

ESI – U.S. Senate Productivity Award Winner for Virginia

Published Quarterly by the Engineers & Surveyors Institute

Jul/Aug/Sept 2020



DR TAMMY VOSS JOINS ESI AS DIRECTOR OF MEMBER EDUCATION

We are excited to announce that Tammy Voss will be joining ESI as the Director of Member Education, beginning on August 3rd. Tammy received formal training in Education from James Madison University in Virginia as well as Community Leadership Alvernia at University in Pennsylvania. She has extensive experience with non-profit organizations, including the Center for Leadership and Ethics, in planning, developing and leading education programs. Tammy has over 15 years of proven leadership, administrative and operational management experience with knowledge of various adult learning styles. We are excited to welcome Tammy in August as she collaborates with Becky Newlen during her transition toward retirement at the end of August.



CHANGES IN FAIRFAX COUNTY LDS

Fairfax County Land Development Services (LDS) wishes Bruce McGranahan all the best in his retirement. Bruce came to Fairfax County in August 2011 when he assisted in developing and implementing the County's "new" Stormwater Management Ordinance in response to the state stormwater mandate. In May 2017 he was promoted to Director of Site Development and Inspections Division (SDID). Bruce's retirement on July 17 capped a 43-year career in civil and structural engineering. He worked for private consultants in Northern Virginia, Maryland and Denver for over 21 years, as well as spent time in public service to the counties of Loudoun and Fairfax. Until LDS completes the recruiting process for Bruce's replacement, which like many operations has been affected by the novel coronavirus pandemic, Eleanor Ku Codding will be the Acting Director for SDID. Ellie's experience with nearly seven years with LDS and DPWES as well as her 17 years as a private consultant will allow her to easily step into the site division leadership role.



FAIRFAX COUNTY TAKING ANOTHER STEP TO REDUCE TIME-TO-MARKET FOR SITE DEVELOPMENT: GATEWAY REVIEW

In September, <u>Land Development Services</u> (LDS) will revise its current site reviewing system by launching a Gateway Review. This is not an additional review, but an enhancement to the current reviewing process. Site-related plans you submit directly to LDS will go through the Gateway Review so a senior reviewer can confirm your plans are complete and ready for full review using a published checklist. Plans that do not meet minimum standards, including accuracy and readability, will be sent back to you for redesign and resubmission. Plans will need to pass the Gateway Review before they are accepted into the ePlans process.

If you are a member of, and submit your plans through, the <u>Engineers & Surveyors Institute (ESI)</u> under the Expedited Land Development Review (County Code 117) process, you will continue to receive an ESI Peer Review in lieu of a Gateway Review. ESI's review is anticipated to embody the same requirements and features as the Gateway Review along with the benefits of a peer review.

The Gateway Review for plans that are not submitted through ESI will be launched in three phases:

September 1, 2020 – LDS will make the new Gateway Review checklist available for reference by September 1. If your plan does not meet the new checklist criteria, it will not be failed in this phase, but you will receive comments based on the new checklist.

January 1, 2021 – LDS expects to officially launch the Gateway Review on January 1, 2021. After launch, LDS will review all "major" site-related plans submitted directly to LDS based on the new checklist: site plans, subdivision plans and public improvement plans. If your plan does not meet the checklist criteria, LDS will fail it and return it to you for revision. If your plan fails, you will need to resubmit it and go through the Gateway Review process a second time.

July 1, 2021 – LDS expects to update fees for fiscal year 2022 with new fees assessed for the Gateway Review.

The Gateway Review is expected to accelerate the plan review process and reduce projects' time to market. "We found a direct relationship between the quality of a plan and the time to market," said acting LDS Site Development and Inspections Division Director Eleanor Ku Codding. She expects the Gateway Review to improve the quality of site plan submissions overall by identifying and improving poor quality plans prior to and early in the process. "This will reduce the time LDS staff spend reviewing plans that do not meet minimum standards, freeing them to review quality plans in an efficient and predictable time frame."



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWEST DPEs!

Fairfax County:

Kevin Marley – Dewberry Joshua T. Reynolds – Greenway Engineering Bel B. Pachhai – AMA Engineers Behnaz Bagherian – Fairfax-LDS Joseph M. Kiffe – HNTB Christie Lodge – Bowman Shelby Olson – Stantec Michael Gerth – Urban Bradley Glatfelter – Bowman

<u>Loudoun County</u>: Osvaldo Ramos – Timmons Joshua T. Reynolds – Greenway Engineering D. Tyler Cockrell – Loudoun County Michael J. Gerth – Urban Clayton C. Tock – Urban



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

ESI is pleased to welcome our newest members:

- EXP
- AMA Engineers, LLC
- Rodgers Consulting
- Andrew J. Williams

We look forward to working with them to advance the quality of Land Development in Northern Virginia.



EDUCATION NEWS

While navigating the unique environment and circumstances into which we have all been hurled, the challenge of providing meaningful educational experiences has brought many changes to class scheduling, format, and delivery options. We are excited to provide about the same number of classes as before, while allowing students to participate remotely. We miss seeing you in person and regret not having the opportunities for collaboration as in the classroom, but the member feedback has been positive thus far.

We hope you will join the annual Focus Group Workshop, the first <u>online</u> Focus Group, on August 19th, from 9:00 am -- 1:00 pm. Under the direction of Sue Wolford, Pennoni's Regional Vice President, members will meet remotely to help develop ESI's Professional Development curriculum for the 2021 academic year. Participants will consider classes suggested by the membership and consolidate them into a prioritized list of courses which identifies class titles, topics to be covered and subject matter experts. All who plan to participate should enroll in P519-20 as part of their three annual Professional Development electives.

Six postponed Professional Development classes are scheduled to take place in September and October. ESI will forward further information about how each class will be conducted, classroom or online, in the coming months. See the remaining offerings at learn.esinova.org.

Semester 2 of the Land Development Engineering program will get underway on Tuesday, September 8. Don't delay in registering your professionals who would like to obtain DPE certification. Either semester may be taken first. The curriculum and schedule for Semester 2 can be accessed by a link on the Education page of our website. Contact ESI for further details.

Development of the annual Policy & Procedure Update classes for the various jurisdictions is in progress, and ESI hopes to deliver these classes online in October. Recorded versions will also be available to view before the end of the year for your convenience. We will keep you informed on these updates.

We wish you a safe and healthy summer and look forward to "seeing" you online in class this fall!

REMINDER - DPE/DPE ELIGIBLE MEMBERS' CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

In order to maintain DPE/DPE Eligible status, members are required to successfully complete three electives annually from the Professional Development class catalog, plus the annual Jurisdictional Policy & Procedure Update class for each jurisdiction in which they are eligible/certified.

Due to the Virginia Governor's directives pertaining to Covid-19, ESI was unable to conduct the 2020 Professional Development classes this past Spring in our classroom as originally scheduled. Consequently, many of those classes had to be rescheduled for later in the year. Due to the continuing nature of this Pandemic, ESI has already begun modifying the format of most of these classes. We are working with the Instructors on the Professional Development classes now scheduled for September and October to put them Online to ensure that all DPE/DPE Eligibles have completed their education requirements. However, it is also important that each DPE/DPE Eligible enroll in each class in order to complete his/her requirements.

If, for any reason, you have not enrolled or have missed a class to-date, it is important that you enroll for the remaining Professional Development classes at your earliest ability to do so. Fortunately, by moving many classes into the online format, the attendance limitations (normally associated with live classes in our main office facility) are no longer necessary which enables those who have yet to enroll, to successful choose a class of interest.

REMAINING 2020 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CLASSES

P519-20, Focus Group Workshop, August 19

P511-20, Green Buildings & Developers: How to "Plant" the Idea and Why It Is Not Really That Hard, September 3

P512-20, Pump Station Design, September 10

P514-20, Promoting Comprehensive Planning & Affordable Housing in Virginia, September 24

P515-20, Potomac Water Supply Program: Loudoun Water's Response to Future Water Demands, TBD

*P516-20, Show Me the Money: Funding Sources for Large Partnership Projects, October 1

*P509-20, Geology of the Washington, DC Region: An Engineering Perspective, October 8 (Tentative)

Please visit <u>learn.esinova.org</u> to enroll.

* Presently scheduled to have a live class held in the ESI classroom for a limited number of students to maintain social distancing. All other students enrolled in these classes can participate in the class virtually.



A Fond Farewell to ESI Members By Becky Newlen

After completing my twelfth year at ESI, it is with mixed emotions that I leave the position of Director of Member Education to spend greater time with family and catch up on numerous, partially completed projects. It has been my privilege to work with so many talented engineering and surveying professionals and to get to know those of you who attended or taught classes in the various education programs over the years.

Thank you for your friendship and support, as well as the many sacrifices made to take time away from your professional responsibilities to help with curriculum improvement, developing and instructing classes, and providing your subject matter expertise. Your contributions and feedback have helped ESI increase the quality of our educational programs, which has been my primary goal throughout my tenure here.

ESI cannot achieve excellence without your help. You have offered assistance in a myriad of ways and are encouraged to stay engaged with this unique organization devoted to serving your needs.

Please know how much your friendship and involvement have meant and how much you all will be missed.



FAIRFAX COUNTY PLAN REVIEW STATISTICS FOR JUN 2019 TO MAY 2020

	2019 June	2019 July	2019 Aug	2019 Sept	2019 Oct	2019 Nov	2019 Dec	2020 Jan	2020 Feb	2020 March	2020 April	2020 May	12Mth Avg
Total # of Major Plans Reviewed	13	15	11	18	14	28	15	10	14	20	9	16	15.3
% of Total Submitted Plans Acceptable	77%	93%	100%	61%	79%	71%	86%	88%	100%	95%	94%	50%	99%
Total # of DPE Plans Submitted	11	13	8	18	13	21	12	8	12	15	7	13	12.6
% of First Submission Plans Acceptable	100%	100%	100%	56%	50%	60%	80%	87%	100%	100%	100%	100%	64%
% of Second Submission Plans Acceptable	100%	86%	100%	67%	100%	88%	84%	100%	100%	89%	75%	100%	60%
Total # of non-DPE Plans Submitted	4	1	1	N/A*	1	5	3	2	2	4	1	3	2.3
% of First Submission Plans Acceptable	N/A*	N/A*	N/A*	N/A*	N/A*	N/A*	N/A*	0%	100%	N/A*	N/A*	100%	75%
% of Second Submission Plans Acceptable	100%	0%	100%	N/A*	100%	80%	100%	100%	0%	100%	100%	N/A*	87%
Total # of DPE Plans to Bond	2	5	3	7	7	2	7	3	3	7	5	2	4.4
Total # of non-DPE Plans to Bond	2	3	5	2	1	3	2	3	1	4	N/A*	3	2.4
Avg # Days for DPE Plans to Reach Bond	451	255	170	292	343	232	254	296	296	356	190	289	285
Avg # Days for non-DPE Plans to Reach Bond	269	371	242	670	392	263	281	304	91	425	N/A*	563	323
Avg # of Submissions for DPE Plans to Reach Bond **	3.0	1.8	2.0	2.9	2.7	2.5	2.7	2.7	3.0	3.3	2.6	3.0	2.7
Avg # of Submissions for non-DPE Plans to Reach Bond **	2.0	3.5	2.2	3.4	4.0	2.3	3.5	2.3	2.0	3.8	N/A*	4.0	2.6

N/A* = No Plans

** Avg # of Submissions to Bond includes Signature Set submissions.



EVENTS

August

8/11	Loudoun Committee Meeting	4:00pm
8/19	Executive Board Meeting	11:30am

8/26 Fairfax Committee Meeting 8:30am

September

9/1	Alexandria Committee Meeting	1:00pm
9/4	Leesburg Committee Meeting	9:00am
9/7	Labor Day	ESI Closed
9/16	Full Board Meeting	10:00am
9/23	Fairfax Committee Meeting	8:30am

Please note: All meetings during the pandemic will be held virtually until further notice, unless otherwise advised.