

Professional Construction Estimators Association

Orlando, FL









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PRESIDENT'S LETTER



David Colvin

<u>Landreth</u> <u>Lighting</u>

PCEA Orlando Chapter 22 President

Such a great start to Summer having Craig Ustler with Ustler Group present at our member meeting in June! What an exciting presentation knowing that the overall Creative Village Development is just past the halfway point, with more construction in Phase II! It truly is invigorating to see Craig's commitment to improving downtown Orlando through his developments. Thank you, Craig!

We have upcoming events, including Summer Golf on July 14th, Broken Strings Brewery Social on July 20th, and our member meeting on July 25th. It will undoubtedly be a busy month coming off the July 4th Holiday. Please make sure to go to the website and get registered! Looking ahead to August, we welcome Allen Johnson, the City of Orlando's Chief Venues Officer August 22nd for what will be an excellent presentation. I hear that there are exciting developments with COO Venues. Please mark your calendars for our Annual Steak on the Lake at the Orange County Sportsman's Association on September 14th. As always, it will be a fantastic time to reconnect with members and prospective members as a membership drive event. Space is limited, so register you and your prospective member/guests soon!

We are committed to continuing the best programs we can offer. We thank you for your continued support during the busy summer with vacations and downtime. If you have any ideas for a presentation that you would find interesting and informative, please get in touch with Fred Metz or me to discuss. We are always looking forward to the following excellent presentation!

With back-to-school fast approaching, please help us by bringing school supplies to any July event for our back-to-school drive. Every little bit helps the kids in need. Looking forward to the Fall, we will be sorting food again at Second Harvest Food Bank in November before the Thanksgiving Holiday

A great big thanks to our sponsors, and to you for being a part of PCEA Orlando Chapter 22!

UPCOMING EVENTS

to register visit our website www.pcea-orlando.org

PCEA Summer Golf

14 Jul 2023 – 7:30 AM - 4:00 PM Forest Lake Golf CLub

Summer Social

20 Jul 2023 5:30 PM Broken Strings Brewery 1012 W Church Street, Orlando

July Membership Meeting

25 Jul 2023 – 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM Citrus Club 255 S Orange Ave #1800, Orlando, FL 32801

August Membership Meeting

Allen Johnson, City of Orlando Chief Venues Officer
22 Aug 2023 5:30 PM
Citrus Club
255 S Orange Ave #1800, Orlando, FL 32801

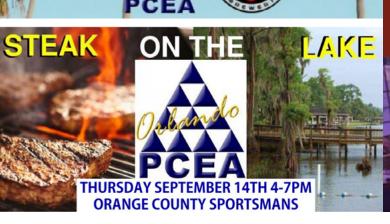
• Steak on the Lake & Membership Drive

14 Sep 2023 4:00 PM Orange County Sportsmans Club

ATTENDEES MUST REGISTER IN ADVANCE FOR ALL EVENTS









BRIGHTLINE'S \$5B ORLANDO HIGH-SPEED RAIL EXTENSION COMPLETE

Private passenger railroad company Brightline celebrated the completion of its \$5 billion, 170-mile Orlando-to-South Florida high-speed rail extension on Wednesday, built by five different contractors. Brightline is the first private entity to deliver an intercity rail system in the U.S. in more than a century, the company claims.

The new line runs from the recently-built South Terminal at the Orlando International Airport to West Palm Beach, Florida, according to a Palo Alto, California-based Brightline press release. It will connect to its existing line between Miami and West Palm Beach, which has carried passengers since 2018.

Brightline divided work on the Orlando extension into four zones, and the project included constructing a \$100 million vehicle maintenance facility, tenant buildout of the Orlando station at Orlando Airport, 56 bridges, three new underpasses and upgrades to 156 railroad crossings.

Brightline's Orlando expansion broke ground in June 2019, one year after operations began in South Florida between its Miami, Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach stations. Despite the COVID-19 pandemic and supply chain shortages, the opening was only slightly delayed from its original 2022 date, according to the release.

The contractors for the extension are:

- Winter Park, Florida-based Hubbard Construction Company, Zone 1.
- Sanford, Florida-based Wharton-Smith, Zone 1.
- Littleton, Massachusetts-based The Middlesex Corporation, Zone 2.
- Watsonville, California-based Granite, Zone 3.
- Melbourne, Florida-based HSR Constructors, a joint venture composed of Herzog, Stacy and Witbeck and Railworks, Zone 4.

Lessons for other rail projects

In general, U.S. rail projects take longer and cost more than their European counterparts, thanks to high labor costs largely due to healthcare expenses, change orders and public transit agencies' lack of experience in building new infrastructure. There are potential lessons to take from Brightline's Orlando expansion, however.

Contractors completed the Orlando expansion quickly and relatively inexpensively, in stark contrast to California's high-speed rail effort, which was originally supposed to span 500 miles and carry passengers from Los Angeles to San Francisco. That project has seen massive cost increases — with a price tag of \$128 billion at the most recent estimate, up from the \$33 billion cost voters approved in 2008 — as well as delays and cuts to its network.

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7/5/2023

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 $\label{thm:condition} \mbox{Superior Rigging \& Erecting Co.}$

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York Roofing LLC

Zaho Global Enterprise

BRIGHTLINE'S \$5B ORLANDO HIGH-SPEED RAIL EXTENSION COMPLETE— from page 3

Unlike California's high-speed rail, Brightline mostly uses existing routes, which eliminates the need to acquire large swathes of land. Instead of building the whole line before beginning passenger services, Brightline first opened a 70-mile, revenue-generating segment between Miami and West Palm Beach in 2018.

Brightline is conducting high-speed train testing in the new corridor and will test up to 110 mph through Brevard County in July. Passengers can now buy tickets for service starting Sept. 1.



Florida mayors representing cities along the new Brightline route celebrated the end of construction on Wednesday at the Brightline Orlando Station at Orlando International Airport.





PCEA ORLANDO CHAPTER 22 will again be supporting A Gift For Teaching School Supply Drive. Please see the below

items requested and bring donations
to the June and July Meetings

