



ANNUAL MEETING 2025

June 25 - 26, 2025

Hilton Orlando
Orange County, Florida
Lake Mizell

AGENDA

WEDNESDAY

8:30A

**Managing Costs from the Ground Up:
Key Variables in Cost Estimation and
Budget Control**

Charles Tofferi

Director of Pre-Construction

PetticoatSchmitt

9:30A

**Project Traffic Forecasting: Its Role
and Importance in Long-Range
Transportation Planning**

Christopher Simpron

Assistant County Manager

Hardee County

Thomas Hill

State Modeling Manager

Florida Department of Transportation

Jerry Graham

Senior Transportation Planner/Project
Manager

Traf-O-Data Corp

10:30A

Break

10:45A

**FACERS General Membership Meeting:
2025-2026 Officer Elections & Awards
Presentations**

11:30A

FAC Exhibit Hall Tour

Orlando Ballroom

12:00P

Lunch on Your Own

1:30P

Dirt to Pave

Randy Shane

Technical & Marketing Manager

Kris Shane

Technical & Marketing Manager

Asphalt Paving Systems

2:30P

FAC Legislative Briefing

Jared Grigas

Associate Director

Courtney Mooney

Associate Director

FAC Public Policy

3:15P

Break

3:30P

**From Stroads to Streetscapes:
Implementing Context-Sensitive
Design to Create Livable Streets –
Lessons from the City of Sarasota and
FDOT**

Nikesh Patel

City Engineer

City of Sarasota

Jacqueline Morris

Criteria Publications Coordinator

Florida Department of Transportation



AGENDA

THURSDAY

8:30A

**American Council of Engineering
Companies of Florida: Supporting You!**

Dawn Ratican

Vice President

AIM Engineering & Surveying, Inc.

9:30A

Size Matters

Don Clifton

Road Superintendent

Alachua County Public Works

10:30A

Break

10:45A

Bridge Deck Inspections

Rick Wallace

Senior Account Executive

NV5

11:45A

Lunch on Your Own

1:30P

**FDOT Design Updates/FDOT Local
Program Updates**

Samantha Samford

State Local Program Administrator

Jacqueline Morris

Criteria Publications Coordinator

Brenda Young

State Safety Engineer

Florida Department of Transportation

2:30P

NACE Update

Kevan Stone

NACE Executive Director

Jacob Thorius, P.E.

Washington County Engineer,

NACE President

3:00P

Break

3:15P

**FACERS Officers Swearing In
Ceremony**

3:30P

Roundtable

6:00P

FACERS Social

Black Angus Steakhouse

6231 International Drive

Orlando, Florida

(Transportation Provided)

FRIDAY

8:30A

FACERS Board Meeting

Lake Virginia Meeting Room

WEDNESDAY PRESENTATIONS

Managing Costs from the Ground Up: Key Variables in Cost Estimation and Budget Control

Charles Tofferi, Director of Pre-Construction, PetticoatSchmitt



Charles Tofferi is an accomplished construction leader currently serving as Director of Pre-Construction at Petticoat-Schmitt Civil Contractors, Inc., where he applies his expertise in estimating, operations, and project management to ensure successful project development. His career demonstrates progressive advancement, with previous roles at Petticoat-Schmitt as Project Director and Senior Project Manager, as well as management positions at Ferguson and Sawcross, Inc. He holds a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from The University of Alabama and several contractor certifications with the State of Florida. Dedicated to contributing to the industry's growth, Charles volunteers with the ACE Mentor Program of Northeast Florida, where he is currently a Team Lead at Bartram Trail High School in St. Johns County, guiding and supporting the next generation of construction professionals.

WEDNESDAY PRESENTATIONS

Project Traffic Forecasting: Its Role and Importance in Long-Range Transportation Planning

Chris Simpron, Assistant County Manager/Former Public Works Director, Hardee County



Chris Simpron currently serves as the Assistant County Manager and former Public Works Director for Hardee County. He is an active member of both the American Public Works Association (APWA) and the Florida Association of County Engineers and Road Superintendents (FACERS). Originally from the Philippines, Christopher earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering in 1995. He practiced as a professional engineer for 11 years before he and his family migrated to the United States in October 2006.

In 2007, Christopher began his U.S. public service career as the Development Assistant to the County Engineer in Highlands County. In 2013, he joined Hardee County as the Road & Bridge Project Manager. Two years later, he accepted a position with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) District One, initiating a professional journey that saw him alternating between FDOT and Hardee County roles over the years.

During his time with FDOT, Christopher was recognized as Rookie of the Year for his exceptional contributions to several interchange projects spanning 12 counties in District One. He also earned multiple awards and nominations, highlighting his dedication and commitment to the agency.

His FDOT tenure included key roles such as Access and Drainage Permits Coordinator at the Bartow Operations Center and Transportation Planner IV in the Intermodal Systems Development (ISD) department at District One Headquarters. His responsibilities included travel demand modeling and forecasting, level of service analysis, lane repurposing, and interchange/project traffic coordination. He also managed several districtwide traffic and planning contracts.

In 2019, Christopher completed the Florida Certified Contract Manager (FCCM) certification course. From 2021 to 2023, he served as Chairman of the Freight Committee within the Statewide Florida Model Task Force (FMTF) now known as Florida Transportation Forecasting Forum (FTFF), overseen by the FDOT Central Office in Tallahassee. He remains an active FTFF member, even in his current role at Hardee County.

Christopher and his wife, Emelyn, are proud parents of two children, Carl and Evonne.

WEDNESDAY PRESENTATIONS

Project Traffic Forecasting: Its Role and Importance in Long-Range Transportation Planning

Thomas Hill, State Modeling Manager for the Systems Forecasting and Trends Office, Florida Department of Transportation



Thomas Hill is the State Modeling Manager for the Florida Department of Transportation. Thomas holds both his Undergraduate degree and Master's degree in Urban Planning from Florida State University. During his 26-year career he has worked in travel demand modeling and microsimulation from many perspectives including: local government, private industry, Metropolitan Planning Organizations and State level positions. Additionally, he is a guest lecturer, contributor and presenter at workshops, conferences and universities and has a focus on travel demand model applications, microsimulation, and growth management. Thomas is a member of the Census Transportation Planning Package Oversight Board, the Transportation Research Board Microsimulation Committee, and the Institute for Trade and Transportation Studies partnership (ITTS). Currently, Thomas is involved with promoting travel demand and microsimulation modeling efforts through development of Microsimulation training for FDOT personnel, freight modeling, hurricane evacuation modeling, land use modeling, and other components for statewide and regional model applications. Additionally, Thomas is leading a major update and expansion of Florida's guidance standards for model application, development, calibration, and validation. In his personal time, Thomas enjoys playing trombone, running, grilling, and napping.

WEDNESDAY PRESENTATIONS

Project Traffic Forecasting: Its Role and Importance in Long-Range Transportation Planning

Jerry Graham P.E., AICP, Senior Transportation Planner/Project Manager, Traf-O-Data Corp



Jerry Graham offers more than 35 years of experience in traffic improvement planning, transportation engineering studies, and has successfully managed multiple FDOT General Planning Consultant (GPC) contracts for District 1. Project types include long range planning, transit studies, large scale site traffic impact analyses, corridor and subarea traffic studies, GIS planning applications, database management, and statistical analysis. Mr. Graham has particular expertise in the areas of Multi-Modal Travel Demand Model Development/Application, and Long-Range Transportation Plan development support.

WEDNESDAY PRESENTATIONS

Dirt to Pave

Randy Shane, Technical & Marketing Manager,
Asphalt Paving Systems, Inc.



Randy Shane works for Asphalt Paving Systems, Inc. and currently holds the position of Technical & Marketing Manager where he oversees the States of Florida, Georgia, Wisconsin and Michigan. With his son Kris Shane they cover the whole State of Florida.

Mr. Shane attended The Ohio State University and has over 39 years of experience in the Pavement Preservation and Pavement In-Place Reconstruction field. He worked in the private sector since 1986 and has completed Micro-Surfacing and other Pavement Preservation projects for DOT's in Ohio, Indiana, Tennessee, Illinois, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, Alabama, South Carolina, North Carolina, Georgia and Florida.

WEDNESDAY PRESENTATIONS

Dirt to Pave

Kris Shane, Technical & Marketing Manager,
Asphalt Paving Systems



Kris Shane works for Asphalt Paving Systems, Inc. and currently holds the position of Technical & Marketing Manager where he oversees the East Coast of Florida along with South Florida and parts of Central Florida.

Mr. Shane attended The University Tampa, where he graduated with a degree in Marketing. Following in the footsteps of his Father- Randy Shane and Uncle- Daryl Montgomery, he has had some great mentors as he began his career in this industry. He has been in the Pavement Preservation and Pavement In-Place Reconstruction industry for over 8 years now.

WEDNESDAY PRESENTATIONS

FAC 2025 Legislative Briefing

Jared Grigas, Associate Director of Public Policy,
Florida Association of Counties



Jared Grigas is the Associate Director of Public Policy for the Florida Association of Counties, where he lends his policy experience to advocating for the diverse needs of Florida's counties within the Legislature. Across two legislative sessions, Jared has conducted research and analysis in a variety of spaces, including: water and environmental policy, tax administration, affordable housing, and public health and safety issues. Born and raised in Leon County, Jared attended the University of Florida's Honors College, and graduated in 2019 with a degree in Political Science.

WEDNESDAY PRESENTATIONS

FAC 2025 Legislative Briefing

Courtney Mooney, Associate Director of Public Policy,
Florida Association of Counties



Courtney Mooney serves as the Associate Director of Public Policy at the Florida Association of Counties (FAC), where she has worked since 2023. In her role, Courtney leads policy initiatives and advocacy efforts within the portfolio of community and urban development. Her areas of focus include housing, growth management, transportation, construction, and land use—all critical issues impacting Florida's rapidly evolving counties. Courtney brings a strong foundation in political science and a deep commitment to public service. Prior to joining FAC, she gained valuable experience through internships with various organizations in the local government sector, sharpening her understanding of the policy challenges and opportunities at the municipal and county levels. She holds a Master's degree in Political Science from Florida State University, where she concentrated on state and local governance. Courtney is passionate about supporting Florida's counties in creating sustainable, well-planned, and equitable communities.

WEDNESDAY PRESENTATIONS

From Stroads to Streetscapes: Implementing Context-Sensitive
Design to Create Livable Streets

Nikesh (Nik) Patel, PE, CPM, PTOE, CGC, AICP, City Engineer,
City of Sarasota



Nik Patel has served as Sarasota's City Engineer since 2021, overseeing Public Works operations with a focus on infrastructure maintenance, capital projects, surveying, permitting, and transportation planning. Prior to this role, he spent 17 years with the Florida Department of Transportation. A graduate of the University of South Florida, Nik holds a master's degree in engineering management and dual bachelor's degrees in civil and mechanical engineering.

WEDNESDAY PRESENTATIONS

From Stroads to Streetscapes: Implementing Context-Sensitive
Design to Create Livable Streets

Jacqueline Morris, CPM, ATD, CNU, Criteria Publications Coordinator,
Florida Department of Transportation State Roadway Design Office



Jacqui Morris is the FDOT Criteria Publications Coordinator in the State Roadway Design Office. In this position, Jacqui coordinates the production of the Florida Manual of Uniform Minimum Standards for Design, Construction, and Maintenance (the Florida Greenbook), the FDOT Design Manual (FDM), and other Criteria publications. Jacqui has 20 years of FDOT experience from the District and Central Office with meeting coordination, planning, mentoring, and program development.

THURSDAY PRESENTATIONS

American Council of Engineering Companies of Florida:
Supporting You!

Dawn Ratican, Vice President, AIM Engineering & Surveying, Inc.



Dawn Ratican, P.E. is Vice President at AIM Engineering & Surveying, Inc., with 27 years of experience in transportation engineering, specializing in drainage design and permitting. Over her 19 years at AIM, she has served as Engineer of Record, Project Manager, and Design Group Manager. In her current role, Dawn focuses on business development, recruiting, client relations, and employee advancement across all service lines. She is actively involved in WTS, ASCE, and ASHE, and serves on the Board of ACEC-FL as Region 4 Director.

THURSDAY PRESENTATIONS

Size Matters

Don Clifton, Jr., Road Superintendent, Alachua County Public Works



Don Clifton Jr. was born in Baltimore, Maryland. After graduating from high school, he followed his ambition of starting his own business in the Material Handling Equipment industry. In 1992, he launched his own business in Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach counties. In 2006, he began contracting with various manufacturers to install equipment for The Department of Public Works and The Department of Defense.

In 2016, Don joined Alachua County Public Works as a Maintenance Supervisor I. Subsequently, he was promoted to Maintenance Supervisor II in 2019 and Acting Maintenance Supervisor III in 2020. In 2021, Don applied and was offered the Road Superintendent position. Currently, Don oversees stormwater, asphalt projects, sidewalk/pathway projects, and Right of Way maintenance projects throughout Alachua County. In spite of the varying duties, he is steadfast in his commitment to devising new and creative strategies to enhance the performance of his organization and ensuring the successful completion of each task.

THURSDAY PRESENTATIONS

Bridge Deck Inspections

Rick Wallace, Senior Account Executive, NV5



Rick Wallace has a strong management background with more than 35 years of combined experience in both the information technology and geospatial industries. Rick currently serves as the Southeast Regional Manager for NV5 Geospatial. His responsibilities include Quality Assurance and Quality Control for photogrammetric and GIS projects, project design and estimation, contract administration and scheduling, along with client liaison responsibilities. He coordinates Southeast project activities with assigned project managers and technical staff. A native of North Carolina, Rick has worked with project teams throughout the United States to provide leading edge technical solutions for clients and their constituents.

THURSDAY PRESENTATIONS

FDOT Design Updates/FDOT Local Program Updates
Samantha Samford, State Local Program Administrator,
Florida Department of Transportation



Samantha Samford currently works in the Florida Department of Transportation as the newly appointed State Local Programs Administrator in the Program Management Office. Ms. Samford has worked in Emergency Management for over 12 years, 9 of those years at FDOT in the Emergency Management Office. She will join the Program Management office on June 26, 2023. Ms. Samford is a Tallahassee native, mom of 2 girls, loves traveling and being outdoors.

THURSDAY PRESENTATIONS

FDOT Design Updates/FDOT Local Program Updates
Jacqueline Morris, CPM, ATD, CNU, Criteria Publications Coordinator,
Florida Department of Transportation State Roadway Design Office



Jacqui Morris is the FDOT Criteria Publications Coordinator in the State Roadway Design Office. In this position, Jacqui coordinates the production of the Florida Manual of Uniform Minimum Standards for Design, Construction, and Maintenance (the Florida Greenbook), the FDOT Design Manual (FDM), and other Criteria publications. Jacqui has 20 years of FDOT experience from the District and Central Office with meeting coordination, planning, mentoring, and program development.

THURSDAY PRESENTATIONS

FDOT Design Updates/FDOT Local Program Updates
Brenda Young, State Safety Engineer,
Florida Department of Transportation



Brenda Young is FDOT's State Safety Engineer, leading teams and resources that provide support across technical disciplines, Districts, and partner agencies to create a "force multiplier" effect in Florida's target zero charge to eliminate traffic fatalities and serious injuries. Her 27-year transportation career in both the public and private sector includes experience in planning, design, traffic operations, construction, modal development, and safety. Brenda earned her Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Civil Engineering from UCF, and is a licensed Professional Engineer and Certified Public Manager.

THURSDAY PRESENTATIONS

Update from National Association of County Engineers

Kevan Stone, Executive Director



Kevan Stone serves as the Executive Director for NACE and the nation's county infrastructure professionals, those tasked with ensuring the safety of nearly one-half of the nation's roads and 40% of the nation's bridges. He guides the organization's federal advocacy with aligned organizations and partners; and promotes issues crucial to modernizing America's infrastructure.

Stone previously served as the Associate Legislative Director for Transportation and Infrastructure at the National Association of Counties (NACo). There, he led all policy development and advocacy pertaining to the county role in ownership and maintenance of roads, bridges, airports and other important infrastructure. Prior to NACo, Stone served as Senior Policy Advisor for former U.S. Congressman and House of Representatives Transportation Committee Chairman John L. Mica, where in addition to transportation policy, he also oversaw the Congressman's veterans, defense, foreign policy, and financial services portfolio.

Quoted in publications such as NPR and Axios, Stone is a nationally recognized voice in infrastructure policy, and received his BA in Political Science from the University of Central Florida and lives in Bethesda, Maryland.

THURSDAY PRESENTATIONS

Update from National Association of County Engineers

Jacob Thorius, President



Jacob Thorius, P.E., has been the County Engineer for Washington County since 2012. Prior to that he was an Assistant County Engineer for Washington County, where he got his start in county government in 2005. He graduated with a BA in Physics from Gustavus Adolphus College and Masters in Civil Engineering from Iowa State University.

Jacob is active in the Iowa County Engineers Association serving on various committees related to computers, pavement, specifications, safety and as a District Representative to their Executive Board. He serves on the Iowa Highway Research Board, working to advance and improve Iowa's transportation network; serving on numerous technical advisory committees for research projects related to low volume roads. Jacob is also active in NACE, currently serving as the President and is a member of the Pavement Preservation and Unpaved Roads Committees.

Jacob and his wife live in Washington, IA where they are busy raising two boys. When he is not busy spending time with his boys and their many activities, he enjoys officiating high school football, coaching baseball, trying to beat his wife at golf, fly fishing, numerous other activities outdoors as well as helping lead the high school youth group at his church.

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