

Infrastructure Report Card 2009  
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In the spring of 2009, ASCE will be releasing an update to the Infrastructure Report Card. This will be a four year update for the data in the 15 various categories. This information will be a timely reminder about the major concerns that exist towards our countries aging infrastructure. With the recent headline failures of bridges, levees, water systems and delays at our airports, this information will be a valuable tool for the new leadership of our nation to use in establishing priorities for the next legislative session. Information included in the 2005 National Report Card specifically concerning West Virginia included:

### **Top Three Infrastructure Concerns**

- 1. Roads**
- 2. Wastewater**
- 3. Schools**

### **Key Infrastructure Facts**

- 27% of West Virginia's major roads are in poor or mediocre condition.
- Vehicle travel on West Virginia's highways increased 30% from 1990 to 2003.
- Driving on roads in need of repair costs West Virginia motorists \$368 million a year in extra vehicle repairs and operating costs—\$279 per motorist.
- 37% of West Virginia's bridges are structurally deficient or functionally obsolete.
- There are 38 state-determined deficient dams in West Virginia.
- West Virginia has 366 high hazard dams. A high hazard dam is defined as a dam whose failure would cause a loss of life and significant property damage.
- The rehabilitation cost for West Virginia's most critical dams is estimated at \$324.2 million.
- West Virginia's drinking water infrastructure needs \$1 billion over the next 20 years
- West Virginia has \$2.52 billion in wastewater infrastructure needs.
- West Virginia generates .97 tons of solid waste per capita.
- West Virginia recycles 3.4% of the state's solid waste.
- 67% of West Virginia's schools have at least one inadequate building feature.
- 82% of West Virginia's schools have at least one unsatisfactory environmental condition.

Just as the ASCE National Report Card addresses issues on national level, states are encouraged to develop or update a state-level report card that can be used by local officials to address shortfalls in funding of local infrastructure needs. There are 15 categories that can be graded as part of the report card. Each state can identify which areas are important to them and focus their efforts on those categories. To develop or update a *Report Card*, the local Section can assemble a panel of local civil engineers or other interested participants to gather and analyze data for the categories of local interest. To assist the states in the development of this project, the Region 4 Board of Governors has obtained a grant to help each state produce or update a state-level report card. Additionally, as part of this initiative, the Region is sponsoring training for the Section and Branches to help them undertake the development and production of a local *Report Card*. This training will be at the next Region Assembly meeting scheduled for **September 19 – 20, 2008 in Nashville, Tennessee**. More information regarding the Assembly Meeting and training will be sent out in the coming weeks. All Sections and Branches are encouraged to send representatives to this meeting and take advantage of

the training and to see what other resources are available to make this effort a success. If you have any questions on this project please do not hesitate to contact me at [ted\\_kniazewycz@gspnet.com](mailto:ted_kniazewycz@gspnet.com)

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