

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Hello everyone. Thank you for letting me write to you.

We had a terrific time at our Fall Meeting in Tampa! We had many good presentations, and a thank you to Alachua County, who have been presenting great topics for the last few meetings. A shout out to Eslie Oxendine of Sumter County, who, at his second-ever FACERS meeting, gave a presentation about “The Road to Abilene!” Everyone thought it was a terrific presentation, and I received many compliments about Eslie and the presentation. Click [HERE](#) to view all of the Fall Meeting presentations.

Amy Blaida did an extraordinary job on our social at Harpoon Harry’s, and the photo booth was a huge hit! We all have a few photos to prove it. I passed on the world’s ugliest Christmas tree to our Vice President, Chad Williams. He went above and beyond placing the tree in his home and many other locations. The photos he sent were awesome. David Ricks, watch out; he has raised the bar VERY high for you next year.

Please save the date for our FACERS Annual Meeting from June 25 through June 27, 2025. It will be at the Hilton Orlando in Orange County. The Fall and Annual Meetings are excellent opportunities to meet many like-minded people with the same issues and concerns you face in your job. It is also a fantastic way to make new connections with folks from the public and private sectors. These people do the same thing you do every day, and at the same time, it is really fun.

We are looking for presenters! If you are interested or know someone interested in presenting in June, please click [HERE](#) to view the presentation criteria and to submit a proposal. There are opportunities for sponsorships, too, if you or a company you know would be interested in supporting this event. If you know someone who wants to sponsor us, send them to Amy!

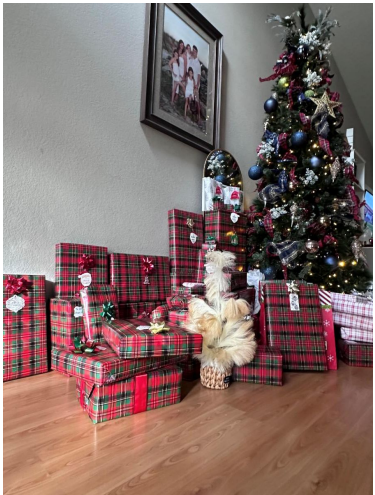
We had a tough job reviewing the award nominations for the last two Annual Meetings and picking the best ones. Awards nominations are due March 1, 2025, so if you plan to nominate a person or project, please do so soon. The award winners will get a slot at the meeting to present and show off their award-winning

projects. Click [HERE](#) to access the FACERS awards page

Our membership drive is on! We still have a few counties that were members in the past and haven't renewed their memberships. If you know any of these counties, encourage them to renew. As a FACERS member, you're a part of a dynamic network committed to advancing the field of engineering and right-of-way/road management. Whether you have ideas to share, challenges to discuss, or simply want to connect with fellow professionals, FACERS is here to support you every step of the way. Make sure you have sent in your renewal dues, too. We will go through the membership roll soon to update it, and we don't want to miss anyone. If you have friends, colleagues, staff, etc., who need to join, please send them the information to do that as well, especially new members, so they can come to see the great benefits of having the resources of this group. In fact, invite them to the Annual Meeting! Information on the 2025 FACERS membership drive can be accessed [HERE](#).

Registration for the June Conference hasn't opened yet, but it will soon! Watch your email or check the website. You want to register and get your hotel early, so you don't miss getting a room at the conference hotel.

Sincerely,
Deborah Snyder



— PROJECT & AWARD RECIPIENT SPOTLIGHT —

If you would like to nominate an Engineer or Public Works Employee or a project for an award, please click [HERE](#) to submit your nomination:

Nominations are due by **March 1, 2025** and awards will be presented at the Annual Meeting in Orlando.

Please click the link above if you would like to nominate someone or a project for one of the six awards. Each project winner will be allotted a brief presentation at the conference.



The FACERS Annual Meeting will be held on June 25-26, 2025 at the *Hilton Orlando* and REGISTRATION will open at the end of February! Be on the lookout for emails regarding in the coming weeks.

If you are looking to spend some sponsorship dollars, look no further than FACERS. For specifics, please contact Amy Blaida at amy.blaida@ergon.com and check out sponsorship opportunities [HERE](#).

— LEGISLATIVE REPORT —

The Florida legislature has now convened for four of the six interim committee weeks, before the 60-day regular session begins. So far, committees have primarily heard from agency leaders and subject matter experts on high level issues. A large tranche of bills is expected to be filed shortly before the March 4 filing deadline. The remaining committee meeting schedule is as follows:

February 10-14, 2025: Committee week 5

February 17-21, 2025: Committee week 6

March 4, 2025: Start of Regular session/bill filing deadline

FAC's 2025 [Legislative Action Plan](#) includes a handful of policy priorities that may be of interest to FACERS. These include:

- The authority to index local fuel taxes to CPI, to keep pace with rising maintenance costs
- A registration fee on electric vehicles to replace lost fuel tax revenue

For additional resources this session, please check out FAC's [Bill Tracker](#), our weekly *FAC Check* podcast, and keep an eye out for periodic FACERS-specific updates.

All policy documents are available for review at www.facpolicy.com. If you have any specific questions with regard to the report, you can email Jared at jgrigas@fl-counties.com.

NACE UPDATE



Greetings from Washington, where we find ourselves in a brave new world of a new Administration with a breadth of plans never seen in American politics. With too many proposals and actions to name, we are of course laser-focused on changes to programs our members depend on. For example, a temporary freeze was put into effect that affected some DOT discretionary grant programs. This freeze lasted approximately 36 hours but provided us a substantial glimpse into what may be coming next. Stay tuned....

These events in Washington are a prime example of why our annual advocacy fly-in is so crucial. With plans to visit with the White House and USDOT (among others), it is crucial that we educate policymakers and stakeholders on what we need to successfully serve our communities. Funding and direct funding are vital to local infrastructure projects, and with continuous staff turnover in Washington, we must repeat our message to educate those who control the fate of these programs. FACERS will have a representative at our fly-in later this month, and we thank you for your contributions to this important piece of our advocacy efforts.

Preparations are in the final stretch for our 2025 annual conference in Schaumburg, Illinois. With a schedule public for referral, we have witnessed registration numbers which will result in the best show NACE has ever hosted, not to mention the biggest. We hope you make plans to join us. The host hotel is about 98% full as of this writing, and we have commissioned an overflow hotel to meet demand. Click [HERE](#) for more details.

NACE continues its work on its new strategic plan, conceived during our fall Board meeting in Toronto. This plan, which has advocacy, membership, financial stability and education as its pillars, will provide a clear vision for NACE moving forward. President McCall briefed FACERS members in Tampa this past December, and I look forward to keeping you apprised of our progress in June.

If I can ever be of assistance to you or your staff, please do not hesitate to contact me. As the page has turned to 2025, we could not be more excited for NACE's future and appreciate the support FACERS has shown us.

Best,

Kevan Stone

Executive Director

National Association of County Engineers

FACERS HAPPENINGS



FACERS FALL MEETING RECAP

The FACERS Fall Meeting was held on December 4-5, 2024 at the Tampa Marriott Water Street, in Hillsborough County, Florida. The two-day meeting covered diverse topics from Leveraging AI for Road Success, Asphalt Production, Placement & Testing to Cultivating Culture and included updates from NACE, FDOT: State & Local Programs, as well as an update from the central office in Tallahassee, Florida. All of the presentations can be found on the FACERS website [HERE](#).

A big shout out to all of the sponsors below who made the meeting a huge success!

to all our Sponsors for the
2024 FACERS Fall Meeting

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You!

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Program Sponsors



CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS



INTERESTED IN PRESENTING?

FACERS is conducting a
Call for Presentations for the
2025 FACERS Annual Meeting!

Deadline March 28th



Information & Criteria Below

INFORMATION & CRITERIA

FACERS MEMBERSHIP DRIVE





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