



Q2 2026 NEWSLETTER

Volume 63, No. 2

ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS

- PUBLIC WORKS WEEK
- SPRING CONFERENCE RECAP
- TONY ROOS TOP 10 LEADER

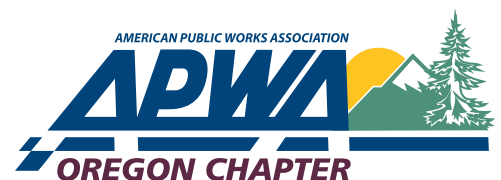


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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Shannon Williams, PE
Principal Engineer, Keller Associates
2026 Oregon Chapter President

Hello, fellow American Public Works Association Members!

I don't know about you, but I left our Spring Conference in Seaside energized. We enjoyed outstanding educational sessions, a packed exhibitor hall, and activities that offered something for everyone. A huge thank you to

our conference planning committee and our events team at Meetings, Management, and More. You knocked it out of the park!

The weather certainly did its part, giving us beautiful sunshine throughout the conference and perfect conditions for golf at Gearhart Golf Links. And to the ladies who joined us on the course in costume, thank you for humoring me and embracing the fun. Public works is serious business, but it's nice to remember we don't always have to be.

We were also honored to welcome several distinguished guests, including APWA Past President **Dominic Longabardi**, Region IX Director **Tina Nelson**, and Washington Chapter President **Jim Rioux** (City of Olympia). It was a pleasure to connect with them and hear about the exciting initiatives happening at both the national level and within our neighboring Washington Chapter.

One of my favorite parts of the conference was seeing familiar faces alongside so many new ones. Our First Timers Meet the Board event gave us a chance to welcome new members, share stories, answer questions, and build new connections. It's always exciting to see fresh faces joining our APWA family.

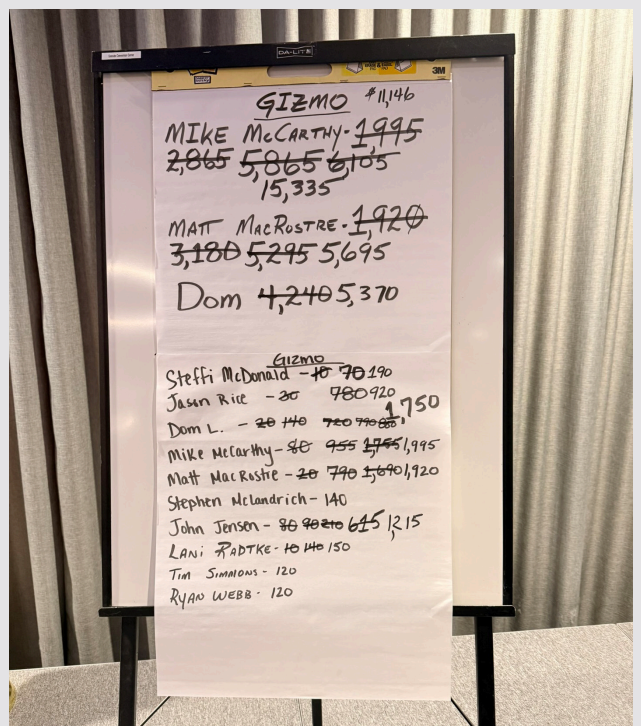
We also had a successful fundraiser for the Scholastic Foundation and, once again, had the honor of burdening (I mean, awarding) Gizmo to **Mike McCarthy** from the City of Tualatin. Rumor has it that a few particularly persuasive Young Professionals had something to do with the legendary beast now calling Tualatin home. Mike, we wish you the best of luck!

In June, your Board adopted the 2026-2027 budget and met jointly with the Scholastic Foundation to hear about the incredible work they're doing to support the next generation of public works professionals. As we continue looking for ways to strengthen our Chapter and enhance member value, don't be surprised if you begin to see a few exciting changes over the coming months.

Looking ahead, we have an outstanding lineup of educational opportunities, including the 2026 Fall Conference in Eugene, Short Schools, and leadership development programs. I encourage you to take advantage of everything our Chapter has to offer.

As always, thank you for your continued involvement and support of APWA Oregon. I look forward to seeing many of you at our upcoming events.

If you'd like to connect, don't hesitate to reach out to me at swilliams@kellerassociates.com.



CELEBRATING PUBLIC WORKS WEEK

*by Michael McGillivray, City of Springfield and Communications Committee/Ashley Hagg, City of Happy Valley/
 Marion Sutor, City of Eugene and Communications Committee*

City of Springfield Celebrates Public Works Week with Carnival and Equipment Rodeo

The City of Springfield celebrated National Public Works Week by welcoming more than 530 third-grade students for a behind-the-scenes look at public works during its annual Public Works Week Carnival and Equipment Rodeo at City Hall.

During the two-day event, students explored the many services that keep their community running through hands-on activities, games, and equipment demonstrations led by Springfield's Development and Public Works (DPW) staff. Inside City Hall, students rotated through 10 public works-themed stations, learning about topics such as traffic safety, surveying, and building safety through interactive games and challenges.

Outside, the equipment rodeo showcased the vehicles and technology used to maintain Springfield's transportation, urban forestry, and wastewater infrastructure. Students explored everything from street maintenance equipment and tree-trimming operations to a CCTV sewer inspection van.

Staff from Springfield Utility Board (SUB), Springfield's local water and electric utility, participated for the first time, bringing a utility crane truck used in underground utility work. Longtime partner Sanipac also returned with a recycling truck and hands-on activities that taught students about waste collection and recycling.

For many students, the event provided their first glimpse into the wide range of careers within public works while connecting everyday services such as safe roads, utilities, building safety, and waste collection to the people who make them possible. By turning City Hall into a classroom filled with games, equipment, and hands-on learning, Springfield's Public Works Week celebration inspired curiosity and highlighted the essential role public works plays in daily life.



Photos courtesy of the City of Springfield

City of Happy Valley: Big Trucks and Dirt Cups

The City of Happy Valley Parks & Recreation Department recently welcomed families for a fun-filled Public Works Day celebration, offering the community a behind-the-scenes look at the hardworking team that helps keep Happy Valley running every day.

Guests enjoyed sweet dirt cup treats, temporary tattoos, and mini safety vests modeled after the gear worn by their public works crew. Kids stayed entertained with hands-on activities like “Hammer Time,” “Pipeline,” and digging in the sand pit, plus a playful “car wash” station that added to the excitement.

One of the biggest attractions of the day was the chance to explore real public works vehicles up close. From dump trucks and big rigs to street sweepers, children climbed aboard and imagined themselves behind the wheel. Smiles and laughter filled the event as young visitors got a firsthand look at the equipment that helps keep their city safe and clean.

Public Works Day is an opportunity to recognize the essential services that support our communities every day—from maintaining streets and water systems to caring for parks and public spaces. The event provided a fun and meaningful way for families to connect with the dedicated crews who make this work possible.

A big thank you to the Happy Valley public works team and Clackamas Water Environment Services for all they do to keep Happy Valley safe, clean, and thriving in every season!



Photos courtesy of the City of Happy Valley

City of Salem Celebrates Public Works with Salem Service Day

On June 11, Salem Public Works hosted its annual Salem Service Day at Riverfront Park, bringing together community members and City staff for a day of fun, education, and appreciation for the essential services that keep Salem running.

The event featured participation from multiple City departments, including police, public works, parks, and other service teams, giving residents an opportunity to explore equipment, ask questions, and learn more about the people and programs that support their community every day. More than 1,000 hot dogs were served as families and visitors enjoyed the festivities.

With activities and displays that appealed to both children and adults, Salem Service Day provided a unique behind-the-scenes look at the many ways public servants work to maintain and enhance the quality of life in the community.



Photos courtesy of the City of Salem

City of Eugene Showcases the Impact of Public Works Through Video Series

In recognition of Public Works Week, Eugene Public Works embraced its department motto, “*Making Lives Better Through the Services We Provide Each Day*,” by launching a video series highlighting its six divisions and the many services they provide to the community.

Centered around the theme, “*How Eugene Public Works touches people’s lives each day, often without them even knowing*,” the series offered a behind-the-scenes look at the dedicated work performed by staff to support the safety, health, and quality of life of Eugene residents.

Released one video per day across social media platforms, the campaign generated strong public engagement and positive feedback while helping increase awareness of the essential services public works teams provide every day. The videos will also remain available on the City’s website, creating a lasting resource for community members to learn more about the people and programs that keep Eugene running.

You can view the full [Public Works Week video series](#) on the City of Eugene website.

OREGON SPRING CONFERENCE RECAP: SEASIDE 2026

by Erin Reed, Consor and Communications Committee

APWA Oregon members gathered in Seaside this spring for another successful conference filled with learning, networking, and a healthy dose of coastal sunshine. Attendees from across the state came together to share ideas, strengthen professional connections, and celebrate the public works profession.

The 2026 Spring Conference **welcomed 263 attendees, including 30 first-time participants**, demonstrating the continued growth and engagement of Oregon's public works community. Throughout the conference, attendees had the opportunity to participate in **22 technical presentations** covering a wide range of public works topics, challenges, and innovations. These sessions provided valuable opportunities to learn from industry leaders, agency representatives, consultants, and peers from around the state.

The conference also featured a **sold-out exhibitor hall with 61 exhibitors**, offering attendees the chance to connect with industry partners, explore new technologies, and learn about products and services that support public works agencies.

Beyond the technical program, attendees embraced the opportunity to enjoy the Oregon Coast while giving back to the community and connecting with fellow professionals. **Approximately 32 participants joined the Fun Run, while another 10 volunteers participated in the Beach Clean-Up**, helping keep Seaside's coastline beautiful.

The spirit of giving was on full display throughout the conference, with attendees, sponsors, exhibitors, and participants helping raise an impressive **\$12,735.65 for the APWA Oregon Scholarship Program**. This incredible contribution will help support students pursuing careers in public works and related fields, reinforcing the Chapter's commitment to developing the next generation of industry leaders.

As always, one of the greatest strengths of the APWA Oregon Spring Conference was the opportunity to build relationships. Whether attending educational sessions, visiting exhibitors, participating in networking events, or reconnecting with colleagues and friends, attendees helped create an engaging and welcoming environment for both longtime members and first-time participants.

Thank you to our presenters, exhibitors, sponsors, volunteers, committee members, and attendees who helped make the 2026 Spring Conference such a success. Your commitment to advancing public works and supporting the APWA Oregon Chapter continues to strengthen our profession and our communities.

We look forward to seeing everyone again this fall as APWA Oregon heads to Eugene for the 2026 Fall Conference!





TONY ROOS: A CAREER DEDICATED TO PUBLIC WORKS, LEADERSHIP, AND SERVICE

by Oregon APWA Chapter Board of Directors/Jennifer Rodgers, Paradigm Communications and Communications Committee

For nearly three decades, Tony Roos, PE, has dedicated his career to strengthening communities through public works and civil engineering. As Senior Principal Engineer with Kittelson & Associates and a respected leader within the engineering profession, Tony has built a reputation for technical excellence, collaborative leadership, and an unwavering commitment to serving others.

In 2026, Tony was recognized as one of the APWA's Top Ten Public Works Leaders of the Year—an honor that reflects not only his professional accomplishments, but also his impact on the public works community throughout Oregon.

A Longtime Passion for Engineering

Since seventh grade, Tony knew he wanted to become a civil engineer. That early passion has remained a driving force throughout his life, guiding a career defined by curiosity, service, and a desire to improve the places where people live, work, and travel.

Over the course of nearly 28 years in public works, Tony has developed a comprehensive understanding of planning, design, construction, maintenance, and operations. His experience spans both public agencies and private consulting firms, providing him a unique perspective on the challenges and opportunities facing local governments now.

Tony listens carefully to stakeholders, understands community concerns, and develops practical, sustainable solutions people can support and understand. Colleagues describe him as a thoughtful leader who combines technical expertise with a genuine commitment to collaboration.

A Career Serving the Public

Tony's career in public service began with Multnomah County, where he worked as a bridge inspector from 1997 to 2000. During that time, he served as a Certified Paint Inspector on the approximately \$20 million Hawthorne Bridge rehabilitation project, gaining firsthand experience with critical infrastructure preservation and construction oversight.

As his career progressed, Tony transitioned into consulting, where he continued to expand his expertise while helping public agencies deliver complex infrastructure projects. Throughout his professional journey, he consistently sought opportunities to strengthen the firms he joined by expanding their capabilities and deepening their focus on public-sector clients.



Tony recognized many firms lacked expertise in certain phases of project delivery—particularly the comprehensive services public agencies often require. He worked to broaden service offerings, helping organizations provide support from planning and preliminary engineering through final design and construction. His efforts not only benefited clients but also created opportunities for younger engineers to learn across the full project lifecycle. Tony's career has been committed to investing in people and building stronger institutions.

A Champion for the Profession

Tony demonstrates extraordinary dedication to advancing the engineering and public works professions through volunteer leadership and professional service. His involvement with APWA, the Society of American Military Engineers (SAME), and the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) has helped strengthen organizations that support thousands of professionals across the country. His proudest SAME moment was the 2020 grand opening of the Vern Gallaway Veterans Park in North Plains, Oregon. Tony donated over 500 hours of his time to design the park and rallied pro-bono support from other SAME firms for geotechnical and structural design.

Within APWA Oregon, Tony's leadership has been particularly impactful. He served on the Chapter Board of Directors and advanced through several executive leadership positions, including Treasurer and Chapter President. As Treasurer, he successfully led the Chapter's modernization of financial management systems, improving operational efficiency. In 2021, Tony was elected Chapter President. Throughout his tenure, he focused on strengthening member engagement, supporting professional development opportunities, and ensuring the Chapter remained well-positioned to serve future generations.

Investing in the Next Generation

Recognizing the importance of attracting talented young people to public works careers, Tony has been a driving force behind APWA Oregon's Scholastic Foundation. Through fundraising efforts and member engagement, the Foundation now provides nearly \$42,000 annually in scholarships to students pursuing careers in public works and related fields.



As a Trustee of the Scholastic Foundation, Tony continues to help guide the organization's long-term strategy, financial stewardship, and program growth. His efforts ensure that future engineers, public works professionals, and community leaders have access to opportunities that can launch successful careers.



His commitment to mentorship extends beyond formal scholarship programs. Whether speaking with high school students at SAME engineering camps, onboarding new engineers, or recruiting new APWA members, Tony encourages others to explore careers in civil engineering and public works.

He believes engineering is a pathway to serving communities and improving quality of life. That message has inspired countless students and young professionals.

Leadership Recognized

In 2023, Tony received the William A. Bowes Award, the highest honor presented by the APWA Oregon Chapter. The award recognizes individuals whose leadership and service have had a lasting positive influence on public works programs, policies, and the professional community.

The recognition reflects decades of dedication to advancing public works, strengthening professional organizations, and fostering collaboration among practitioners throughout Oregon.



His service has also extended to the national level. In 2025, Tony was appointed to APWA's Transportation Committee, where he contributes his expertise to discussions that help shape transportation policy and best practices across the country. He previously served on APWA's Project of the Year Committee, helping recognize exemplary public works projects and promote professional excellence nationwide.

Outside APWA, Tony has held executive leadership positions with SAME's Portland Post and served as the organization's Northern Tier Regional Vice President. Both SAME and ACEC have recognized his contributions by inducting him into their respective Colleges of Fellows—an honor reserved for individuals who have demonstrated exceptional leadership and service to the profession.

Tony's Legacy

His passion for engineering extends into community service through volunteer leadership roles with organizations such as the Yamhill County Road Improvement Advisory Committee, Newberg Traffic Safety Committee, Chehalem Parks and Recreation District Advisory Committee, and the Portland Archdiocese Building Commission.

Tony's commitment to service and mentorship also extends beyond public works. Since 2003, he has served as a football official, mentoring new referees and supporting the next generation of officials while continuing to contribute at the state level following his tenure as president of the Portland Football Officials Association.

Whether mentoring young professionals, developing future officials, leading industry organizations, advising communities, or delivering infrastructure projects, Tony is focused on making a positive difference.

As public works agencies across the nation face growing challenges, leaders like Tony Roos demonstrate the importance of technical expertise and service-oriented leadership. His career is an example of how engineers shape infrastructure and the future of the profession.

Tony's recognition as one of APWA's Top Ten Public Works Leaders of the Year is a fitting tribute to a career defined by technical excellence, mentorship, and a lifelong commitment to giving back.

LAKEVIEW BOULEVARD SIDEWALK & STORM PROJECT

by Dave Minor, PBOT and OpEngine Committee/Gabe Crop, Consor and OpEngine Committee

The Lakeview Boulevard Sidewalk and Storm project addresses stormwater, pedestrian, and roadway improvements within a highly constrained corridor.

On April 16, the City of Lake Oswego and consultant partner, Consor, in conjunction with the Op/Engine Committee, hosted a presentation and on-site tour to educate attendees about the project.

During the tour, City staff—including Project Manager Heike Shipton, Construction Manager Dan Payne, and Deputy Public Works Director Joel Kuhnke—explained how engineering and operations staff collaborated from project development through construction to achieve project goals.

Consor’s Gabe Crop offered the consultant team’s perspective on balancing stakeholder needs and delivering the project as part of a multidisciplinary team. Attendees walked the project corridor, discussing challenges such as narrow rights-of-way, limited easements, and utility conflicts.

A key takeaway was the importance of collaboration throughout construction. Participants learned how strong communication and flexibility helped the team address unexpected conditions, adapt in the field, and deliver a successful project.



INVESTING IN THE FUTURE: \$52,500 IN SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED TO 22 OREGON STUDENTS

by the Scholarship Committee

The Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce that 22 applicants, recommended by universities across the state, have been selected to receive a total of \$52,500 in scholarships this year. The committee has completed its review of all applications and verified that each recipient met the eligibility requirements.

We are currently gathering information from the scholarship recipients and look forward to sharing their stories and accomplishments with the chapter in the near future. We are especially encouraged that 11 recipients, half of this year’s awardees, have expressed interest in attending an upcoming chapter conference, providing a valuable opportunity to connect with the next generation of public works professionals.

The committee extends its sincere thanks to the Foundation Board for its continued support and commitment to funding scholarship opportunities that help students pursue careers in public works and related fields.

Finally, we are excited to welcome a new member to the Scholarship Committee: Dominique Huffman of Apex Companies. Please join us in welcoming Dominique to the team!

RECOGNIZE EXCELLENCE IN PUBLIC WORKS: SUBMIT YOUR 2026 APWA OREGON AWARD NOMINATIONS

by Jessica Zink, KPFF and Awards Committee

We need your help identifying outstanding public works projects and exemplary individuals to celebrate at the upcoming Fall Conference in Eugene. You can submit your nominations at [here](#) (or see Forms on the website). All nominations are due Friday, July 31, 2026.

The Awards Committee is seeking nominations for the following awards:

Project of the Year Award

Have you just wrapped up a construction project and would like to share your accomplishment with other APWA members or just want to show off your firm's/agency's success? If so, tell us about these public work projects, the challenges that were encountered, innovation and impact.

More information about the award divisions and categories is available on the Project of the Year webpage, along with a list of previous Oregon Chapter award recipients.

Awards are presented across four project budget divisions and five project categories. Select the best fit for your project and celebrate your success with us at the fall conference.

Communications Award

Is there a "Bulldog Award" nominee in your agency or firm? The Awards Committee is looking to recognize individuals who are outstanding in the public works field for their communications skills that bring educational awareness to public works projects. More information on the award can be found on the Communications Award webpage.

Everyday Heroes Award

The Everyday Heroes award recognizes an employee or group of employees who are identified by their friends, co-workers, or the public for providing good customer service (responsive, consistent, courteous), making the best use of public resources (efficient, innovative), helping co-workers succeed (mentoring, assistance, cooperation, solution-oriented), and being a great person to work with (friendly, empathetic, respectful). More information on the award can be found on the Everyday Heroes Award webpage.



Young Leader Award

Do you work with a young APWA member (under the age of 35) who has demonstrated potential as a future leader, contributed to their agency with innovative ideas, solved complex issues, or instituted cost-saving measures? If you know someone who is an emerging leader, nominate them today. More information on the award can be found on the Young Leader Award webpage.

Sustainability Practices Award

With rising material costs, fuel prices, and supply chain issues, consultants and agencies are increasing their sustainability practices and lessening the impacts that current processes have on the environment. What is your agency or firm doing to be more sustainable? The Awards Committee would like to hear from you and learn about your goals and objectives, short and long-term design practices, and green infrastructure that will sustain our society in the years to come. The Awards Committee would like to recognize these individuals, programs, agencies, and organizations for doing their part to make this world more sustainable. More information on this award can be found on the Sustainability Practices Award webpage.

Hope to see everyone in Eugene this fall; the conference is September 28-October 1.

Oregon APWA Listings



Looking to fill a position?

Look at what Oregon APWA offers:

Free listings for public works jobs in the Pacific Northwest.

Wide range of positions in the public and private sectors.

More information online or email oregonapwa@gmail.com.

TECHNOLOGY IN ACTION: HOW OREGON PUBLIC WORKS PROFESSIONALS ARE USING INNOVATION TO SOLVE EVERYDAY CHALLENGES

by Aaron Clodfelter, Washington County and Technology Committee/Riad Alharithi, Emerio Design and Technology Committee

We wanted to share a couple of stories highlighting how our members are using technology to solve real-world public works challenges. We hope to bring you more examples in future newsletters that showcase innovative tools and practices across all public works disciplines. If these topics interest you, please consider joining the Technology Committee. We are always looking for additional members and fresh perspectives!

GIS Integration Supporting ADA Improvements in Portland

The following story comes from Riad Alharithi with Emerio Design, reflecting on his experience working with the City of Portland.

The City of Portland has implemented an integrated GIS workflow to manage ADA curb ramp upgrades throughout the entire project lifecycle, from planning and design through construction.

The process begins with the City's GIS team identifying curb ramps that do not meet ADA compliance requirements. Engineering staff, working across Pavement Preservation and the Bureau of Environmental Services, use this information to determine which ramps should be upgraded in conjunction with paving projects.

The ADA design team then develops plans and calculates per-corner quantities, including concrete volumes, saw-cut lengths, and asphalt backfill estimates. All information is uploaded back into the GIS system, giving construction teams a single source of truth for planning and execution.

Crew leads and supervisors use the data to estimate materials, coordinate inlet and pipe work, and forecast production schedules. In the field, excavation, forming, concrete, and asphalt crews each carry an iPad that provides direct access to the GIS map and associated plans. As work progresses, crews log production in real time, feeding a live dashboard that displays the status of every curb ramp, whether it is under construction, ready for concrete, or complete.

By connecting planning, design, and construction operations through a unified GIS platform, the City has improved forecasting, coordination, and communication while keeping everyone aligned with the latest information.

GPS Technology Streamlines Roadway Striping in Washington County

This story comes from Aaron Clodfelter's experience in Washington County and demonstrates how GPS and image data collection technology can improve safety and efficiency during paving projects.

Washington County recently completed a paving project on a busy two-lane roadway. Typically, our Traffic Engineering technicians mark the locations of pavement markings immediately after paving while an active work zone is still in place. On this project, however, we were unable to do so.

Fortunately, the striping contractor had documented the existing striping layout using equipment that incorporated GPS coordinates and image data. By loading the information into the striping vehicle's onboard system, the contractor was able to automatically recreate the original pavement markings as the vehicle traveled the roadway.

Because no modifications to the striping layout were required, the process worked seamlessly. It eliminated the need to establish a separate work zone for manual layout, saving several thousand dollars while reducing employee exposure to the risks associated with working in active traffic environments.

Technology continues to provide new opportunities to improve safety, efficiency, and service delivery across public works, and we look forward to sharing more examples from around Oregon.

If you have a story to share or would like to get involved with the Technology Committee, please reach out. We'd love to hear from you!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Please continue to check our website and social media channels for upcoming events, registration details, sponsorship opportunities, and more!

SAVE THE DATE!

2026 Event Dates

APWA Oregon Chapter
Fall Conference
September 28-October 1, 2026
The Graduate, Eugene

Street Maintenance & Collection System
Fall Short School
October 13-15, 2026
Best Western Agate Beach, Newport

Public Works Leadership Skills
November 17-20, 2026
Broadway Commons, Salem

2027 Event Dates

Public Works Essentials
March 2-5, 2027
Best Western, Hood River

The Developing Leader
March 30-April 2, 2027
Sunriver Resort, Sunriver

Street Maintenance & Collection System
Spring Short School
April 6-8, 2027
Riverhouse Lodge, Bend

APWA Oregon Chapter
Spring Conference
April 19-22, 2027
Riverhouse Lodge, Bend



PWX 2026
August 30–September 2, 2026
George R. Brown Convention Center
Houston, Texas