

Call For Abstracts

The HGS welcomes papers on subjects concerning highway related geological and geotechnical problems, and the solutions developed to address them. Strong consideration is given to problem solving. Topics encouraged (but not limited to) include:

- Landslides and rockfall
- Karst terrain
- Geotechnical innovations and instrumentation
- Post wildfire debris flows
- Seismic hazard and mitigation
- Rock and soil slope design
- Retaining structures
- Resiliency and management of geotechnical assets
- Geotechnical asset management
- Earthquake induced failures
- Geophysical test methods
- Foundations
- Bedrock and structural geology challenges in transportation
- Risk management
- Ground improvements

Abstracts should be 250 words or less. The deadline for submission is **March 9, 2026**.

Please include the name, address, phone number, and email address of all authors. Abstracts should be submitted electronically in MS Word, 12-point Times New Roman font, double spaced and left justified. Authors of accepted abstracts will be notified by April 13, 2026. An electronic copy of accepted papers must be received by July 15, 2026. Abstracts will appear in the printed proceedings. Full papers will be published in the Symposium proceedings in electronic format which will be distributed to all attendees.

Abstracts can be uploaded from the on the HGS website (below) or to this link: [Abstract, Paper & Presentation Upload](#)

Call for Young Authors

The Highway Geology Symposium recognizes that the participation of young professionals is vital to the continued existence and success of the HGS. To encourage and foster this participation, the HGS National Steering Committee established the Young Author Award in 2014. A young Author is defined as being of age 35 or younger in the year of the Symposium. The top paper receives a trophy, substantial cash prize and complimentary registration to next year's Symposium. Cash prizes are also usually awarded to second and sometimes third place papers. Potential participants **must** complete the Young Author Competition Registration form on the HGS website to be considered.

Hotel Information

The Symposium will be held at the Whitney Peak Hotel Reno, Tapestry Collection by Hilton, 255 N Virginia St, Reno, NV 89501, phone (775) 398-5400. The HGS group rate for a standard room is \$159/night plus tax. There are also a limited number of rooms available at the prevailing per-diem rate for state and federal government employees (with ID upon check-in). This rate is available until **September 4th** or until sold out, whichever occurs first. Please visit the [HGS website](#) for more information.

Reno/Sparks Area

Reno/Sparks sit in northern Nevada in the Truckee Meadows on the east side of the Sierra Nevada, less than an hour from Lake Tahoe. The area is served by Reno Tahoe International Airport, with nonstop flights to major hubs like Chicago O'Hare, Denver, Dallas Fort Worth, Los Angeles, and San Francisco. Reno/Sparks have the ease of a smaller community with the amenities and energy of a growing metro area, with a lively riverfront, Midtown arts and dining, and a busy calendar of festivals and events. It is also home to the University of Nevada, Reno, and it offers plenty of cultural opportunities alongside a distinctive high desert vibe. Just as importantly, Reno/Sparks are a gateway to world class outdoor recreation in every season, from hiking and biking to skiing and lake days in Tahoe.

Guest Field trip

The guest field trip is still in the planning phase. More information to come!

Symposium Organization

The Highway Geology Symposium originated in 1950 as a forum to foster better understanding and closer cooperation between geologists, civil engineers and practitioners in the highway industry. There is no central headquarters, annual dues or formal membership. The governing body is a Steering Committee, consisting of geologists and geotechnical engineers from state and federal agencies, universities, and private sector companies. For more information, visit the HGS web site at:

www.highwaygeologysymposium.org

