



The 12th Annual APWA Colorado Chapter Conference



Exploring Creativity in Project Solutions

October 26 - 27, 2026

Denver Marriott West | Golden, CO





Monday At-A-Glance

Thank You To Our Platinum Level Exhibitors!

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Featured Sessions: Monday, October 26

ROOM	GRAND BALLROOM	
7:30 AM - 8:00 AM	Registration/Coffee	
8:00 AM - 8:30 AM	Welcome and Conference Opening from Chuck Weiss, Annual Chapter Conference Committee Chair and APWA Colorado Chapter President and Laura Kroeger, National APWA President-Elect	
8:30 AM - 9:25 AM	From Rural Intersection to Urban Compact Roundabout: Mesa County's 32-1/2 Road & E Road Transformation	
9:30 AM - 10:20 AM	16th Street - Iconic Green Infrastructure	
10:20 AM - 10:40 AM	BREAK - VISIT OUR EXHIBITORS	
	COFFEE & SNACK SPONSOR 	
ROOM	KEYSTONE & TELLURIDE	MONARCH
10:40 AM - 11:30 AM	From Reactive Repairs to Predictive Planning: Implementing Digital Twins to Reduce Water Loss and Improve System Reliability	Practical AI for Pavement Management
11:30 AM - 12:55 PM	Lunch and Keynote Speaker Brian Pettet Presenting "People, Service, Pride" - GRAND BALLROOM	
1:00 PM - 1:50 PM	Culvert Rehabilitation and Replacement - City of Boulder	A Creative, Integrated Approach to Asphalt Pavement Preservation: From Condition Data to Smarter Project Solutions
1:55 PM - 2:45 PM	When Water Outpaces Warning: Creative Strategies to Protect Essential Infrastructure Before Flood Becomes Catastrophe	Rethinking Pavement Management Plans: How AI Tools Help Local Governments Plan, Budget, and Communicate
2:45 PM - 3:00 PM	BREAK - VISIT OUR EXHIBITORS	
	COFFEE & SNACK SPONSOR 	
3:00 PM - 3:50 PM	Failing Fast, Recovering Faster: 36 Lessons in Preventing Total Infrastructure Collapse Before It Starts	Is Grant Funding Worth It?
3:55 PM - 4:45 PM	Hurricanes and Wildfires: How a Florida Experience Can Benefit Colorado Disaster Relief and Management	The Results Are In: What Colorado Consultants and Contractors Say Drives Price, Risk, and Competition
4:45 PM - 6:00 PM	Happy Hour Reception Featuring Magician and Mentalist Shawn Preston - LOBBY	
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8:00 am - 8:30 am - GRAND BALLROOM

From Rural Intersection to Urban Compact Roundabout: Mesa County's 32-1/2 Road & E Road Transformation

8:30 am - 9:25 am - GRAND BALLROOM

Presented By: Laura Page, Engineering Division Director and Daniel Larkin, Transportation Engineer/Project Manager, Mesa County; Michael Goolsby, Project Manager and Jason Fullerton, Transportation Engineer, HDR Engineering, Inc.

Learn about the planning, design, and implementation of Mesa County's first compact roundabout at the 32-1/2 Road and E Road intersection, developed in partnership with HDR Engineering, Inc. Discover the key differences between compact and conventional roundabouts, appropriate application contexts, and resulting operational, safety, accessibility, and pedestrian connectivity benefits. Plus, learn how targeted public outreach addressed community concerns and supported project acceptance.

16th Street - Iconic Green Infrastructure

9:30 am - 10:20 am - GRAND BALLROOM

Presented By: Deborah Alvarado, Associate-
Transportation Design, Martin/Martin, Inc. and Bill
Vitek, Dig Studio

Gain practical insights into the challenges, lessons learned, and innovative solutions for one of the region's most innovative streetscape projects, and the engineering and infrastructure solutions that made it possible. Learn how unprecedented utility investigation and 3D subsurface modeling helped identify conflicts, reduce risk, and keep a complex

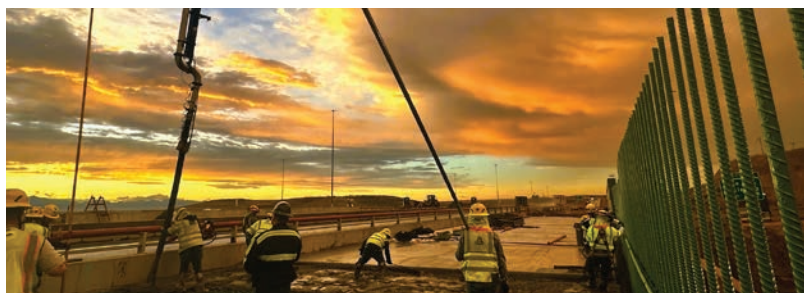
project moving forward. See how the nation's largest suspended pavement and soil cell system supports a thriving urban forest, and how integrated streetside stormwater planters are improving water quality while enhancing the pedestrian experience. Discover how to transform downtown infrastructure into a more resilient, sustainable, and community-focused public space for generations to come.

From Reactive Repairs to Predictive Planning: Implementing Digital Twins to Reduce Water Loss and Improve System Reliability

10:40 am - 11:30 am - KEYSTONE & TELLURIDE

Presented By: Cristina Piekarz, Sr. Project Engineer-Water; Steven Linderman, Senior Project Engineer; and Erin Linderman, Water Resource Project Designer, GFT

Water utilities are increasingly challenged to manage aging infrastructure, rising break rates, and limited capital budgets while maintaining system reliability. Learn how digital twins and predictive analytics can support a shift from reactive repairs to proactive asset management by integrating existing utility data into dynamic, decision-support tools. Get a practical framework for evaluating and implementing these approaches, with a focus on scalable, real-world applications.





Monday, October 26

Practical AI for Pavement Management 10:40 am - 11:30 am - **MONARCH**

Presented By: Candler McCollum, Founder/Chief Product Officer, Roadway Management Technologies
Pavement is a critical community asset, yet rising costs, labor shortages, and limited budgets make maintenance increasingly challenging. Explore how modern pavement and asset management practices, supported by AI and data driven tools, are reshaping the industry. We'll examine current challenges, compare traditional and automated assessments, and discuss proactive lifecycle strategies that optimize funding, extend pavement life, and support long term sustainability.

Lunch and Keynote Speaker Brian Pettet Presenting "People, Service, Pride" 11:30 am - 12:55 pm - **GRAND BALLROOM**

Presented By: Brian Pettet

Pettet will highlight the personal and professional importance of APWA to his 30+ year career in public works leadership. Learn leadership disciplines for pragmatic application in personal and professional arenas. You'll be actively involved and collaborating as Pettet shares important lessons and experience. Plus, hear entertaining stories and gain an understanding of everyday behaviors that will enhance and strengthen your relationships.

Culvert Rehabilitation and Replacement - City of Boulder

1:00 pm - 1:50 pm - **KEYSTONE & TELLURIDE**

Presented By: Zachary Grennan, Senior Project Manager, City of Boulder; Kevin Rasmussen, Project Manager, Basis Partners

The City of Boulder is faced with a similar challenge to many agencies, aging bridge and stormwater infrastructure. For the last ten years the City has systematically worked through addressing this problem and has many lessons learned to share.

A Creative, Integrated Approach to Asphalt Pavement Preservation: From Condition Data to Smarter Project Solutions 1:00 pm - 1:50 pm - **MONARCH**

Presented By: Christopher Wacinski, Founder/VP of Technology, Driven Plastics

As traditional asphalt pavement preservation approaches struggle to keep pace with increasing demands and constrained budgets, agencies must adopt more creative, integrated solutions. Learn a practical framework that connects AI-driven pavement condition assessment, subsurface analysis, and innovative asphalt materials to improve decision-making and extend pavement life. Discover real-world applications and new approaches to solving familiar challenges via projects from across the country, including 2025-26 updates from Pueblo County, CO.

About Our Event Exhibitor Bohannon Huston, Inc.

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Bohannon Huston, Inc. (BHI) is a privately owned civil engineering firm that has supported community infrastructure needs across the Southwest and Rocky Mountain West since 1959. With integrated services under one roof, BHI provides engineering, planning, surveying and mapping, and construction phase services. Built on trusted relationships, responsive

service, and a commitment to integrity, innovation, and excellence, BHI takes pride in its work, the clients it serves, and the communities it calls home. Through long-lasting partnerships and a people-first approach, BHI continues to live its purpose: great people supporting great communities. For more information, visit **bhinc.com**.



1:55 pm - 2:45 pm - KEYSTONE & TELLURIDE

Flood disasters are often measured by rainfall totals and property damage, but the greatest consequences frequently begin when essential infrastructure fails at the moment communities need it most. See how flooding can trigger cascading impacts to roads, utilities, communications, and emergency access, transforming a hydrologic event into a broader public safety crisis. Through recent disaster examples and practical planning approaches, learn how creative, cross-disciplinary solutions can strengthen infrastructure resilience before catastrophe occurs.

process by turning pavement data into multiyear plans, treatment recommendations, and executive summaries that staff can take directly to councils and elected officials. Attendees will see what these tools actually produce, how staff input shapes the output, and where AI fits into the existing workflow without replacing the judgment local governments rely on.

1:55 pm - 2:45 pm - MONARCH

Presented By: Drew Echard, Account Executive, Cylindriq

Pavement Management Plans typically take consultants weeks to produce and cost local governments thousands of dollars, which makes them slow to update when budgets shift or new condition data comes in. Learn how AI tools are changing that

3:00 pm - 3:50 pm - KEYSTONE & TELLURIDE

Presented By: David Zelenok, Founder & CEO, ZK Engineers; George Wentz, Founder & CEO, Wentz and Company, LLC

Public Works professionals are rethinking how they prepare for increasingly severe “mega-disasters,” where predictable and preventable failures across transportation, utilities, telecommunications and electric power (“T-U-T-E”) infrastructure can cascade into catastrophic outcomes. We’ll share real-world case studies demonstrating how gaps in infrastructure resilience and coordination have led to preventable damage and loss of life. Plus, learn how Public Works leaders can integrate T-U-T-E infrastructure with emergency management. Better yet, “walk-away” with 36 actionable lessons to help Public Works agencies build truly resilient infrastructure to protect their communities.

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At FHU, connecting and enhancing communities is our mission. For more than 40 years we've worked hand-in-hand with municipalities to create future ready transportation systems that enhance people's ability to live, work and play within their

communities. Our 200+ engineers, planners and scientists specialize in multimodal transportation planning, environmental services, civil design, traffic engineering, emerging technologies and community engagement. Learn more at **fhueng.com**.



Monday, October 26

Is Grant Funding Worth It?

3:00 pm - 3:50 pm - **MONARCH**

Presented By: Luz Alejandri Lopez, Grants Coordinator, City of Aurora-Water

Learn how grant guidelines can significantly impact project timelines and budgets, and the vital role of milestone schedules in maintaining compliance. We'll provide insights into the real-world demands on staff time and resources necessary to successfully navigate the lifecycle of a grant-funded project.

Hurricanes and Wildfires: How a Florida Experience Can Benefit Colorado Disaster Relief and Management

3:55 pm - 4:45 pm - **KEYSTONE & TELLURIDE**

Presented By: Derrik Mills, Regional Plan Review Manager, HR Green

HR Green supported Pinellas County, FL by serving as a trusted resource for FEMA flood relief and general recovery efforts. They rapidly mobilized a team of nearly 40 experienced staff, including 10 Certified Floodplain Managers (CFMs) from across the country, who helped answer resident questions, provide guidance on recovery processes, and supported efficient, effective hurricane disaster recovery operations throughout the community.

Results Are In: What Colorado Consultants and Contractors Say Drives Price, Risk, and Competition

3:55 pm - 4:45 pm - **MONARCH**

Presented By: David Skuodas, Education and Outreach Director, Mile High Flood District

Public agencies often focus on controlling project costs through scope and budgets, but rarely through their own behaviors, processes, and reputation as clients. Two Colorado-based surveys of engineering consultants and construction contractors reveal what most strongly influences pricing, bid interest, and risk premiums. Learn which owner practices quietly raise costs, attract better teams, and how small changes can meaningfully improve outcomes.

Happy Hour Reception Featuring Magician and Mentalist Shawn Preston

4:45 pm - 6:00 pm - **LOBBY**

Mix and mingle with your peers during Happy Hour sponsored by **Bolton & Menk, Inc.** and **J-U-B ENGINEERS, Inc.** Plus, award-winning Shawn Preston, professional Mentalist, Comedy Magician, Sleight of Hand Expert, and Corporate Entertainer will move among small groups during the happy hour, sharing amazing feats, right before your eyes.

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About Our Event Exhibitor HR Green

Founded in 1913, HR Green is one of America's longest-operating engineering firms serving the following markets: Broadband, Construction, Environmental, Geospatial, Land Development, Municipal Services, Planning, Transportation, and

Water. With more than 750 professionals across 22 offices in 10 states, the firm delivers integrated solutions that help build resilient, thriving communities. Learn more at hrgreen.com.



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Featured Sessions: Tuesday, October 27



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civil construction, site development, and vertical building, JHL is committed to creating lasting value for its clients, employees, and communities while safely delivering high-quality projects that stand the test of time. Guided by its core value, "Doing the Right Thing – Always," JHL approaches every project with an unwavering commitment to excellence, accountability, and partnership.

Visit us online at colorado.apwa.org



8:30 am - 9:25 am - GRAND BALLROOM

The new Stagecoach Trailhead enhances access, safety, and the overall visitor experience for one of the primary gateways to Elk Meadow Park in Evergreen, Colorado. Completed in 2025, this project delivered a new 67-stall parking expansion, improved access roadway, modern restroom facilities, EV charging stations, and inviting shade and picnic areas—thoughtfully integrated into the mountain landscape.

9:30 am - 10:20 am - KEYSTONE & TELLURIDE

Stress and mental health affect everyone. Everyone has a story that has affected their mental health. This presentation will address how public works professionals can help one another by recognizing stress in the workplace and getting them the help they need to ensure safety and harmony in the workplace.

9:30 am - 10:20 am - MONARCH

This session is intended to be a participatory discussion of the challenges to comply with the unfunded mandate that is PROWAG in the municipal environment. The requirements of PROWAG mandate the removal and reconstruction of curb transitions or ramps that were constructed under previous ADA guidance without safe harbor or grandfathering. In Fort Collins, this looks like the reconstruction of 19,000 ramps at an estimated price tag of \$115 million dollars and the release of 60,000 tons of CO₂.



About Our Event Exhibitor

TufTile is the most comprehensive manufacture of ADA compliant tactile warning surfaces, (DWS-domes), (TDI-bars), and (TWD-trapezoid) available in Cast Iron, Galvanized Steel, and Polymer. We are committed to supporting our customers from the first conversation to post-installation support with a knowledgeable sales team, technical support, on-site assistance. Our core strength is our vertically

integrated, highly automated manufacturing equipment, combined with on site, state-of-the-art electrostatic powder coating system, warehousing and distribution allowing for any size order and ready to ship in days not weeks. At TufTile, we recognize the importance of developing new products and processes that do it better, faster and with results that last longer. Learn more at tuftile.com.

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Tuesday, October 27

Improving Worker Safety with a Talking Fleet of Vehicles

10:25 am - 11:15 am - **KEYSTONE & TELLURIDE**

Presented By: Tim Adams, Director, Transportation Safety Strategy, HAAS Alert

Roadwork crews are more vulnerable than ever due to the increased number of distractions inside vehicles today. While strobes, cones, and signs are great, they all require a driver to be paying attention to see them. Digital Alerting is the most advanced safety resource used to combat distracted driving.



Creative Strategies to Stretch Street Improvement Budgets

10:25 am - 11:15 am - **MONARCH**

Presented By: Brandon Brever, Director of Engineering & Technology, Colorado Asphalt Pavement Association

Local agencies across Colorado are facing a growing gap between roadway needs and available funding. This session presents practical, experience-based strategies to extend limited street improvement budgets, with a focus on specification decisions, contracting approaches, and project delivery methods. Drawing from Colorado examples, the presentation highlights how agencies can manage costs while maintaining performance. Attendees will leave with actionable ideas they can apply immediately.

APWA Colorado Chapter Annual Awards Luncheon and Closing Comments

11:30 am - 1:00 pm - **GRAND BALLROOM**

About Our Event Exhibitor Xypex

Xypex is a crystalline waterproofing admixture and surface applied product designed to protect and extend the service life of concrete by becoming an integral part of the concrete matrix. When exposed to moisture, Xypex reacts with the cement hydration process to form an insoluble crystalline structure that block pores, capillaries, and microcracks, helping resist water infiltration/exfiltration and chemical attack. Xypex works from within the

concrete and can provide long-term self-sealing capabilities for hairline cracks that develop over time. The Xypex Bio-San technology combines this crystalline protection with an antimicrobial additive engineered for wastewater environments to help inhibit sulfur-oxidizing bacteria associated with Microbiologically Influenced Corrosion (MIC) and hydrogen sulfide (H₂S) deterioration.





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