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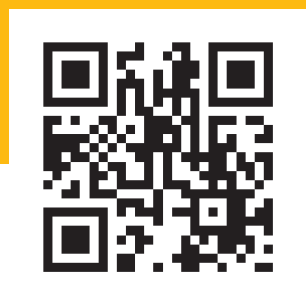


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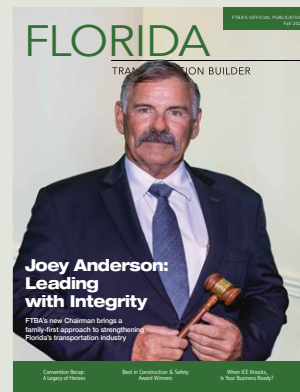
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Florida Transportation Builders' Association
 1007 E. DeSoto Park Drive
 Tallahassee, FL 32301
 Phone: (850) 942-1404
 Fax: (850) 942-5632
 info@ftba.com

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 Anderson Columbia Co., Inc.
President
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Chairman-Elect
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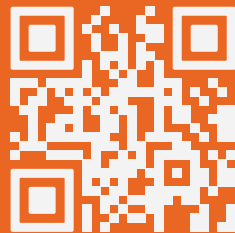
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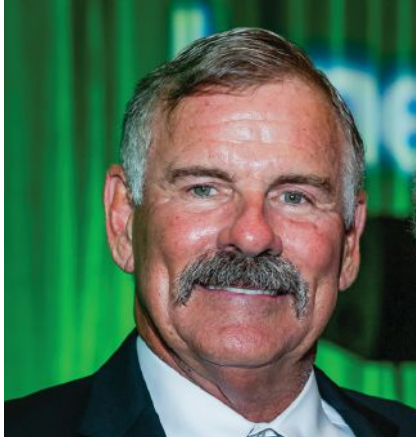
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Joey Anderson
Anderson Columbia Co., Inc.

Rolling Up Our Sleeves: My Vision for FTBA's Next Chapter

As I step into the role of Chairman of FTBA, I do so with a deep sense of pride and responsibility. I've spent my life in this industry – decades working alongside crews, engineers and contractors who know what it means to build Florida from the ground up. And now, I'm ready to help lead us into a future that is smarter and more efficient.

This industry has given me everything: my livelihood, my community and a legacy I'm proud of. Now it's time to give back by making sure the next generation of builders inherits something even stronger.

This next year, I have a few goals I'd like us to tackle together. First and foremost, I would like to see contractors recognized as agents of FDOT just like CEIs and engineers, It would be great for contractors to fall under the Sovereign Immunity Act so when we're doing DOT work, we're not left exposed to lawsuits and legal costs that drain our time and resources.

Now, I know that won't be easy. We'll need help from every corner of this association to get it done. I believe we can get there if we stay united and work together with our partners and engage in open communication with FDOT.

I also want us to take a hard look at the PD&E process. If you're not familiar, that's the Project Development and Environment study required before adding capacity to a roadway – like putting an extra lane on I-4.

These studies take nearly two years to complete and are an incredibly expensive

undertaking, both in time and resources. Each district in Florida has several of these studies either ready or in the works.

We need to help FDOT streamline the process of putting the hard work that goes into those studies into jobs for our contractors. Let's figure out how to make those studies efficient and actionable.

We all want to keep building the infrastructure our state needs to keep pace with a growing population. We also know the challenges we face with workforce, so the more we continue to work hand in hand with FDOT on issues like this, the better.

I'm fired up about what we can accomplish together. This industry has given me everything: my livelihood, my community and a legacy I'm proud of. Now it's time to give back by making sure the next generation of builders inherits something even stronger.

Let's get to work.

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Dan Hurtado, P.E.
President

As Florida's political landscape evolves, FTBA will continue to educate policymakers and candidates about the critical importance of maintaining long-term, stable funding for transportation infrastructure.

Sustaining the Momentum of a Strong Year

From start to finish, this year's Convention underscored what makes FTBA so successful, which is our sense of community and shared purpose. I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to everyone who made this year's event such a success. Our staff worked tirelessly behind the scenes, our Board of Directors provided strong leadership and direction, and our members once again showed up in force to exchange ideas, celebrate our successes, enjoy time with families and discuss the challenges that lie ahead.

I also would like to take a moment to recognize Kevin Hicks for his leadership over the past year as FTBA Chairman. Kevin's steady guidance and unwavering commitment were instrumental during a pivotal period for FTBA. Leading the Board while the organization conducted its search for a new president, and then helping me transition into this role, was no small task. His professionalism, perspective and dedication ensured that FTBA never lost its focus or momentum. I am personally grateful for Kevin's partnership and for the confidence he placed in me to carry this organization forward.

Looking ahead, I am excited to work with incoming Chairman Joey Anderson, whose vision and energy will continue to strengthen FTBA's impact. Joey's priorities for the coming year – protecting contractors from frivolous lawsuits, increasing efficiency in transportation funding and supporting initiatives that reduce equipment operating and maintenance costs – reflect our shared goal of creating a sustainable, predictable business environment for Florida's contractors. These issues impact the ability of our members to plan projects, manage costs and deliver the infrastructure that keeps Florida moving.

We will have plenty of time to focus on policy as we prepare for a busy 2026 legislative session in Tallahassee and an active race for Florida's next governor. Governor DeSantis has been a strong ad-

vocate for transportation and has prioritized investments that enhance safety, mobility and economic growth. As Florida's political landscape evolves, FTBA will continue to educate policymakers and candidates about the critical importance of maintaining long-term, stable funding for transportation infrastructure. Our message remains clear: Investing in roads, bridges and mobility is investing in Florida's future.

Another major focus for the year ahead will be workforce development: a challenge and an opportunity that touches every corner of our industry. One initiative I'm particularly proud of is FTBA's new Commercial Driver License (CDL) Program in Central Florida, which will help train and certify new drivers to meet the growing demand for qualified professionals. This is a significant step forward in addressing one of the most pressing needs in our sector and ensuring that our industry continues to have the skilled workforce necessary to deliver Florida's ambitious transportation program.

I'm inspired by the passion, talent and commitment of everyone involved with FTBA. Together, we have tremendous momentum. By building on the successes of the past year and focusing our energy on the opportunities ahead, I'm confident we'll make 2026 another year of progress for Florida's transportation builders and the communities we serve.



Joey Anderson with his lovely wife of 41 years, Sonya, at this year's Convention. Photos courtesy of Brittany Morgan Photography.

FTBA Chairman Joey Anderson:

Rooted in Family, Focused on Florida's Future

By Jill Andreu

When Joey Anderson talks about roadbuilding, he doesn't start with facts or figures. He starts with people. "We have good, good employees," Anderson said. "We take good care of them. Our people are like my family. My friends." That family-first mentality has guided Anderson throughout the years – from the days when he played with trucks in the yard with his little brother Doug to his role as President of Anderson Columbia Co., Inc. (ACCI) and now as Chairman of FTBA. Anderson has led a journey rooted in hard work, integrity and a deep respect for the men and women who work alongside his family to build the roads that keep Florida moving.

Family Legacy

The Anderson name has long been synonymous with quality road construction in the Southeast. Joey's father, Joe Anderson Jr. (1939-2016), founded Anderson Contracting in 1958 in Dixie County, Florida, with little more than a dump truck and determination. In 1988, when then-Anderson Contracting bought Columbia Paving and merged the names to become Anderson Columbia, the company positioned itself for statewide growth.

Today, Anderson Columbia stands as one of the Southeast's largest highway contractors, operating across Florida and Texas with asphalt, aggregate and mining businesses that support every phase of their work.

Anderson and brother Doug have led the company for nearly three decades. "We've been running it together for probably close to 30 years," Anderson said. "A long time."

Their sister Cindy is a shareholder, and the next generation is already learning the ropes. "I have daughters and sons-in-law in the business," Anderson said. "Doug has a son and a son-in-law in the business. And my sister has a son in the business. So, the family business should continue."

What began with one man's dream has become a multi-state enterprise employing thousands and earning national honors from the National Asphalt Pavement Association, including the prestigious Sheldon G. Hayes Award for top-quality paving. But through all the growth, the Anderson family never lost sight of the values that started it all: honesty, loyalty and hard work.

Building the Business

From those early days growing up around construction, Anderson knew he wanted to help build both roads and relationships.

"When I started, all we did was grading and dirt work," he said. "Then we went into the asphalt business. Over the decades, we got into bridge building. We do everything now."

The company's expansion into aggregates and materials was a turning point. "We have a vast amount of people scattered out over a few states," Anderson said. "We got into the aggregate material business, and that is a big change from when we started."

That growth required adaptability and foresight. Anderson Columbia has evolved with the state of Florida, tackling some of the state's most complex transportation



The growing Anderson family has been part of FTBA for many years.



projects – from resurfacing busy corridors to building bridges and improving safety on major routes such as I-75 and U.S. 301.

"We've seen tremendous growth," Anderson said. "We are working on roads that we have worked on for 50 years. It is just amazing the amount of traffic on them now versus how they were a few decades ago."

That long view – understanding how infrastructure and communities change together – shapes Anderson's perspective not just as a contractor, but as a leader now representing Florida's transportation industry through FTBA.

Leadership Philosophy

Anderson doesn't talk about leadership in abstract terms. For him, it's simple: Take care of your people, keep your word, and do the job right. "There are going to be hic-

cups all the way," he said. "You have to really, really love what you do – and have a passion for it."



That passion has guided him through challenges and successes alike. He knows how demanding construction can be – long hours, tight deadlines and the pressure to keep projects safe, on time and within budget. But for Anderson, it has always been a calling more than a career.

“Passion and loyalty – that’s what we have,” he said.

Vision for FTBA

As the new Chairman of FTBA, Anderson brings his practicality and people-

first mindset to the role. His priorities reflect both his business acumen and his sense of stewardship for the industry’s future.

One of his top priorities as Chairman is to find ways to protect contractors from frivolous lawsuits. “We’re trying to become an agent of the government under the Sovereign Immunity Act,” Anderson said. “That would help us all tremendously. If the taxpayer only knew how much it costs contractors a road job just for insurance to protect us from lawsuits.”

Advocacy is also on his radar. “The FTBA members can always help us in terms of being more political and more involved,” Anderson said. “It costs money and takes time, but it is worth it.”

He noted that Florida’s transportation program depends on strong relationships between contractors and policymakers. “If you don’t say nothing, guess what?” he said. “You get nothing.”

A Champion for the Industry

Under Anderson’s leadership, FTBA will continue to push for efficiency, accountability and workforce development, all while maintaining the trust of Florida’s taxpayers.

He believes in FTBA’s role as the unified voice of the industry. “FTBA is about as inexpensive as any of the associations I belong to,” he said. “And you get your money’s worth.”

Anderson also appreciates the relationships built through the association, from legislative meetings in Tallahassee to site visits across the state. He recognizes the importance of contractors speaking up for their needs and for the future of Florida’s infrastructure.

He’s quick to credit those who’ve come before him, too.

“We have some great people who have paved the way,” he said, noting the efforts of past chairmen and FTBA staff. Anderson’s goal is to build on that momentum, making sure Florida’s roads remain safe and well-funded as the state continues to grow.

Looking Ahead

The Anderson family legacy is secure, but Joey isn’t slowing down. With three generations already involved in the business, he sees both challenges and opportunities ahead.

His hope is that they’ll carry forward the same pride and commitment that built Anderson Columbia into what it is today.

“You’ve got to love it,” he said, “You’ve got to have that drive.”

As Florida faces record growth, Joey Anderson’s mix of humility, experience and vision makes him a steady hand at the wheel. He represents the best of what the FTBA stands for: hard work, honesty and a dedication to building a stronger future for everyone who calls Florida home.

And for Joey Anderson, that’s what it’s all about.



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When ICE Knocks, Is Your Business Ready?

By Jennifer Kling

In today's constantly evolving immigration landscape, it's crucial for businesses to be prepared for a range of potential encounters with federal authorities – from full-site raids to informal visits. While navigating these encounters can feel intimidating and unpredictable, the key is to have the right amount of knowledge, preparation and professional conduct.

In an effort to equip FTBA members with Florida-specific information for changes ahead, Ogletree Deakins hosted a July 10 webinar, "Immigration Law Compliance for FTBA Contractors: ICE Raids and Audits."

"We are talking today about compliance with the law as it is, not as what anybody may think the law should be," said Ogletree's Phillip Russell, who is board certified in OSHA and employment law. "This is not a political exercise today; this is a legal exercise, and even then, we're not really giving you legal advice for any specific circumstance."

Russell, along with Jennifer Roper Stockon, who is board certified in immi-

gration and nationality law, and Stephanie Generotti, who specializes in immigration compliance and labor and employment litigation, highlighted six key scenarios ranked from most serious to least, outlining what employers need to know and how they can responsibly respond.

1 Operational Searches: Full-Site Raids

The most extreme and least common type of enforcement is a full operational search or site raid, conducted by agencies like ICE. These raids typically involve multiple officers, often in uniform and armed, sweeping across a worksite with a judicial warrant authorizing arrest, search or seizure.

What You Need to Know:

- These raids are rare, especially for businesses with no known violations.
- Preparation opportunities are limited due to their unexpected nature.

- Companies should have a rapid response team identified in advance, including legal counsel, to mitigate disruption and preserve employee rights.

2 Administrative Arrest Warrants (DHS)

An administrative warrant, such as DHS Form I-200 ("Warrant for Arrest") or Form I-205 ("Warrant of Removal/Deportation"), is issued by an administrative judge from a federal agency such as DHS – not by a federal court/state court judge – and allows ICE officers to arrest individuals believed to be removable under immigration law.

What You Need to Know:

- Limited authority: Agents cannot enter private spaces without consent.
- Verify warrant details: Always check that the named person works for you and that your location matches the warrant.

- Judgment call: You do not have to bring the employee to the agents, but cooperation can mitigate potential future scrutiny, like triggering an I-9 audit.

Pro Tip:

If the employee is on site, consider calling them to the front without physically handing them over. This balanced approach demonstrates cooperation without overstepping legal boundaries.

3 Judicial Warrants (Criminal Arrests)

Judicial warrants are serious legal documents signed by a judge from a state or federal court. These grant law enforcement broad authority to search, seize and arrest based on probable cause of a crime – including violations like knowingly employing unauthorized workers.

What You Need to Know:

- Compliance is mandatory: Refusing a judicial warrant can lead to severe legal consequences.
- Review closely: Check the specific location, items allowed for seizure and time constraints.
- Document everything: Take note of where agents go, what they remove and how many are present. However, in Florida, you cannot video record agents without consent.

Remember:

If time permits in such situations, legal counsel should always review the warrant for accuracy and scope.

4 ICE I-9 Audit (Notice of Inspection)

An ICE audit begins with a Notice of Inspection (NOI) that gives the employer three business days to submit employee verification documents, such as I-9 forms and payroll records. “For your particular industry, we are seeing a massive uptick – especially in the state of Florida – with I-9 audits,” said Roeper Stockon.

For this reason, she emphasized the importance of proactively going back through your paperwork to ensure you have an I-9 for every single active employee.

“It could be with all of these terminations of all of these programs that are going on out there, someone may have started with you with a very valid work permit, but that program that they were working under has now been terminated. You want to make sure that you are reviewing your I-9s, making sure that everything looks compliant and document your efforts in doing that,” she said.

What You Need to Know:

- Never waive your three-day notice period.
- Don’t hand over documents on the spot. Instead, sign the NOI to indicate receipt of same, notify your legal team and request the agent’s contact information.
- Prepare in advance: Audits are projected to increase, particularly in states with high immigration enforcement activity.
- Audits may appear benign but can result in hefty fines or administrative penalties. Treat them seriously and methodically.

5 USCIS Site Visits (FDNS)

The USCIS’s Fraud Detection and National Security (FDNS) unit conducts administrative site visits to verify information regarding sponsored employees with visa petitions like H-1B and L-1A. These visits are unannounced and used to detect or investigate potential fraud.

What You Need to Know:

- Have a designated immigration compliance representative and contact that person if a site visit occurs.
- Escort the inspector to a private location such as a conference room.
- These visits are technically voluntary; officers need permission to enter non-public areas.
- Inspectors may visit employees’ homes if they primarily work

remotely. Coordination and respectful engagement are essential in these cases.

- If the employee is not available, the inspectors will return another day. You can request to schedule an appointment.

6 Informal Drop-Ins

These are random, low-intensity visits from ICE officers that are typically for one of three reasons: to review your hiring processes, to pitch the IMAGE program (voluntary compliance initiative) or to offer a quick review of I-9 forms for compliance. But Generotti advises against it.

“What is not great, and what they don’t tell you, is that in order to do the IMAGE program, they will go through and essentially do an I-9 audit for you. So you have volunteered your company to go through a government audit when it otherwise would have no obligation to do so,” she said.

What You Need to Know:

- Be courteous but cautious.
- Do not share records or sign documents.
- Politely thank the agent and notify your response team immediately.
- With a notable uptick in I-9 enforcement – especially in states like Florida – it is critical not to take these visits lightly.

What to Do in Any Encounter

Regardless of the scenario, it is important to be polite and remain calm to avoid escalation. Be sure to ask agents if they are willing to wait while someone from your response team is contacted. Make sure you have several people who are part of the response plan, one for every shift. Let the agent know that the designated contact has been informed and that you are waiting for next steps. Next, identify the agent by requesting their credentials and photograph or write down the information. Then, request copies of any documents the agent brought.

If a Warrant Is Presented:

- Ask to see and photograph the warrant before entry.

- Request time to allow legal review. If denied, do not obstruct. If they agree, determine what kind of warrant is being presented.

Identify the Warrant Type:

- For Judicial Warrants:
 - Document all movements and seizures.
 - Find out where they are taking the person.
 - Do not interfere.
 - Make sure agents stay within the warrant's scope.
 - You cannot video record them without the agent's consent per Florida law.
- For Administrative Warrants:
 - Review the specific requests.
 - Do not allow entry into private spaces, but if they ignore you, do not obstruct.
 - Consider bringing the named employee to the front voluntarily rather than allowing agents access to areas with gated access.
- After agents depart in any warrant situation:

- Debrief leadership and legal teams.
- Complete an internal company report.
- Notify family if someone is arrested.
- Avoid speaking to the media.
- Refer affected employees to support resources like the ACLU website.

Employees' Role

During an enforcement event, employees will understandably be nervous. However, it is critical for them to stay calm and refrain from running or hiding. They should also be aware that they have the right to remain silent. While it makes sense to carry copies of identity documents, it is recommended that they have original identity documents on hand to present. And they must avoid misrepresenting their citizenship or status.

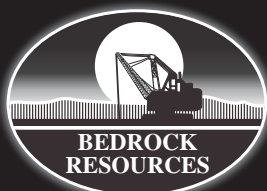
Key Takeaways

- Enforcement actions are becoming more common across multiple states.
- Businesses must understand their rights and responsibilities.
- Never obstruct a government investigation.

Ogletree Deakins offers an Employer Rapid Response Toolkit to help businesses prepare for ICE encounters by offering expert guidance, compliance templates and training resources. Priced at \$1,000, it includes support for creating response plans and minimizing legal risks. Follow-up services are billed hourly, with FTBA member discounts available on those rates.

For more information or to place an order, please contact the Florida Ogletree Deakins Response Team:

- Phillip Russell:
phillip.russell@ogletree.com
- Jennifer Roeper Stockon:
jennifer.stockon@ogletree.com
- Stephanie Generotti:
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Legacy of Heroes

Enjoy a Super Convention

The 2025 FTBA Convention brought together members, partners and friends of the transportation industry for four unforgettable days at the Waldorf Astoria in Orlando. From July 30 to August 3, attendees enjoyed a mix of business, networking and fun that reflected FTBA's commitment to building relationships.

During Friday morning's General Session, behavioral researcher Jason Dorsey, President of The Center for Generational Kinetics and author of *Zconomy* delivered a dynamic keynote on bridging generational differences in the workplace and understanding what motivates younger workers.

FDOT Secretary Jared Perdue also provided an in-depth FDOT update on statewide priorities, project delivery innovation and the ongoing impact of Gov. DeSantis' Moving Florida Forward initiative. Perdue's remarks reinforced the partnership between FDOT and the contracting community in delivering safe, efficient and resilient infrastructure across Florida.

FDOT leadership also held a Statewide Workforce Development Update, where they discussed innovative recruitment and training programs designed to attract the next generation of engineers, project managers and skilled laborers.

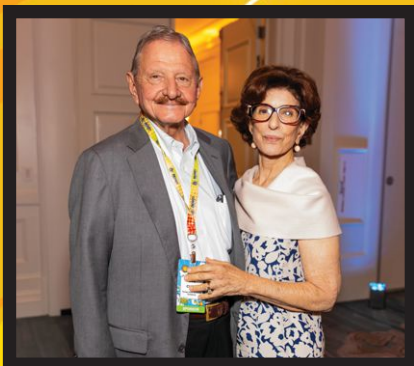
On Saturday afternoon, after the golf and fishing tournaments, attendees gathered for the FDOT Round Table – a cornerstone session that brings together contractors and FDOT leaders to discuss perspectives on project delivery, funding and workforce challenges.

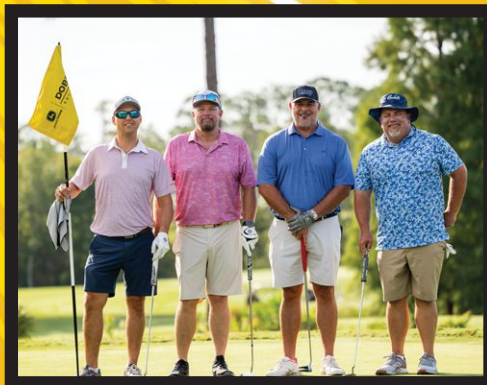
Attendees enjoyed changing of the guard from Chairman Kevin Hicks to Joe Anderson, III, during Saturday's Chairman's gala, as well as the fun standard-bearers of every FTBA Convention: the opening reception, Friday's pool party and evening costume party and plenty of other fun family activities.

The 2025 FTBA Convention once again proved that when Florida's transportation builders come together, the result is more than an event, it is a celebration of community, collaboration and a shared drive to build Florida's future.









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2025



District 5 Florida Road Builder
State Road 417
Intl Drive to John Young Parkway



District 7 Florida Road Builder
Big Bend Road at I-7
Covington to Simmons



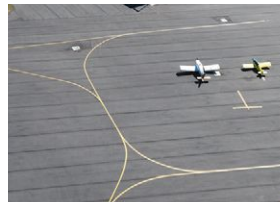
District 7 FDOT Roads & Streets
State Road 693
From Central Ave to N. Tyrone Blvd



District 2 Roads & Streets
Nassau Co. Resurfacing Program
NC23-006



District 7 FDOT Roads & Streets
Keene Road
Gulf to Bay Blvd to Sunset Point Rd



Special Project
Winter Haven Airport
South Apron Rehabilitation



Special Project
Dennison Ave. / Baylor Ave.
Clay County Special Project.



Special Project
State Road 699 (Gulf Blvd)
183rd Terrace W to 192nd Ave

2025 Best in Construction Awards

Congratulations to the following FTBA member companies for their continued commitment to building Florida's growing infrastructure.



Expressway Authority Project of the Year

Hubbard Construction Company
CEI: CDM Smith, Inc.

417-141, SR 417 Widening from International Drive to
John Young Parkway
CFX-417-141
Orange County, Central Florida Expressway Authority



Alternative Contracting

Weekley Asphalt Paving, Inc.

District 4 Traffic Safety Improvements
443951-1-52-01
Broward County, District 4



Local Agency Project (LAP)

Weekley Asphalt Paving, Inc.
CEI: Solid Consulting Engineers, Inc.

Fort Lauderdale Beach Park Entrance to SR 838
424027-2-58-01
Broward County, District 4



Community Awareness

de Moya Highway Infrastructure LLC
CEI: Eisman & Russo, Inc.

Emerson Street Expressway
 447126-1-52-01
 Duval County, District 2



Interchange

Skanska USA Civil Southeast
CEI: DRMP, Inc.
Designer: Dewberry Engineers, Inc.

I-75 at Big Bend Road Interchange
 424513-3-52-01
 Hillsborough County, District 7



I-4 at SR 557 Interchange:
Protecting Wildlife. Advancing Mobility.

The I-4 at SR 557 Interchange has received the
**2025 ACEC Outstanding
Environmental Project Award!**



This \$77 million FDOT District 1 design-build improves mobility while introducing Polk County's first wildlife crossing designed to offset wetland impacts. The crossing connects the Hilochee Wildlife Management Area across I-4, preventing wildlife mortality and improving safety.

As lead designer, DRMP realigned 2 miles of I-4, rebuilt the SR 557 interchange with dual teardrop roundabouts, and widened SR 557. By shifting the alignment, DRMP saved \$1 million and decreased construction time, delivering safer travel and lasting community benefits.

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Design-Build

The Lane Construction Corporation
CEI: Metric Engineering, Inc.
Designer: DRMP, Inc.

Wekiva Parkway Section 8
 240200-4-52-01
 Seminole County, District 5



Interstate

Hubbard Construction Company
CEI: RS&H, Inc.

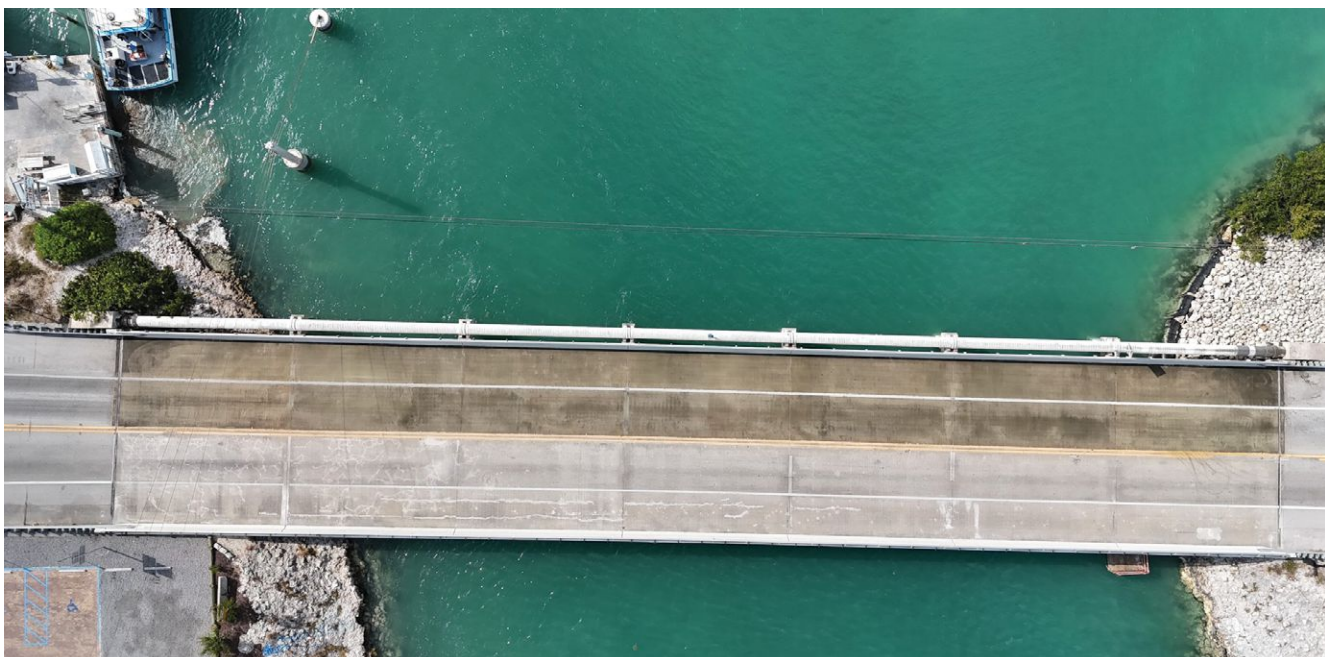
I-4 Resurfacing from McIntosh Road to County Line Road
 445380-1-52-01
 Hillsborough County, District 7



Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS)

Traffic Control Devices, LLC
CEI: HDR, Inc.
Designer: Metric Engineering, Inc.

Traffic Signal Upgrades to Enhance Connectivity
 throughout the City of Tampa
 424213-3-52-01
 Hillsborough County, District 7



Bridge

Southern Road & Bridge, LLC
**CEI: H. Rodriguez Consulting
 Engineering, Inc.**

US 1-Overseas Highway Bridge Repairs
 446191-1-52-01
 Monroe County, District 6



Major Bridge

MacTec Civil, LLC

CEI: Pinnacle Consulting Enterprises, Inc.

US 1 & Dixie Highway

433511-2-52-01

Miami-Dade County, District 6



Maintenance of Traffic (MOT)

OHLA USA, Inc.

CEI: HBC Engineering Company

Boynton Beach Boulevard Safety Improvements

444079-1-52-01

Palm Beach County, District 4



Partnering

Orion Marine Construction, Inc.
CEI: WSP USA, Inc.

NASA Causeway Bridge
 440424-1-52-01
 Brevard County, District 5



Rural

M of Tallahassee, Inc.
**CEI: Infrastructure Consulting &
 Engineering, LLC**

US 98 from Wakulla River Bridge to SR 267
 437756-2-52-01
 Wakulla County, District 3



Special Significance

Watson Civil Construction, Inc.
CEI: Lochner

US 41 Widening from SR to Withlacoochee Trail Bridge
 257165-3-52-01
 Citrus County, District 7



Urban

Ajax Paving Industries of Florida, LLC

SR 78 Resurfacing and Safety Improvements
 447875-1-52-01
 Lee County, District 1



Utility Coordination/Damage Prevention

Florida Engineering and Development Corp.
CEI: Castillo Engineering Inc.

SR A1A (Collins Avenue) Resurfacing
 443902-1-52-01
 Miami-Dade County, District 6

2025 Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Utilization Achievement Award Winners

For the Federal Fiscal Year 2023-2024

- | | |
|--|--|
| ARC Electric, Inc. | Murphree Bridge Corporation |
| Archer Western Construction, LLC/
Traylor Bros. Joint Venture (JV) | Oasis Landscape Services, Inc. |
| Capital Asphalt, Inc. | OHLA USA, Inc. |
| Chinchor Electric, Inc. | PRINCE Contracting, LLC |
| Emerald Coast Striping, LLC | Sacyr Construction USA |
| Florida Engineering and Development Corp. | Southland Construction, Inc. |
| General Asphalt Company, LLC | Superior Construction Company Southeast, LLC |
| General Asphalt Company, LLC/Jones Benitez
Corporation Joint Venture (JV) | The Lane Construction Corporation |
| Jr. Davis Construction Company, Inc. | V. A. Paving, Inc. |
| MCM | Webber, LLC |
| | Weekley Asphalt Paving, Inc. |

2025 FTBA Safety Excellence Award Winners

Archer Western Construction, LLC

1 Million Plus Employee Hours



Sacyr Construction USA

250,000 to 1 Million Employee Hours



SICE, Inc.

0 to 250,000 Employee Hours



Congratulations to the 2025 Safety Award Winners

Ajax Paving Industries of Florida, LLC

Archer Western Construction, LLC

Arrive Alive Traffic Control LLC

Bacallao Construction & Engineering Development

CWR Contracting, Inc.

Dane Construction and Company, Inc.

Gator Grading & Paving, LLC

GLF Construction Corporation

Johnson Bros. Corporation, A Southland Company

Lead Engineering Contractors, LLC

MasTec Civil, LLC

MCM

Orion Marine Construction, Inc.

Petticoat-Schmitt Civil Contractors, Inc.

PRINCE Contracting, LLC

Sacyr Construction USA

SICE, Inc.

Skanska USA Civil Southeast

Southland Construction, Inc.

Superior Construction Company Southeast, LLC

The Collage Companies

The Lane Construction Corporation

The Middlesex Corporation

TRP Infrastructure Services

Vortex Services, LLC

Webber, LLC

Weekley Asphalt Paving, Inc.

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FELA Class Honored at Convention



At this year's FTBA Convention, the Emerging Leaders Academy (FELA) proudly celebrated its third graduating class, recognizing a new cohort of rising professionals who demonstrate exceptional leadership potential within their member companies. Over the past year, these individuals engaged in an intensive curriculum exploring critical aspects of Florida's transportation industry – including leadership development, workforce strategy, infrastructure funding, legislative advocacy, safety, liability, media relations, material testing and emerging technologies. Please join us in congratulating the FELA Class of 2024-2025 on their achievement and continued commitment to shaping the future of our industry.

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Inc.

Eduardo Arazoza, Jr.
Arazoza Brothers
Corporation

Walter DeWet
Cone & Graham, Inc.

Elic Eliason
Southland
Construction, Inc.

David Fingler
High Safety Devices,
Inc.

Adam Harrell
P&S Paving, Inc.

Evan Lawrence
Superior Construction
Company Southeast,
LLC

Joseph Minich
Ajax Paving Industries
of Florida, LLC

Chris Riley
CWR Contracting, Inc.

Christian Rojas
FDOT District 4

John Toombs
Hubbard Construction
Company

Judith Villegas
Tampa-Hillsborough
County Expressway
Authority

**William "Billy"
Whidden**
FDOT District 1



About FTBA's Emerging Leaders Academy

FTBA's Emerging Leaders Academy (FELA) is a program created for next-generation heavy, highway and bridge construction industry leaders. This program is available as a membership service for FTBA member companies. FELA provides member companies the opportunity to engage individuals within their organization who are the next generation of leaders or individuals who exhibit the potential to become leaders, specifically executive-level leadership, with other like-minded individuals. This program exposes these participants to industry-specific knowledge from technical skills to soft skills.

To learn more about FELA, please contact Angela Small at asmall@ftba.com.

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2025 Scholarship Winners

Children of FTBA members were recognized with college scholarships following a competitive selection process that included written applications and in-person interviews conducted by the FTBA Scholarship Committee. Each recipient had the opportunity to share their gratitude and personal reflections during the Convention Awards Breakfast, where they delivered heartfelt acceptance speeches.

Bob's Barricades/Don Humphrey Memorial Scholarship



Calloway Romero

Annual Amount: \$2,000

School Attending: Florida Gulf Coast University

Parent: Henry Romero

FTBA Member Company: Cemex, Inc.

From Calloway: I am truly honored to have been selected as a recipient of the FTBA Scholarship.

This scholarship not only affirms my efforts but also allows me the opportunity to continue striving toward my goal of pursuing a career in the golf industry. Your generosity plays a crucial role in enabling me to focus on my educational and professional development without the added burden of financial constraints. I am truly honored by your confidence in my potential, and I remain committed to upholding the values and standards that this scholarship represents. Thank you again for your generosity and for investing in my future.

Bonn-J Contracting Inc. Scholarship



Jada Castro

Annual Amount: \$7,500

School Attending: University of Florida

Parent: Penelope Dutan

FTBA Member Company: Ranger Construction Industries, Inc.

From Jada: As a Latina student, a college education

seemed out of reach. Paired with financial challenges, I doubted that I would be able to pursue a higher education, fearful that all my hard work through high school would go to waste. Thankfully, this extremely generous scholarship has changed that perspective for me. It has lifted a huge burden and allowed me to focus fully on my studies and my dream of becoming a pediatric dentist. Beyond easing the financial strain, your support has given me hope, motivation and a renewed belief that my dreams are within reach. I'm truly grateful and committed to making the most of this opportunity.



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**Brenda Jean Weekley
Scholarship**



Madison Kelley

Annual Amount: \$7,500
School Attending: Florida Gulf Coast University
Parent: Nicole Kelley
FTBA Member Company: Highway Safety Devices, Inc.

From Madison: The Florida Transportation Builders Association Scholarship represents an incredible opportunity and a meaningful investment in my future. It not only acknowledges my hard work and dedication to my academic and career goals, but also eases the financial burden of college. This support will allow me to focus more fully on my studies and pursue opportunities such as internships, extracurriculars or leadership roles while I attend university without the added stress of financial constraints. Receiving this scholarship motivates me to continue to strive for excellence.

**Bucky Wright Memorial
Scholarship**



Aubrey Hastings

Annual Amount: \$2,000
School Attending: University of Florida
Parent: Chad Hastings
FTBA Member Company: Alta Equipment Company, LLC

From Aubrey: Receiving this scholarship means so much to me. I know how closely and carefully the FTBA committee chose each recipient, looking for students who represent hard work and dedication to their studies, and who show they are, and will, change the world with leadership and diligence. Being chosen makes me so proud to be one of those students in their eyes and I am so incredibly thankful for the opportunity. This scholarship will allow me to receive more internship and career building opportunities and reach my goals on a whole other level throughout college and beyond. With the support I know I will have for years, not only monetarily, but also through new relationships I know I will create, I can't wait to see where life takes me. Thank you so much to the FTBA, I am forever thankful!

**Dobbs Equipment
Scholarship**



Riley Schafer

Annual Amount: \$2,000
School Attending: Florida State University
Parent: Robert Schafer
FTBA Member Company: Ranger Construction Industries, Inc.

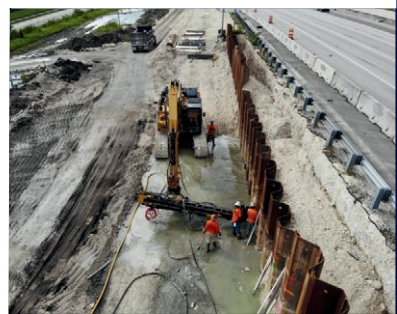
From Riley: To the scholarship committee, as well as all the FTBA Members, I want to thank you for this generous award. I'm so excited to start my college journey as a Florida State Seminole! Your scholarship is going to help me reach my goal of completing undergrad and then continuing to graduate studies on my way to a career in the medical field. After touring FSU about a year ago, I instantly knew that it was the place for me! I'll be leaving soon as I'm starting in the summer. I couldn't be more excited!



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FTBA Chairman Scholarship



Sophia Chaon
Annual Amount: \$2,500
School Attending:
University of Florida
Parent: Charlton Chaon
FTBA Member Company:
J.B. Coxwell
Contracting, Inc.

From Sophia: I am so incredibly honored to have been chosen to receive a scholarship from the FTBA! This scholarship will help me to accomplish my goals of becoming a lawyer while earning my degree at UF. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for everyone who's helped make my dreams become a reality!

FTBA Scholarship



Yash Patel
Annual Amount: \$2,000
School Attending:
University of Florida
Parent: Kamlesh Patel
FTBA Member Company:
The de Moya Group, Inc.

From Yash: As a proud recipient of the 2025 FTBA scholarship, I want to express my gratitude for funding and selecting me for this prestigious award. This scholarship not only helps me attain an undergraduate degree in civil engineering, a minor in material science and eventually a master's degree, but also gives me the flexibility to pursue research into concrete that can make my future work as an engineer more economical, sustainable and safer for generations to come. Through my studies and future work, I hope to advance the field of construction and transportation through new technologies and techniques, building on FTBA's over 90-year history. FTBA's time, dedication and support mean more to me than I can express, and I will continue to work hard to make the most of this opportunity and prove myself worthy of this recognition.

FTBA Scholarship



Charlotte Brown
Annual Amount: \$2,000
School Attending: Florida
Southern College
Parent: Jeff Brown
FTBA Member Company:
Global-5, Inc.

From Charlotte: I am so incredibly thankful to be recognized by the FTBA for this scholarship. As someone with lots of options and ideas for my future, winning a scholarship like this will help me build a concrete foundation for any potential path. Musical theater, psychology, criminal justice and law are all futures I can see myself involved in, and this scholarship will make studying any of these attainable. Attending my dream school, Florida Southern College, in the fall will be expensive, and the FTBA scholarship will relieve a great portion of that financial stress. Thank you FTBA for encouraging me to follow my dreams and build a bright future!

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FTBA Scholarship



Rianna Patel

Annual Amount: \$2,000
School Attending: Boston University
Parent: Ketan Patel
FTBA Member Company: Gibbs & Register, Inc.

From Rianna: Thank you so much for awarding me with the FTBA Scholarship. This generous support will allow me to focus more fully on my Health Science studies at Boston University, including research, internships and hands-on learning experiences. As I work toward a career in ophthalmology, this scholarship will help me explore the systemic factors affecting vision care and access the resources I need to succeed. I'm incredibly thankful for this opportunity and honored by your support as I take the next steps toward my future in healthcare.

FTBA Scholarship



Andres Rodriguez

Annual Amount: \$2,000
School Attending: University of Central Florida
Parent: Antonio Rodriguez

FTBA Member Company: Kisinger Campo & Associates Corp.

From Andres: I first want to express my gratitude to FTBA and the scholarship committee for their consideration and decision to bestow me with a scholarship. Receiving this scholarship would serve as testament and a reminder to me of all the hard work I put in to completing high school and the IB diploma program. Financially, the scholarship would support me with college expenses such as books, computers and transportation. On the personal level, this scholarship encourages me to continue investing in my future via my university studies and continuing to adopt beneficial activities and habits which have brought me here in the first place such as staying physically fit to have a clear mind and setting aside time dedicated to studying. For me, this scholarship will also serve as a stepping stone for my goal to become a civil engineer and give back to my community using my love for math and building.

FTBA Scholarship



Juliette Shuler

Annual Amount: \$2,000
School Attending: Florida State University
Parent: Joseph Shuler
FTBA Member Company: Roberts and Roberts, Inc.

From Juliette: I would like to sincerely thank the FTBA for believing in me and investing in my education! This scholarship is a tremendous blessing. To become a registered dietitian, I will have to obtain a master's

degree, so these funds will help ease the financial burden and make my career goals a reality. Health is everything – the way we feel influences all we do. I look forward to becoming a dietician so I can empower others and help them take control of their health and improve their quality of life. I am excited to have a career where I can make a difference as I assist others in elevating their health and overall wellbeing.

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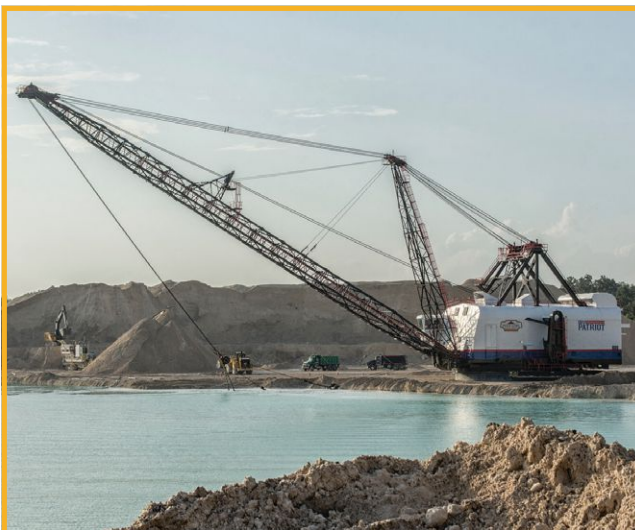
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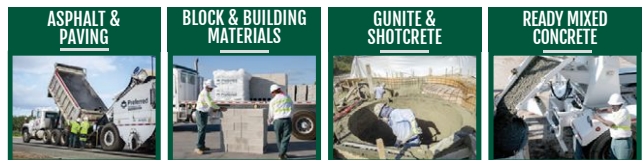
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Philip Buenaventura Memorial Scholarship



Gabrielle Owens
Annual Amount: \$2,000
School Attending:
University of Florida
Parent: Michael Owens
FTBA Member Company:
Hubbard Construction Company

From Gabrielle: The FTBA scholarship is a meaningful recognition of the hard work and dedication I've put into my education and leadership roles. It provides valuable financial support that helps ease the challenges of paying for college, allowing me to focus more fully on my studies and personal growth. Beyond the financial assistance, this scholarship motivates me to stay committed to my future goals.

Ring Power Corporation Scholarship



Adysen Mazzoni
Annual Amount: \$2,000
School Attending: Eastern Michigan University
Parent: Tobias Mazzoni
FTBA Member Company:
Superior Construction Company Southeast, LLC

From Adysen: Receiving this scholarship means the world to me because it allows me to continue my athletic career at the college level while also pursuing the major I'm passionate about. It gives me the opportunity to grow as both a student and an athlete, balancing the demands of my sport with my academic goals. Being able to compete and study in a field I care about keeps me motivated and focused, and I'm excited for what's ahead. This next chapter will push me to work harder, stay disciplined and continue striving for excellence. Thank you for this incredible opportunity; I'm truly grateful.

Skanska USA Civil Southeast Scholarship



Colin Tinder
Annual Amount: \$2,000
School Attending: Santa Fe College
Parent: David Tinder
FTBA Member Company:
BCC Engineering, LLC

From Colin: I am honored to be receiving the Skanska USA Civil Southeast Scholarship and grateful to the Florida Transportation Builders' Association for granting me this opportunity. This award and the scholarship that comes with it will assist in my pursuit of a civil engineering degree, where I plan to pursue my passion in transportation engineering while working on infrastructure projects that will have immense impacts in shaping Florida's roads and bridges to keep pace with the state's rapid growth. This scholarship and its financial support will boost my self-confidence as I begin my next chapter at Santa Fe College and in the years ahead at the University of Florida. I strive to be a part of this industry and to have a lasting impact on the transportation needs of the state for many years to come. I feel blessed that this scholarship will help fulfill my dreams and will prove that I have what it takes to not only be a successful student, but one day, a civil engineer like my father before me. I am so thankful to the FTBA scholarship committee for their belief in me and for the difference they have made by supporting students like me.

The Dave Fons Memorial Fund Scholarship



Harinie Jeyisanker
Annual Amount: \$2,000
School Attending:
University of Florida
Parent: Jeyisanker Mathiyaparanam
FTBA Member Company:
Ardaman & Associates, Inc.

From Harinie: I am truly honored and deeply grateful to accept this scholarship. This award holds tremendous significance for me; not only does it support my undergraduate journey at the University of Florida, but it also inspires me to continue striving for excellence in everything I pursue. Knowing that my efforts and aspirations are recognized means a great deal, and I am fully committed to making the most of this opportunity. Thank you for believing in me and investing in my future. Your support motivates me even more to achieve both my academic and personal goals, and I am excited to continue working toward future success.

The ECA Mike Elliott Memorial Scholarship



Elissa Hill
Annual Amount: \$2,000
School Attending: Florida State University
Parent: Mike Hill
FTBA Member Company:
SEMA Construction, Inc.

From Elissa: As someone who is striving for more than a four-year degree, this scholarship will help me reach my career goals. Medical school, or any college degree for that matter, can be expensive. Due to the generosity of FTBA, I can now go through the next part of my life with a bit more ease, as I will not have such a financial burden weighing on me. I am so thankful for this opportunity, and I hope I am able to use this scholarship to get to a place in which I can assist others.

Driving Toward the Future:

Four Strategies to Build Smarter, Safer Transportation Systems



By Jannet Walker-Ford

Since the COVID-19 pandemic, road travel in cities across the United States has rebounded unevenly. While some geographies are recovering more slowly, other locations – like the Sunbelt – have exceeded pre-pandem-

ic levels. One thing is certain: Transportation needs are ever changing, and data, technology and collaboration are empowering planners and engineers to design efficient systems that optimize resources, improve mobility and support public safety. Infrastructure

modernization across the U.S. is foundational to long-term safety and efficiency in every region's busiest corridors. Here are four key strategies for building smarter, safer, more responsive and efficient transportation systems here and in other cities nationwide.

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Aerial view of the I-95/SW 10th Street Connector Interchange in Deerfield Beach, Florida, a transformative infrastructure project designed to streamline traffic flow, enhance safety, and reconnect local communities through innovative roadway design. Photo courtesy of WSP.



Modernize and Constantly Improve Project Delivery

Adopting a progressive design-build approach can improve project delivery. Traditional design-build contracts often rely on incomplete or outdated information, leading to delays and cost overruns. Progressive design-build splits the project into two phases: design and planning followed by construction. In the first phase, the design-builder works closely with the owner to develop the design, assess feasibility and refine cost estimates. In the second phase, the builder proposes a final construction schedule and fee. This method reduces risk, fosters transparency and aligns design and budgeting early in the process. By supporting clients with clear standards and ensuring adequate time for review, this model helps deliver projects on time and within budget. Some agencies – one I'm aware of in the Southeast and one in the Northeast – have opted to retain multiple contractors throughout the process to enhance competition until a best and final offer is provided.

Additionally, considering changing market conditions, multiple independent cost estimators and "opening books" are the best way to drive completion and ensure transparency. We need to understand when the market is speaking.

Strengthen Collaboration

Efficiency also depends on how well agencies, project stakeholders and third parties – such as utility companies and adjacent states and localities – coordinate. Too often, newly reconstructed roads are torn up months later for utility upgrades, frustrating us all and wasting resources. Too often adjacent states choose to compete instead of collaborate at the expense of their citizens. Better planning and coordination are essential. By sharing traffic and maintenance data, agencies, utility companies and communities can better align their efforts, reduce disruptions and improve outcomes. For example, using AI to create comprehensive utility maps can help identify potential conflicts quickly, al-

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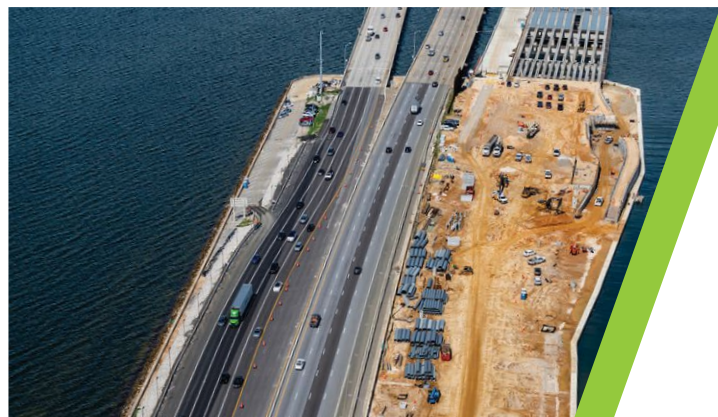
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Aerial view of the Brooks Bridge project in Santa Rosa Sound between Fort Walton Beach and Okaloosa Island. The new bridge will vastly improve traffic flow between the two communities. Photo courtesy of Superior Construction.

lowing for smarter planning and fewer redundant closures.

Use Asset Management to Drive Efficiency

Advanced technologies like AI, predictive analytics and high-resolution LiDAR

can transform how we manage infrastructure. In the rail industry, for example, digital approaches using LiDAR and imaging systems allow agencies to collect detailed data efficiently. AI models can then detect defects and flag them for review, streamlining prioritization, enhancing safety

and reducing downtime. Beyond rail, predictive maintenance is emerging across transportation sectors. By analyzing sensor data embedded in roads and bridges, AI can forecast wear and tear, enabling timely repairs and extending infrastructure lifespan. The use of a robust integrat-



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ed asset management system, 3D modeling and GIS interfaces can guide maintenance and investment decisions while balancing social, environmental and economic factors.

Embrace Intelligent Mobility

Intelligent transportation systems that oversee and optimize the performance of transportation networks are crucial for maximizing investment. Effective traffic management requires a forward-thinking understanding and coordination of land use and transportation planning. A corridor management program is fundamental to an effective transportation system maintenance operation (TSMO) program.

Connected and automated vehicles, supported by vehicle-to-everything technology, are vital to any TSMO program and can provide critical data to make roads less congested and communities safer. Cities like Seattle, San Francisco and Los Angeles and many others are adopting systems that allow vehicles to communicate with infrastructure, other vehicles, cyclists and pedestrians. This connectivity enables smarter planning. For instance, smart signals and curb management systems equipped with real-time data acquisition can monitor pick-up/drop-off zones, freight loading areas and bike lanes. This data allows cities to implement dynamic pricing, optimize revenue and reduce enforcement costs. Enhanced road markings and signage improve how automated vehicles perceive their environment, increasing safety and efficiency.

To support these systems, cities need updated infrastructure to capitalize on technology advances. Reliable communication networks – such as fiber, wireless or 5G – are essential. Traffic management is evolving with agencies beginning to use predictive analytics to manage traffic proactively. AI can help triangulate incident locations from multiple data sources, allowing for faster emergency response.

When developing infrastructure for our cities and towns, like my hometown of Jacksonville, we must anticipate future needs, potential challenges and long-term impacts of today's decisions. The path to efficient transportation infrastructure lies in embracing collaborative delivery models, fostering agency

and utility company coordination, leveraging advanced asset management tools and integrating connected vehicle technologies that create intelligent mobility. By doing so, we can build infrastructure that is smarter, safer and more responsive to the communities it serves.

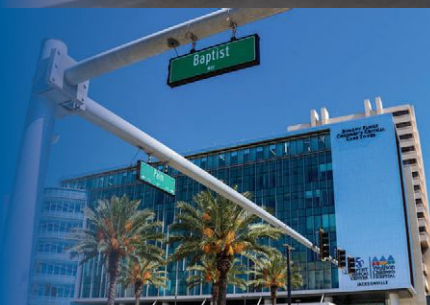
Jannet Walker-Ford is U.S. advisory and planning executive and senior vice president at WSP, a leading professional services firm. Walker-Ford resides in Jacksonville.

As transportation needs evolve, leveraging data, technology and collaboration are key to optimizing resources, enhancing mobility and ensuring public safety in every region's busiest corridors.

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We appreciate your support of FTBA and Florida's transportation building industry.



NEW FTBA MEMBERS

We are thankful for our members and the value they bring to the association and industry. We have welcomed the following new members since July.

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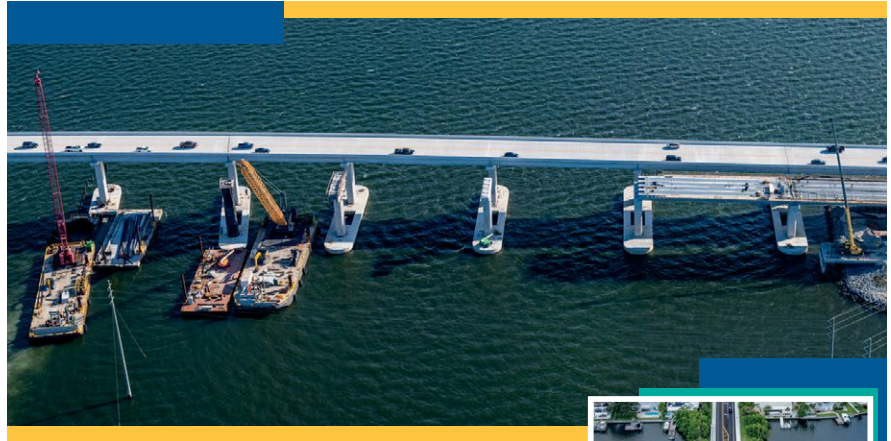
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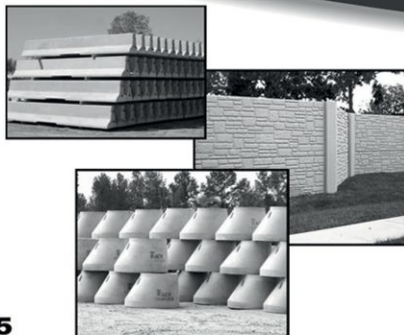
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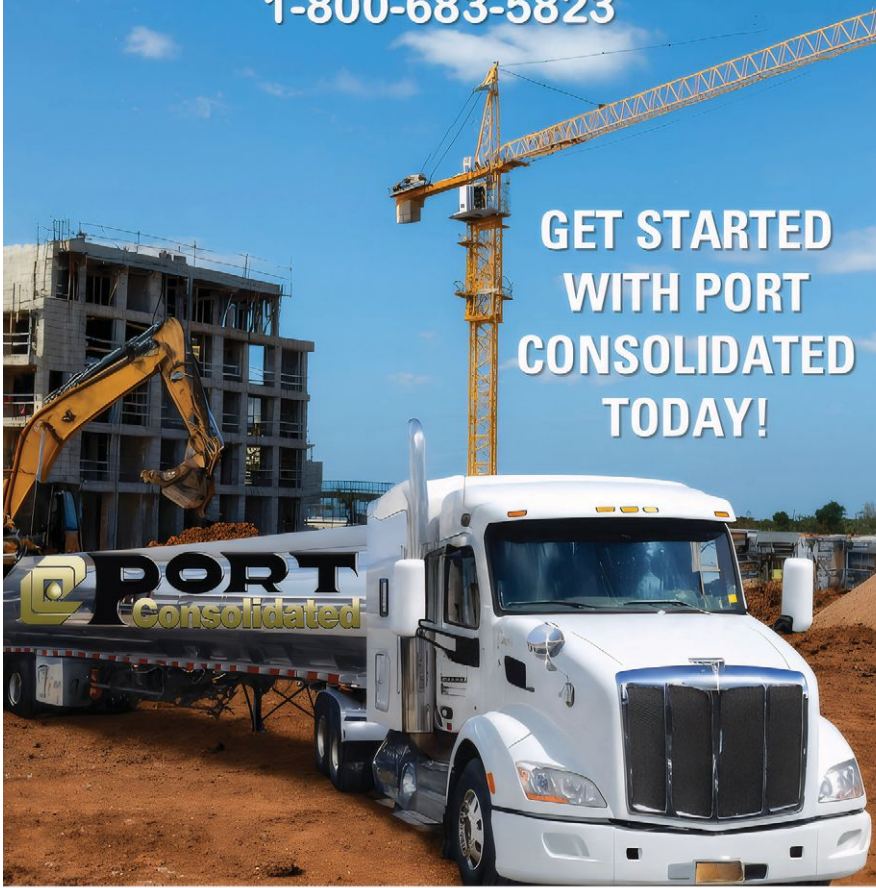


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