

Alaska Capital Engineers

A branch of the American Society of Civil Engineers

February 2025 Newsletter

February Luncheon Topic:
***Electric Vehicle Technology and its Impact on the
Highway Trust Fund and State General Funds***

Location: Devil's Club Brewery (Downstairs)

Date: February 18th at 12 PM

Cost: \$30

***Juneau Economic Indicators and Future
Implications of Planned Projects***

Electric Vehicle (EV) technology is quickly reaching parity with long-standing gas and diesel powered technology and offers drivers a more fuel efficient and environmentally friendly alternative for transportation. Vehicle manufacturers are bolstering their EV options and are making pledges to phase out their fossil fuel fleets over the coming decades. This is an exciting and transformative time for transportation, however, long term planning to replace motor fuel taxes as a user fee must be considered. Most of the funding for roadway capital improvements and operation & maintenance comes from taxes assessed at the fuel pump, which are administered to states through the Highway Trust Fund and State General Funds. With drivers increasingly purchasing EV's as their next vehicle purchase, the returns from motor fuel taxes are increasingly diminished.



David Gamez

Transportation Engineer and Project Manager at Lounsbury & Associates

David is a Transportation Engineer and Project Manager at Lounsbury & Associates in Anchorage. He is the past-president of the ASCE Alaska Section and the Alaska Professional Design Council. Since 2016 he has been an active member on the ASCE Alaska Infrastructure Report Card Committee and chaired the 2025 release. Advocating for Alaska's infrastructure is one of his key areas of focus, and diminishing returns on motor fuel taxes and insolvency of the Highway Trust Fund are high priority issues.

Visit our website at <https://branches.asce.org/juneau/> for the following:
PDH Certificates, Recorded Presentations, Newsletters, ASCE Membership,
Job Postings

Announcements and More!

ASCE Board Openings - Secretary and Treasurer

We are busy gearing up for our spring presentations and Engineer's Week Banquet, and we are currently looking to fill two vacant officer positions on the board. The secretary will help with coordinating presentations, putting together newsletters, and supporting the local ASCE branch. The treasurer helps to manage and organize the finances for the branch. The time commitment is only a few hours per month, and it's a great way to get involved with the local engineering community and get additional pdh's.

If you are potentially interested (or want more information) please contact Zachery Miller (zachery.miller@respec.com) or Jimmy Spriggs (jimmy.spriggs@prohns.com)

Current Job Postings

AEL&P - Summer Student Worker	DOWL - Transportation Designer
AEL&P - Brushing Crew	DOWL - Transportation Design Engineer 3
PND - Summer Civil Engineering Intern	DOWL - Field Project Representative 3
PND - Civil Design Engineer	DOWL - Project Archaeologist 1
PND - Civil Engineer (EIT)	DOWL - Aviation Project Engineer (Mid to Senior Level)
PND - Structural Design Engineer	ProHNS - Entry Level Civil/Environmental Engineer
Respec - Civil Water/Wastewater Engineer	ProHNS - Materials Testing Technician
Respec - Civil Water/Wastewater Engineer	

Local Branch Officers:

2025-2026 ALASKA CAPITAL ENGINEERS OFFICERS	
ASCE President – Zach Miller, EIT Vice President – Jimmy Spriggs, EIT Treasurer – Your Name Here! Secretary – Your Name Here! Past President – Eva Melancon, PE Emeritus – Matthew McGuan, PE Special Committees School Outreach/STEM Coordinator - Please Volunteer Dream Big Coordinator - Please Volunteer	ASPE - Alaska Society Contacts Past President – Chris Miller, PE President – Craig Blesdoe, PE President Elect – Vacant Secretary - Leora Houtary, PE Treasurer – Iain McPherson, PE NSPE House of Delegates - Brad Fristoe, PE Anchorage Chapter Director – Craig Blesdoe, PE Fairbanks Chapter Director - Frank Wuttig, PE Juneau Chapter Director - Darrell Wetherall, PE

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ASCE Awards and Scholarship Banquet

Our annual E-Week Banquet is set to be held on February 21st from 5:30PM until 8PM at the Baranof Hotel Treadwell Room, dinner will be served at 6:30PM. This fundraiser event will be an opportunity to interact with your fellow engineers and celebrate our local award recipients. Mark your calendars and be sure to complete EOTY and POTY nominations by February 14th! Please send an RSVP to Zach or Jimmy by February 9th.

Volunteering Opportunity - MathCounts

MathCounts is a national program designed to improve math skills among US students by making math engaging and interesting. The top Mathletes advance through the series of competitions including School, Chapter, State, and National levels.

The MathCounts Southeast AK Chapter Competition will be held in-person on Saturday, February 21, 2026 at the Juneau-Douglas High School starting at 9 am. Volunteers are needed to proctor exams, grade exams, and keep time as these middle school Mathletes compete in a Sprint, Target, Team, and a Countdown round. The top Mathletes will advance from the Chapter level to the State level competition.

This year the State Competition will be held in-person in Anchorage in March.

If you are interested in volunteering for this 1-day event or donating to help our Mathletes compete at State, please reach out to Janice Wells (Janice.Wells@respec.com) or Micki Gould (mgould@pndengineers.com).

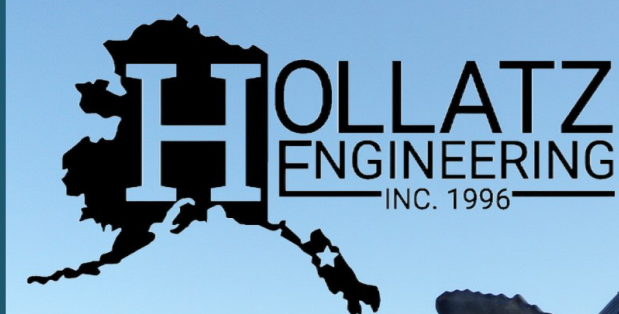
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