

PUB NEWS

APWA KC Metro Chapter Newsletter



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President's Perspective

By Alysen Abel

I can't believe how fast this year has flown by...Time flies faster and faster these days.

It seems like yesterday that I was writing my first President's Perspective, I was excited for the upcoming year with in-person meetings and large events, similar to what we experienced before the pandemic. Here I am writing my last President's Perspective before handing the reins over to our next President.

In October, the KC Metro Chapter hosted the Committee Summit/Workshop (aka Annual Retreat) to discuss the committee goals for 2023. Starting in January, Ben Will from HNTB Corporation will be our new KC Metro Chapter President. Ben has served as the Chair for the National Public Works Week Committee and on the Planning Committee for the 2023 Mid-Am Expo Conference. Ben will continue to the traditions set by so many leaders who came before us, inspire the new chapter leaders, and motivate all of us to give back to the Public Works profession.



There are so many highlights over the past two months.

- Public Works Institute – The KC Metro Chapter hosted another module of the Public Works Institute, with record number attendance.
- Top Golf Event – Taylor Smith, Tawn Nugent and the Golf Committee hosted an outstanding golf event at Top Golf in October. Next year they will be back on the greens.
- Young Professionals Disc Golf Event – Justin Likes and the Young Professional Committee hosted a Disc Golf Tournament in Lee's Summit.
- Roadeo Event – Paul Dunn and the Equipment Roadeo Committee held the annual Roadeo event with 129 people who participated in classes and competition activities.

Thank you to everyone who helped make 2022 an amazing year for APWA.

- Executive Committee Members – Your oversight helped to shape and execute our chapter goals.
- Committee Chairs – Your leadership provided the direction our committees needed to host successful events.
- Committee Volunteers – Your contributions during the committee efforts helped support the committee leaders.
- APWA Members – Your participation during chapter events provided education, networking and social benefits to the entire Public Works community.
- APWA National –The APWA staff members provided guidance and resources to our members to enhance the Public Works profession.

A special thank you to Kyle Dieckmann who currently serves as our Past President. He has provided great mentorship to me, as well as many other members of the Executive Committee. We will miss seeing you at our monthly meetings.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the Holiday Party on December 12th. We will approve the new slate of officers for 2023, celebrate the accomplishments of the chapter over the past year, and look forward to the bright future ahead of us under Ben's leadership

Delegate Details

By Becky Bonebrake

This is the last PubNews of 2022! As we prepare to close out this year, we thank you for everything that you all do for your public works communities! Make sure to take some time to reflect on the achievements of your teams and their service to the community! Public Works is responsible for so much more than the community realizes and I am proud to be part of this community! As we all switch gears and start preparing for snow duties throughout the metro, I encourage you all to keep safety in mind, both for your crews and the public. What you do makes a difference to everyone in our community!



November's topic for Focus on Public Works is on Operations and Maintenance (O&M). Through November information is available on trending technologies in O&M along with various resources on the New Resource Center and training partnerships. The information can be found at:

https://www.apwa.net/MyApwa/Apwa_Public/Focus_on_Public_Works/Operations_and_Maintenance.aspx

Some resources available this month to your organizations are:

- **November 10, 2022** - Liquids in Winter Maintenance Operations Workshop: The Liquids Workshop will address the use of liquid-only routes, where agencies have had great success using liquids both before and during storms, and how liquids can be used with solids to handle difficult accumulations of snow and ice. Webinar: 9:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m. CT
- **November 17, 2022** - CDL Training Implementation Idea Exchange: A federal standard for mandatory training of entry-level drivers of commercial motor vehicles began this year on February 7. Join this facilitated discussion for an opportunity to share challenges and solutions, and hear from others about how they are complying with these new requirements. Webinar: 1:00–2:00 p.m. CT
- Principles of Public Works Operations: The Principles of Public Works Operations Series is for young professionals entering the public works industry and seasoned professionals in the public works industry looking to further their professional development in all areas of public works. Get 20% off through November 30. Use code PPW22 at checkout.
- VISTA Equipment Training: APWA has teamed up with VISTA Training, Inc. to offer valuable Instructor Kits, e-learning courses, and online videos for equipment operators. APWA members enjoy 10% off a variety of training options.



Delegate Details — cont.

Other ways to get involved and leverage resources are through National Committees and Research opportunities:

- APWA is collecting nominations for individuals interested in serving on the 2023 National Nominating Committee or one of the 2023 Regional Nominating Committees (Regions I, II, V, VI, VIII). To submit your nomination (or a colleague's), go to [nominations](#). The deadline for nominating committee submissions is December 1. For questions, contact Teresa Hon (thon@apwa.net).
- **APPLY NOW FOR THE 2023 JENNINGS RANDOLPH INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP!** Applications are now being accepted for the 2023 Jennings Randolph International Fellowship. The deadline to apply is November 15, 2022. Fellowships are granted for travel to an APWA international partner conference and are limited to a maximum of \$3,000 (USD) to assist with travel costs and other expenses. For more information: www.apwa.net/JRFellowship.

Lastly I want to give a shout out to Kansas City Missouri for completing their 2nd Accreditation! Congratulations on your hard work! Others who are considering APWA Accreditation, reach out to others who have completed the process of their insight!



Benchmarking Data Collection

KC Metro Chapter Nominating Committee Report

Kansas City Metro Chapter Members,



The 2022 KC Metro Chapter Nominating Committee, consisting of Past Presidents, Dan Brown, Shawn Graff, and Kyle Dieckmann, in accordance with the Chapter By-Laws has nominated the following individuals to serve as officers and directors on the Chapter Executive Committee for the 2023 administrative year:

President	Ben Will	HNTB
Vice President	Nick Arena	City of Lenexa
Secretary	Patty Hilderbrand	City of Kansas City, MO
Treasurer	Tawn Nugent	TREKK Design Group
Director (2nd Year)	John Cooper	GBA
Director (2nd Year)	Phil Hermann	Burns & McDonnell
Director (1st Year)	Ernie Longoria	City of Shawnee
Director (1st Year)	Trey Whitaker	City of Edgerton

Other ex officio and appointed members of the Executive Committee include:

Past President	Alysen Abel	City of Parkville
Director at Large	Bill Billings	City of Leawood
Delegate	Bill Stogsdill	City of Fairway
Alternate Delegate	Becky Bonebrake	City of Overland Park

The 2022 Executive Committee has Directed the election of these officers and directors to take place at the Annual Holiday Party in December.

This announcement serves as the official notice to chapter membership of the nomination of this slate of officers and directors for the 2023 Executive Committee and of the intent to hold elections. A copy of the By Laws Article XIII—Election of Officers can be found [here](#) for reference. This article outlines the election process, including the process by which chapter members may nominate other candidates for the 2023 Executive Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Kyle Dieckmann, Past President
Chair, Nominating Committee

Benchmarking Data Collection



In 2017, the Leadership and Management Committee launched the benchmarking project to address two goals of the Strategic Plan: Value and Voice. The committee determined that public works leaders' primary needs were benchmarks and service standards for determining appropriate funding and staffing levels for their departments. Powered by data submitted by agencies just like yours, these benchmarks capture our responsibilities and resources. Coupled with agency classifications like size, region, and weather, the benchmarks let you compare what other similarly-situated agencies are doing, so you are prepared with data and evidence to support your resource requirements.

Goal: To develop a benchmarking tool for agencies to easily access and find data from comparable communities on public works resources (e.g., budget, staffing, services, etc.).

Why: To better tell our public works story using benchmarking data. Our brother and sister first responders in police and fire rescue departments use national or international data to determine and justify service levels within their respective departments. This is an effective approach that helps them obtain the funding needed to perform their jobs of keeping our communities safe. We have seen this similar information request from elected officials and the public for public works services, so data collected will allow public works professionals to determine and justify service levels similarly.

* All agencies that complete the questionnaire will be given a complimentary PDF report.

What: A benchmarking database to fill the current gaps in the information available for public works services.

Questionnaire Suggestions –

To help the process be more efficient, agencies are strongly encouraged to print out the questions, so they have time to gather the information required. The time required for this first step will vary between agencies as it will depend on the accessibility and knowledge of the required information. Additionally, this step may need information from others within the agency, which may also take time to collect.

The questionnaire is divided into six sections (general, fleet, transportation and utilities, stormwater and facilities, solid waste, and winter maintenance). Each section can be sent directly to individuals in your agency responsible for those areas for data collection.

To begin entering your agency's data, please visit www.apwa.net/BenchmarkingQuestionnaire.

Past Events

Community Service Committee Ronald McDonald House Event— September 14, 2022

Members of the Community Service Committee spent the evening of September 14th volunteering at Ronald McDonald House in Downtown Kansas City. Most volunteers worked together to prepare over fifty meals for the residents while others from Lee's Summit, KCK, and Blue Springs presented plow trucks and a spray patcher to kids receiving treatment at the facility. The event was a raging success, and Ronald McDonald House was very thankful for APWA's contributions.



Pictured: (Left to Right) Robin Carbrey, Nevene Fanous, Maeve VanLandingham, Tony Golec, Garret Belcher, Robert Miller, Megan Spence, Jaclyn Willis, Taylor Smith, Chad Thompson, Tommy Hunter, and Zac Coppersmith.

Not Pictured: Mac Andrew, Vincent Billaci, Bruce Taylor, Dennis Lafal, and a few others.

Past Events

Public Works Institute: Public Works Management — October 18-20, 2022

The Kansas City Metro Chapter held its 19th Public Works Institute (PWI) session entitled Public Works Management Fundamentals October 18-20 at the Independence Uptown Farmers Market, Independence, MO. Thanks to Lisa Reynolds, Independence Municipal Services Director and other Independence staff for making this facility available at no charge to the chapter. This allowed us to keep the registration fee at \$250 again for this session.



Fall 2022 Public Works Institute attendees along with Chapter President Alysén Abel, PWI Directors Larry Frevert, Dena Mezger and Tim Ross

The class was welcomed to the PWI training on the first morning by Chapter President Alysén Abel and to Independence by Zach Walker, City Manager of Independence.

Seventy-six individuals attended the three-day training and presentations by many of the region's public works directors and senior public works staff. This attendance brought us to a total of 408 public works professionals who have attended at least one three-day PWI since the chapter began the program in 2011. Through 2021, the chapter had graduated 188 professionals from our PWI (which requires attending all four of the three-day training modules). Eight more persons (shown in the photo below) completed the requirements for graduation in this latest PWI and will be recognized as 2022 graduates along with six others that completed it in April 2022.



City Manager Zach Walker welcoming PWI attendees to Independence.



Chapter President Alysén Abel, Fall 2022 attendees completing their fourth three-day PWI training: along with PWI Directors Larry Frevert, Dena Mezger and Tim Ross

Past Events

Public Works Institute: Public Works Management — October 18-20, 2022 (continued)

This spring's attendees came from 33 municipalities (12 Missouri and 11 Kansas), as well as UGWYCOKCK. We also had 10 out of region attendees from Jefferson City and Warrensburg, MO and Hutchison, KS. This fall's PWI attendance included 15 people attending their first PWI.

PWI Module IV – Public Works Leadership Skills is planned for May 2023. Watch for advance details on the event on the chapter's website as early as February with registration beginning April 1.



Chapter President Alysen Abel, PE presenting basic management skills to kickoff on Day One



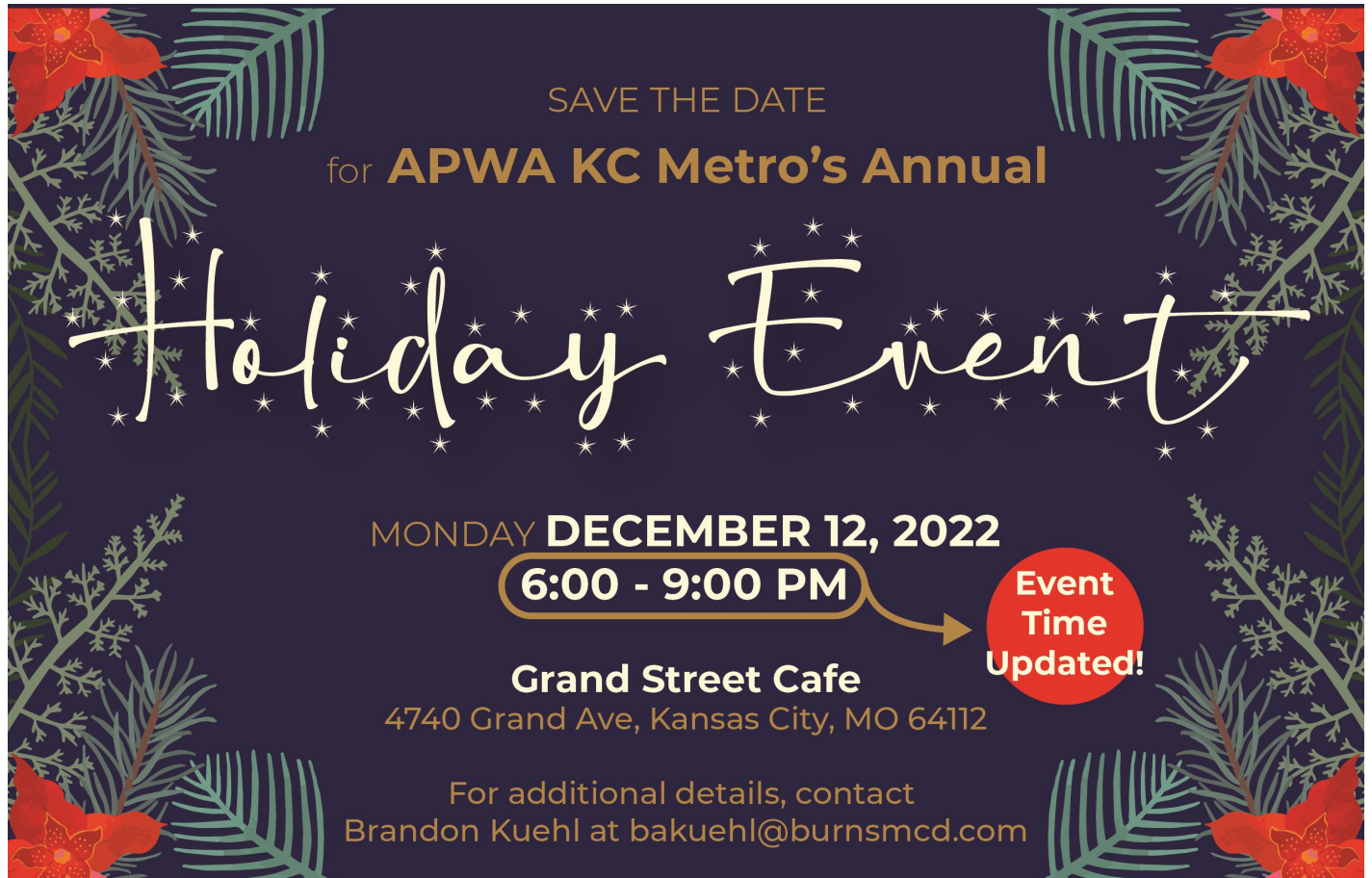
Michelle Ohmes leading group discussion on defining and managing inclusion through ADA



Jose Leon asking questions about attendees' organizations during a session on organizational theory

Event photos were taken by Cindy DeShazo of Lee's Summit Public Works Department.

Upcoming Events



SAVE THE DATE
for **APWA KC Metro's Annual**
Holiday Event

MONDAY **DECEMBER 12, 2022**
6:00 - 9:00 PM

Grand Street Cafe
4740 Grand Ave, Kansas City, MO 64112

For additional details, contact
Brandon Kuehl at bakuehl@burnsmcd.com

Event Time Updated!

56th Annual Concrete Technology Course

January 4-6, 2023

UMKC Royall Hall
800 E 52nd Street
Kansas City, MO 64110

Course Objective

Increase your knowledge and improve the quality of concrete construction in our area, with an emphasis on fundamentals of quality concrete. Continuing education credits available.

Course Highlights

- Principles of Quality Concrete
- Fundamentals of Concrete Materials
- Air Entrainment, Admixtures
- Hot & Cold Weather Concrete
- Laboratory Testing
- Finishing, Curing & Jointing
- Course Exam on Final Day (open book)

For more information and to register click here:

<http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=qvqchggab&oeidk=a07ejgcifns50f10a57>

Chapter Leadership

APWA 2022 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Audit & Budget - Bryan Blizzard
 Awards - Nathan Hladky & Becky Bonebrake
 By-Laws - Alysen Abel
 Chapter Meetings - Thomas Renfro
 Communications and Publicity - Allison Bruner
 Community Service - Jaclyn Willis & Tommy Hunter
 Diversity and Inclusion - Sheila Shockey
 Education & Training - Zach Matteo & Blake Moris
 Emergency Management - Trey Whitaker & Alysen Abel
 Engineering & Technology - Michael Haake
 Facilities & Grounds - Dan Brown
 Fleet Services - Mark Stinson & Josh Wood
 Golf Tournament - Taylor Smith & Tawn Nugent
 Governmental Affairs - Trey Whitaker & Kati Horner
 Historical - Ernie Longoria
 Holiday Party - Nicole Woods & Sabrina Parker
 K-12 Student Outreach - David Smalling
 Leadership & Management - Gary Strack
 Membership - Scott Cogan & Zac Coppersmith
 Membership BBQ & Steak Fry - Brian Ladd & Jack Renfro
 MidAmX - Dan Brown & Kyle Dieckmann
 MO-KAN Street Superintendents - Bill Billings
 Myron D. Calkins Scholarship - Erik Troy
 Myron Calkins Symposium - Alysen Abel
 National Public Works Week - Sabrina Parker and Nicole Woods
 Snow & Equipment Training Expo - Paul Dunn & Jody Malone
 Standards & Specifications - Michael Anderson & Mark Montgomery
 Student Chapter - Levi Cole & Lewis Muriithi
 Sustainable Infrastructure - Carla Anderson
 Transportation - Linda Rottinghaus
 Utility & Public Right-of-Way - Andy Roddy & Brent Berry
 Water Resources Management - Andrew Smith
 Webmaster - Allison Dobie
 Young Professionals - Leslie Donnelly

For contact information, visit: <http://kcmetro.apwa.net>

Appointments, Liaisons, Coordinators, and Task Forces

Asset Management Task Force - Brandon Grover
 Calendar/Events Coordinator - Ben Will
 Construction Materials - Christy Martin
 Public Works Institute - Larry Frevert
 Solid Waste Management - **Vacant**

KC APWA 2022 OFFICERS

President - Alysen Abel
 Vice President - Ben Will
 Secretary - Nick Arena
 Treasurer - Tawn Nugent
 Past President - Kyle Dieckmann
 Director (2nd Year) - Patty Hilderbrand
 Director (2nd Year) - John Cooper
 Director (1st Year) - Mark Stinson
 Director (1st Year) - Phil Herrman
 Director-At-Large - Bill Billings
 Delegate - Bill Stogsdill
 Alternate Delegate - Becky Bonebrake



New Members

Mitch Gibler, Anderson Engineering

Megan Miller, Bettis Companies

Aveen Noori, City of Kansas City

Naomi Oitker, Anderson Engineering

David Phelps, City of Raytown

Ryan Sims, Johnson County

Mayra Toothman, City of Smithville



The APWA Pub News, a free publication of the Kansas City Metro Chapter of the American Public Works Association (APWA), is published in six issues throughout the year. To receive a free subscription, send an e-mail to abruner@trekkdesigngroup.com.

Publisher: Kansas City Metro Chapter of APWA
 Editor: Kansas City Metro Chapter of APWA
 Staff: Allison Bruner

The Pub News staff welcomes announcements, news articles, photos and suggestions. A new issue will be published in November. The deadline for the next issue will be Friday, November 4, 2022. Deadlines will be strictly enforced. Electronic formats are preferred, but not required. Send your stories to Allison Bruner via email at abruner@trekkdesigngroup.com.



POLICY FOR THE USE OF THE APWA PUB NEWS, WEBSITE AND ELECTRONIC MAILING LIST

It shall be the policy of the KC Metro Chapter that the use of the "APWA Pub News, Website and Electronic Mailing List" by outside agencies shall abide by the following:

- Outside agencies, educational institutions, and not-for-profit organizations may utilize the Chapter's website for dissemination of approved items that are considered beneficial to our membership.
- Approval of these items may be granted by the Chapter President, the Newsletter Editor and the Website Committee. When requested, announcements from other organizations may be posted on the Chapter's website under "News" if the Newsletter/Communications Committee is provided electronic announcements in a format that can be posted without modification or editing.
- The Newsletter/Communications Committee may use the chapter's electronic mailing list for announcements to KC Metro Chapter members when the topic is related to an APWA activity or event. However, an announcement will not be sent before the Chapter event has been posted on the KC Metro Chapter website.

This policy was approved by the Executive Committee on November 19, 2008.