

2022 Year End Summary

As I sit down to write on what 2022 has brought us, it has been a good year. I along with several other Section leaders had the privilege to spend some time with ASCE Society President Maria Lehman while she was in town for the Lehigh Valley Sections 100th Anniversary Gala on December 8th. She said to us that it's a great time to be a Civil Engineer. I couldn't agree with her more. I know that many firms are very busy and looking for talent. With the IIJA bill now one year old, we're starting to see those investments coming in. I feel that our elected officials are looking to hear from us with the expertise that we bring to the table.

The Pennsylvania State Council released the latest edition of the Infrastructure Report Card for Pennsylvania's Infrastructure. Fifteen categories were graded and overall we earned a C-. To read the full report, please visit the link provided. [Pennsylvania Infrastructure | ASCE's 2021 Infrastructure Report Card](#)

I want to thank our those who spoke this year to the Branch and one of my alma maters, Montgomery County Community College for hosting us earlier this month for our first in-person event since 2019 to present the 2022 ASCE Pennsylvania Report Card for Pennsylvania's Infrastructure and tour the new Challenger Learning Center which will provide an avenue for middle school student to engage in STEM activities.

Earlier this year we had virtual presentations from two ASCE Society leaders. Tara Hoke ASCE's General Counsel presented on the topic of Ethics Case Studies and Greg DiLoreto, Past ASCE Society President on ASCE's 2021 Report Card for America's Infrastructure and the IIJA bill. In October, Scott France, Executive Director Montgomery County Planning Commission gave us an overview of the newly created Schuylkill River Passenger Rail Authority in which they have been tasked to re-establish passenger rail from Reading to Philadelphia.

In 2023, we will continue our virtual programming with a few in-person events. A couple of events to keep that will coming in the first quarter of the new year will be our annual town hall with Rep. Chrissy Houlahan in February and on March 28th a tour of the Reading Science Center which will be a joint event with the Berks Mineralogical Society. If you have any ideas for events, please reach out to me at jcaperilla@mctish.com.

I hope you have a wonderful time with your family and friends and hope that you take some time off for some rest. To quote John Lennon I wish you "A very Merry Christmas and a happy new year, let's hope it's a good one without any fear."

John Caperilla, Reading Branch President & Region 2 Governor

