

TENNESSEE ENGINEERS' CONFERENCE

2026 AGENDA

*subject to change

TIME / TRACK	TOPIC / SPEAKER(S)
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2026	
4:00 - 6:00 pm	Exhibitor Load-In
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm	University Student Networking Social

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2026	
7:30 am - 6:30 pm	Exhibit Hall Open
7:30 am - 8:30 am	CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST WITH EXHIBITORS
8:30 am - 9:45 am	OPENING KEYNOTE: Nobody Gets There Alone: Mentorship, Access, and the Engineers We Haven't Reached Yet Elio Morillo, <i>NASA Aerospace Engineer</i>
9:45 am - 10:15 am	BREAK WITH EXHIBITORS
10:15 am - 11:05 am	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT - SESSION ONE
Engineering Management	Solving the Engineering Knowledge Crisis and Managing "Change" Ray Thorn (<i>Egnyte</i>) MORGAN
Civil & Environmental	Day 712: Building Back Better in Erwin TN (Post Hurricane Helene) Jamie Carden, <i>McGill Associates</i> MUSTANG
Transportation	Using Visualization to Assist the Public Engagement Process James Robert Dearman, <i>OHM Advisors</i> FRANKLIN
Private Markets & Development	Paseo South Gulch: Redeveloping A Historic Space for Modern-Day Nashville Philip Neal, PE (<i>Kimley-Horn</i>) WILLIAMSON
Ethics	Ethics Mike Bilderbeck, <i>Pickering Firm</i> CLYDESDALE
11:10 am - 12:00 pm	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT - SESSION TWO
Engineering Management	The Retirement Cliff: Protecting Institutional Knowledge You Can't Afford to Lose Carla Worthey, <i>Thrivence Consulting</i> MORGAN

Civil & Environmental	The Power of Equalization: From Peak Flow to Stable Treatment Cyndi Glascock, <i>Gainey's</i> WILLIAMSON
Transportation	Clearing the Path: Airspace Review and Obstruction Management Adam Guy and Christopher Starr, <i>TDOT</i> FRANKLIN
Private Markets	Growth at the Speed of Economic Development Matthew Frazier, <i>Thomas & Hutton</i> MUSTANG
Structural / Geotech	Reducing Lateral Earth Pressure Using EPS Geofom Compressible Inclusions: Considering Long-Term Behavior Navid Joushideh, <i>The University of Memphis and Terracon</i> / David Arellano, <i>The University of Memphis</i> ARABIAN
Ethics	Ethics Mike Bilderbeck, <i>Pickering Firm</i> CLYDESDALE
12:00 pm - 12:30 pm	NETWORKING LUNCH
12:30 pm - 1:45 pm	GENERAL SESSION: The East Bank: Nashville's Newest Neighborhood and the Tennessee Titans' New Home Michelle Scopel (<i>East Bank Development Authority</i>); Beth Ostrowski, PE, PTOE (<i>KCI Technologies</i>); David Powell (<i>Hastings Architecture</i>); Mickey Sullivan, PE, moderator (<i>Gresham Smith</i>)
1:50 pm - 2:40 pm	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT - SESSION THREE
Engineering Management	Finding the Trail: An Australian's Guide to Reading the Landscape Deb Johnston, <i>TonicDM</i> FRANKLIN
Civil & Environmental / Survey	Advancing Reality Capture with SLAM LiDAR Austin Brooks, <i>Duncan-Parnell</i> WILLIAMSON
Transportation	Connecting Murfreesboro's Future: The Stonesbattle Parkway Corridor Plan Brady Yarbrough, PE (<i>Kimley-Horn</i>); Chase Fuquay, PE (<i>Kimley-Horn</i>); Ben Newman (<i>City of Murfreesboro</i>); Kevin Guenther, PLA (<i>Pape-Dawson</i>) MORGAN
Private Markets / Civil & Environmental	Traditional Neighborhood Design meets Low Impact Development: Integrating Stormwater and Placemaking Trey Rochford, <i>Rochford Realty & Construction</i> / David Howath, <i>Land Innovations</i> / Jeremy Westmoreland, <i>CSDG</i> MUSTANG
Engineering Management / Transportation	Beyond the Plans: Lessons Learned, Innovative CEI Practices, and Emerging Trends from the Rodney Baber and John F. Kennedy Parks Projects D. Solomon Akinduro, <i>ACOT Associates Group</i> CLYDESDALE
2:45 pm - 3:35 pm	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT - SESSION FOUR
Engineering Management	EJCDC 2026: New Documents, New Delivery Methods, New Rules of the Road Zach Jones (Martin Jones Law) FRANKLIN
Civil & Environmental	TDEC Update Angela Jones, <i>TDEC</i> MUSTANG

Transportation / Private Markets & Development	Small Project...Big Impact - Laurel Run Park Pedestrian Bridge Jason Carder, <i>Mattern & Craig</i> MORGAN
Transportation / Surveying	Surveying and SUE for Transportation Projects David Headrick, <i>Surveying and Mapping, LLC (SAM)</i> WILLIAMSON
Structural	Structural Lightweight Aggregate Production and Applications Ken Harmon, <i>Stalite Lightweight Aggregate</i> CLYDESDALE
Mechanical, Electrical & Industrial	Roundtable Conversation About Fire Protection & Electrical Codes Legislation Kasey Anderson (ACEC Tennessee) ARABIAN
3:35 pm - 4:05 pm	BREAK WITH EXHIBITORS
4:10 pm - 5:00 pm	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT - SESSION FIVE
Engineering Management	Managing the Risks of Subconsultants Dale Crow, <i>Brown & Brown</i> / David Garst, <i>Lewis Thomason</i> FRANKLIN
Civil & Environmental	Utility Relocation Inspection Tony DiMarino, <i>T2 Utility Engineers</i> MUSTANG
Transportation	Smarter Design Workflows: AI in the Bentley Ecosystem Danny Lazear, <i>Archway Systems</i> WILLIAMSON
Private Markets & Development	From Constraint to Catalyst: Integrating Civil, Landscape and Architecture on a Tight, Urban Site Trey Rudolph, PLA; Stephen Brown, PE (<i>Gresham Smith</i>) MORGAN
Geotechnical	Foundation Retrofitting Using Micropiles - A Case History Mohammad Nasim, <i>Terracon</i> ARABIAN
Structural	Engineering Forensics McKenzie Roberts, PE, CFEI, <i>Engineering Consultants & Design</i> CLYDESDALE
5:00 pm - 6:30 pm	WELCOME RECEPTION

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2026	
7:30 am - 1:45 pm	Exhibit Hall Open
7:30 am - 8:30 am	BREAKFAST WITH EXHIBITORS
8:30 am - 9:20 am	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT - SESSION SIX
Engineering Management	Ownership Transition in the Engineering Consulting Industry William Vaughan, <i>Horizon Advisors Group</i> MORGAN
Civil & Environmental / Private Markets & Development	Understaffed, Under Deadline, Undeterred: Building an AI Force Multiplier for Municipal Plan Review Kevin Blackburn, <i>City of Brentwood</i> MUSTANG

Transportation	Evaluating the Value of Early-Added Capacity as Construction Readiness Stuart Samberg, <i>RK&K</i> FRANKLIN
Electrical, Mechanical & Industrial	PowerUp America: From Concept to Construction of EV Charging Facilities Jake Fischer, PE; Cole Dillard, EIT (<i>Kimley-Horn</i>) CLYDESDALE
Structural	Contractor-Ready Construction Documents Jeremy Salmon, Zak Pruitt, <i>Structural Design Group</i> WILLIAMSON
Engineering Management	AI in Civil Engineering: How to Practically Use It to Transform Your Firm Nour Zahzah, Mohammad Pasta (<i>Gradon</i>) ARABIAN
9:25 am - 10:15 am	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT - SESSION SEVEN
Civil & Environmental / Private Markets & Development	AI Ingenuity in Construction Engineering - Bringing Excellence to Project Execution Chris White, <i>JMT</i> FRANKLIN
Civil & Environmental	PFAS Visualization for Site Characterization, Remediation, and Forensics Chrisie Brown, <i>EnSafe Inc</i> MUSTANG
Transportation	Game Day in Motion: Traffic Management for UT's Special Events Christopher Rhodes, PE and Mike Prifti, PE (<i>Kimley-Horn</i>) MORGAN
Geotech	Cyclic Failure ("Liquefaction:") Mitigation of Loess in the New Madrid Seismic Zone Using Deep Soil Mixed Grid Tom Humbert, <i>Schnabel Engineering</i> CLYDESDALE
Structural	3D Laser Scanning and BIM for Structural Engineering Projects David Headrick, <i>Surveying and Mapping, LLC (SAM)</i> WILLIAMSON
10:15 am - 10:45 am	BREAK WITH EXHIBITORS
10:45 am - 11:35 am	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT - SESSION EIGHT
Engineering Management	Evolving Our Business & Practive Models Peter Atherton, <i>ActionsProve</i> FRANKLIN
Civil & Environmental	Urban Constraints, Lasting Solutions Paisley Marotta-Mathews & Jeff Duncan, <i>Metro Water Services</i> MUSTANG
Trasnportation / Private Markets & Development	Timing is Everything: Management Strategies and Benefits of the Chattanooga Citywide Retiming Thomas Glueckert, PE, PTOE; Terrance Hill, PE; Carter Schmidt, PE (<i>Kimley-Horn</i>) MORGAN
Structural	Bridge Health Monitoring Using Ambient Vibration Testing and Operational Modal Analysis Ted Kniazewycz and David Lee, <i>TDOT</i> / Shima Pakniat, Shahram Pezeshk, and Charles Camp, <i>The University of Memphis</i> WILLIAMSON
Geotech	An Overview of Rapid Drawdown Analysis Methods: Tips, Tricks, and Traps Daniel VandenBerge, <i>Tennessee Tech</i> CLYDESDALE
11:35 am - 12:15 pm	NETWORKING LUNCH WITH EXHIBITORS
12:15 pm - 1:10 pm	GENERAL SESSION: Town Hall Meeting with the A/E Board Eddie Jett, Ashraf ElSayed, Jason Carder, Alton Hethcoat, Glenn Kopchak, <i>Tennessee Board of Architectural and Engineering Examiners</i>

1:10 pm - 1:45 pm	BREAK WITH EXHIBITORS
1:45 pm - 2:35 pm	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT - SESSION NINE
Engineering Management	Belmont University College of Engineering Nick Ragsdale, <i>Belmont University</i> CLYDESDALE
Engineering Management	Leading Across Generations: How to Communicate, Connect, and Lead Multiple Generations in the Workforce Alecia Wynn, <i>Thrivence Consulting</i> MORGAN
Transportation / Geotech	Creative Use and Applications of Soil Nailing and Structural Shotcrete for Slope Stabilization Andy Derenski, Tom Szynakiewicz (<i>Harrison Western Construction</i>) FRANKLIN
Civil & Environmental	A Conversation About Stormwater Drain Cover Legislation Kasey Anderson, <i>ACEC Tennessee</i> ARABIAN
Transportation	Beyond Traditional ITS: Engineering Lessons from Deploying Smart Road Infrastructure Adam Kaliszewski, <i>Canvue</i> MUSTANG
Structural	Codes Jurisdictions Requirements for Engineer Review and Inspection of Single-Family Homes >5000 SF Panel Discussion - Michael Vines, <i>Structural Engineering & Inspections</i> WILLIAMSON
2:40 pm - 3:30 pm	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT - SESSION TEN
Engineering Management	Preparing Your Enterprise for AI: A Practical Readiness Framework Jason Shelton, <i>Thrivence Consulting</i> MORGAN
Transportation	Signal Timing for Vision Zero in Urban Environments Layton Murphy, Brian Wacker (<i>KCI Technologies</i>) MUSTANG
Geotech, Structural, Transportation	Let's talk about Geofoam Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) Ultra-Lightweight Engineered Fill Tim Snider, <i>PlastiFab and Insulfoam</i> WILLIAMSON
3:30 PM	CONFERENCE CONCLUDES