ASHE NORTHEAST REGION
2026 TRANSPORTATION CONFERENCE PROGRAM AND SCHEDULE
(10-19-26)

EARLY ARRIVAL HOSPITALITY & NETWORKING EVENT
Wednesday October 21, 2026
The Barn @ Englewood Hershey: 6:00 PM to 8:30 PM

CONFERENCE DAY 1: THURSDAY OCTOBER 22, 2026

(Conference Sessions in the Garden Terrace Ballroom at The Hotel Hershey (except as noted)

TIME	PROGRAM	SPEAKER
7:30-8:30AM	Continental Breakfast	
8:30AM	Conference Welcome	***Paul McNamee, Conference Chairman, KCI Technologies***
8:45AM	ASHE Northeast Region Welcome	***Todd Rousenberger, PE ASHE NE Region President RK&K***
9:00-9:45AM	Paving the Way Forward	***Daniel Hesslein, PE, Chief Engineer New Jersey Turnpike Authority***
9:45-10:45AM	Meadowlands North Pedestrian Bridge (MNPB) Design-Build Project	***Stewart Willis, PE, Vice President AECOM and Joseph Vavrence, PE, Sr. Project Manager Joseph M. Sanzari, Inc.***
10:45-11:00AM	Refreshment Break	
11:00-11:45AM	Doing Business with the Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission	***Kevin M. Skeels, PE, Chief Engineer Delaware River Joint Toll Bridge Commission***
11:45-12:00PM	ASHE National Update	***Kathryn Fink, PE, ASHE National President PennDOT Distrct 11***
12:00-1:00PM	Buffet Lunch	
1::00-1:45PM	Connecting the DOTs: Cultivating Next-Generation Engineering Leaders	***Carrie Lavallee, PE, NBIS, Deputy Administrator & Chief Engineer MassDOT Highway Division***
1:45-2:30PM	Accelerate: How SEPTA is Advancing its Best-Class Vision for a Great Philadelphia Region	***Matthew Zapson, AICP, Manager, Planning Programs Southeastern PA Transportation Authority (SEPTA)***
2:30-2:45PM	Refreshment Break	
2:45-3:45PM	NJDOT'S Alternative Delivery of Electric Vehicle Infrastructure: NEVI & SEP -14	***Nart Appesh, Regional Construction Engineer, Construction & Materials North; Diljeet Khokher, MSCE, Assistant Project Manager; Brian J. Hegarty, PE, LEED AP, Vice President, GFT Construction Services***
4:00-5:00PM	ASHE NE Region Board Meeting	***ASHE NE Region Board***
5:30-9:00PM	Hospitality and Networking Event	***The Hotel Hershey Fountain Atrium, 2nd Floor***
8:00-11:00PM	ASHE NE Region Hospitality Suite	***The High Point Suite, The Hershey Hotel***

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CONFERENCE DAY 2: FRIDAY OCTOBER 23, 2026

TIME	PROGRAM	SPEAKER
7:30-8:30AM	Continental Breakfast	
8:30-9:15AM	Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission: Leaving Footprints in the Industry Since 1940	***Mark P. Compton, Chief Executive Officer and Bradley J. Heigel, PE, Chief Engineer Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission***
9:15-10:00AM	The PennDOT Perspective	***Secretary Mike Carroll Pennsylvania Department of Transportation***
10:00-10:30AM	Refreshment Break	
10:30-11:15AM	The Road Less Funded: DelDOT's Budget Realities	***Mike Luszcz, PE, PTOE, Chief Engineer Delaware Department of Transportation***
11:15-12:00PM	Sustaining Critical Connections: DRPA's Capital Program & Future Priorities	***Michael Rakowski, PE, Manager, Planning and Design Delaware River Port Authority***
12:00PM	Closing Remarks	***Paul McNamee and Todd Rousenberger, PE***