our educational, legislative and fiscal needs as they continue to evolve.

I would be remised if I didn't share that I will be starting a new job as City Engineer for Gainesville, FL on March 30th. Thank you to the Board of Directors for allowing me to complete my term as President until this June. Although I will miss working for county government, I look forward to continuing to participate in FACERS in years to come while bringing a municipal perspective to the table.

Unfortunately, we will not be able to see everyone in-person this June for the Annual Conference, however I think the decision to not hold technical sessions in person is in the best interest of each of our communities. We will conduct our Annual Business/General Membership meeting electronically and details will be forthcoming. Also, please keep a lookout in your inbox for the elections ballot for Officers and Directors for the upcoming year.

I pray that everyone stays safe and healthy.

Sincerely,

Brian

Member Spotlight

Sumter County & Deborah Snyder

Sumter County

Sumter County is the oldest county in the nation with a median age of 67.6 years. Sumter County is the fastest-growing county in the USA because of The Villages.

Area:

- Total: 580 sq. mi
- Land: 547 sq. mi
- Water: 33 sq. mi
- Population: 128,754
- Roads: 836 miles
- Parks: 12 passive recreation
- Facilities: 140 +/- Maintained; 72 +/- Occupied

Sumter County Public Works (SCPW):

- 42 Employees
- Four Divisions: Planning/Design, Construction, Operations, and Facilities and Parks
- All Division managers have been in their positions for less than 13 months.

Accomplishments of SCPW Team:

- American Public Works Association (APWA) Re-accreditation (January 2020)

- West Coast Branch APWA Structures Award 2019/20 – Historic Courthouse Parking Deck



The Sumter County Public Works Department received full reaccreditation by the American Public Works Association (APWA) on February 25, 2020.



Ribbon-cutting for Historic Courthouse Parking Facility Opening on March 5, 2020.



Groundbreaking for Sumter County Fire Station 33 on Spring Flow Avenue and SR 44 on March 4, 2020



Ribbon-cutting for Spring Flow Avenue opening on March 4, 2020.

Sumter County Public Works has accomplished many amazing things in the last 18 months with our brand new and evolving team!

Professional Bio

- 34 years of experience overall
- Seven years in the private sector working as a traffic/transportation engineer—Working for a huge worldwide consulting firm, a small consulting firm, and a very small consulting firm.
- Twenty-seven years in the Public Sector, working in City, County, State, and now County Government again. I have worked as a:
 - Roadway/Structural Engineer
 - Traffic Engineer
 - Materials Engineer
 - Public Works Director/County Engineer
- Bachelors in Civil Engineering from Cleveland State University – Fenn College of Engineering
- Masters of Science in Civil Engineering from the University of South Florida (USF)
- Professional Engineer in Florida for about 27 years
- Professional Traffic Operations Engineer (PTOE) since 2012
- Current Vice-Chair of the Transportation Professionals Certification Board (TPCB) - we are the Board that created, writes, and manages the PTOE, Professional Transportation Planner (PTP), and now the Road Safety Professional (RSP) Certification Programs.
- Local Agency Member of the FDOT Greenbook Committee appointed by State Secretary Kevin Thibault

Personal Info

What's your favorite thing to do on the weekends? Hang out with my husband and daughters (if they are available), ride my bicycle, and my scooter.

What's your favorite part of FACERS? The camaraderie, networking, and learning from others in similar positions.

Sponsor & Project Spotlight

Hydro International:Biscayne Bay

About the Sponsor



Susan McNamee is the Regional Sales Manager, covering Florida territory as of March 2017. Susan has been in the stormwater industry since 2000 where she first worked in Product Management and later in Sales Management at Advanced Drainage Systems.

At ADS she worked in the Retention and Detentions stormwater systems, along with Nyloplast, HDPE and HP Pipe, InsertaTee and FlexStorm products that she was the product manager of. She worked in the Midwest for 6 years before moving to Florida in 2012, where she resides in Palm City.

In her spare time, Susan enjoys camping, fishing, horseback riding, travel and gardening. She also loves being a grandmother.



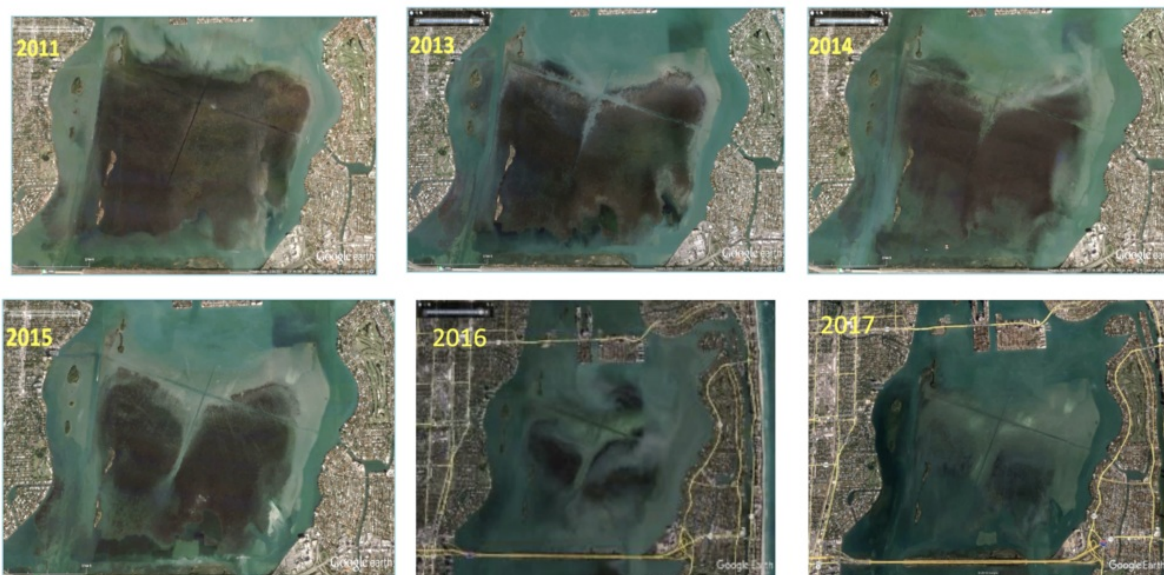
About the Project

Background:

For decades there have been warnings that the pollution from leaking septic tanks and a variety of stormwater pollutants including nutrients, trash and sediment were negatively affecting the once rich aquatic ecosystem within Biscayne Bay.

The heavy nutrient loads from both septic systems and organic materials carried by stormwater runoff are particularly problematic. The resulting algal blooms have all but strangled the sea grass that is vital to the once flourishing grouper population that is now significantly diminished (see figure 1).

Figure 1.



*Sawgrass loss in the Julia Tuttle Basin
(Credit: Miami Dade County DERM Restoration & Enhancement Section)*

Biscayne Bay is essential to Miami-Dade County's \$100 billion annual GDP which largely relies on tourism and real estate—both of which rely on a healthy environment.

The Challenge:

A retrofit project of an existing outfall and drainage system has been underway for the last several years to improve capacity and provide stronger water quality treatment prior to discharging into Biscayne Bay.

Several design challenges face engineers working on bay projects include:

- Site space limitations: a common way to address the first inch of runoff or the 2.5% of impervious is to use a French drain. However, many projects lack the space and the amount of drain needed is excessive and unfeasible.
- Tail water/tidal conditions & pollutant washout: many water quality treatment systems fail to function as intended when tail water from coastal areas enter a system from the outlet pipe; this can result in washout of previously captured pollutants.

The Stormwater Solution:

Hydro International has already supplied over a dozen Downstream Defender® hydrodynamic separator stormwater quality units to engineers and contractors working on bay projects and is in the process of working on several dozen more systems that will be installed this year and in year(s) to come (see figure 2).

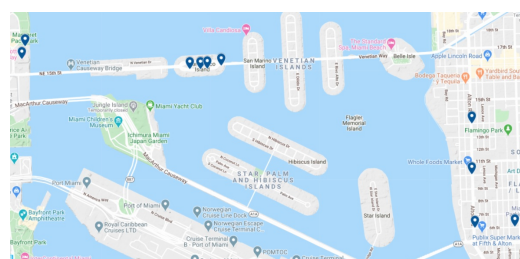
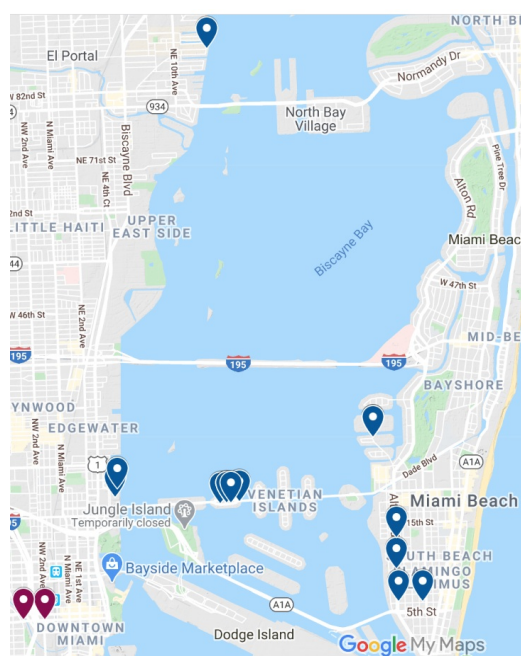


Figure 2. [Installed DownStream Defenders around the Bay]

Downstream Defender® was chosen because of its proven ability to capture and store 100% of trash, 80% of total suspended solids as well as hydrocarbons and nutrients. Additionally, the system was specifically designed to retain previously captured pollutants even when tail water from tidal conditions creep into the system from the outlet pipe.

Downstream Defender has been performance tested by every major stormwater regulatory body in North American including the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. (See figures 3, 4 and 5).

Figure 3.



Bayshore Drive Outfall (South Baysoure drive & 24th Ave)



Miami Women's Club



Bal Harbor Village

National Association of County Engineers 2020 Annual Meeting

From President Tim Hens:

It obviously has been a crazy time for everyone with the spread of COVID-19 and many folks living under “Stay at home” orders. By now you have probably heard that the NACE Board of Directors has made the difficult decision to cancel our annual conference in April. This was lining up to be our largest and most well-attended conference in some time. The decision was not taken lightly as it represents an enormous portion of our annual revenue, but the health and safety of our members, affiliates and exhibitors took priority. NACE is offering refunds for the conference. If you would like to request a refund, please contact Staci Morgan at NACE in writing no later than April 17th. We would like to have all refunds issued by May 1st.

There will be a financial impact on our organization as a result of cancelling the conference. I have tasked a newly formed Finance Subcommittee out of our Executive Committee to work with NACE Staff to verify our cash position after refunds are issued and evaluate our long-term cash flow. NACE has worked hard over the past 6 years building ample reserves, but I want to be sure that we have enough cash on hand to get us to our next conference which is in Palm Springs, CA in April 2021.

Job Postings

NORTHWEST REGION

Okaloosa County, [City Engineer \(City of Destin\)](#)

Santa Rosa County, [Engineer III](#)

NORTHEAST REGION

Alachua County, [Assistant Public Works Director](#)

Nassau County, [Senior Transportation Engineer](#)

EAST CENTRAL REGION

WEST CENTRAL REGION

Hardee County, [Public Works Director/County Engineer](#)

Polk County, [Traffic Engineer \(City of Lakeland\)](#)

SOUTHWEST REGION

Charlotte County, [Transportation Engineer](#)

SOUTHEAST REGION

Martin County, [Project Engineer](#)

