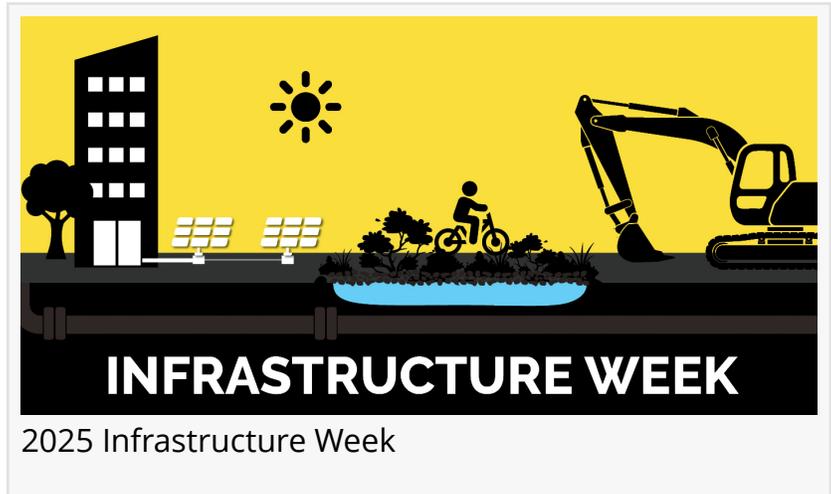


Building Resilience Beneath the Surface: K+W's Infrastructure Week 2025

*Driving Progress and Strengthen
Communities*

CA, UNITED STATES, May 22, 2025
/EINPresswire.com/ -- Look closer.

Beneath every thriving city is a network of systems, hidden, powerful, and essential. This is infrastructure. It is the silent force beneath busy streets, the veins that deliver water, energy, and connectivity. It is the pathways that bring nature to neighborhoods and the barriers that protect communities from storms. Infrastructure is everywhere, but it works best when you hardly notice it.



At K+W, we do more than design roads, pipelines, or power systems. We engineer connections. Our teams design solutions that drive growth, ensure resilience, and adapt to tomorrow's challenges.

For Infrastructure Week 2025, we pulled back the curtain on the systems that keep cities moving and spotlighting the engineers who solve complex problems, design for resilience, and build for the future. Follow along below for expert insights, real projects, and stories behind the systems that shape our world.

Scalable Systems: Building the Backbone of Regional Growth

"Infrastructure isn't just about code compliance. It's about designing systems that work long term. Engaging early and educating stakeholders is where it all starts." – Adam Mahoney, PE, PLS

Growth doesn't happen without a plan, and in Stockton, it doesn't happen without the right infrastructure.

Before a 200-acre fulfillment center could rise, there was a challenge beneath the surface. Water, sewer, and storm systems had to support Walmart's 120-acre expansion while laying the

foundation for 300 acres of future development. But outdated standards, complex regulations, and multi-agency coordination threatened to slow progress.

That's where the K+W team came in. With technical oversight by Adam Mahoney, PE, PLS, and stakeholder engagement and overall design team led by Associate, Michael Ebenal, PE, QSD/QSP they transformed complexity into clarity. The team designed and coordinated over 26,000 feet of pipeline, a storm lift station, detention basins, and seamless utility integration.

But this was more than a pipeline project, it was a catalyst. By planning beyond the site, K+W accelerated the City of Stockton's capital improvement planning and unlocked new potential for regional growth.

Infrastructure in Elevation: Grading, Flow, and Function

"Simplicity is the mark of great design. Achieving it takes experience, skill, and a deep understanding of the challenge." – Michael Bassilios, PE

At a large food distribution center in Northern California, a 100-acre site with a 40-foot elevation change presents both an opportunity and an obstacle. Efficient traffic flow, precise grading, and reliable utility access are all at stake. Without the right approach, the project could become a logistical nightmare.

But the K+W team is turning complexity into clarity. Guided by Michael Bassilios, PE, they are transforming this site with a precise grading plan that balances slopes, controls runoff, and ensures smooth truck access without backups. Every curve, every slope, and every connection is calculated for efficiency.

The team's work doesn't stop at the surface, coordinating closely with the local water provider, resolving zone conflicts, and maintaining consistent service. What could be a costly, congested site is becoming a showcase of strategic design.

This is grading at its best, transforming land into possibilities.

Nature-Inspired Infrastructure: Bridging Access and Conservation

"Trail infrastructure is about creating access, connecting people to nature and each other while preserving the landscapes that make those spaces meaningful." – Sam Bellomio, PE

Picture a trail that weaves through nature, offering a path to peace, a journey to discovery, and a promise to protect what matters.

In San Diego's Chollas Creek region, the K+W team faces a challenge — transforming an informal 2.1-mile trail into a permanent, ADA-accessible route without compromising the environment.

As part of the K+W team, Sam Bellomio, PE, is helping turn complexity into connection. The trail

winds through steep terrain, flood zones, and a protected habitat, creating a route where access and conservation coexist. Stormwater systems are reengineered to prevent erosion, a 200-foot pedestrian bridge spans sensitive areas without disruption, and native vegetation preserves ecological balance.

Hydrology, Harmony, and the Power Behind the Panels

"Renewable energy infrastructure is never one-size-fits-all. Every solar site demands custom hydrology calculations and collaborative planning across engineering disciplines." – Rachel Kessler, PE

Not all green energy is created equally, some of it begins with protecting the land beneath.

At a solar site in the Southeastern U.S., a new ordinance reclassified 70% of the land as impervious, turning a renewable energy project into a potential environmental risk. Without smart planning, stormwater runoff could erode the landscape, disrupt ecosystems, and undermine sustainability. The challenge was clear: deliver clean energy without damaging the environment.

The KWRE team, K+W's affiliate, saw the problem as an opportunity. With Rachel Kessler, PE, bringing hydrology expertise, they designed a solution that did more than comply, it transformed the site. A post-construction basin became a dual-purpose system, managing sediment during construction while preserving the landscape.

See how KWRE, K+W's affiliate firm, powers clean energy infrastructure at kwrenewableengineering.design.

Beneath the Surface: Solving for the Seen and Unseen

"Design infrastructure for constructability. What works in CAD doesn't always work in the field. Real-world solutions demand real-world thinking." – Sabrina Shuman, PE

Cities are more than what you see. Their strength is built below the surface, in the systems that protect, connect, and sustain.

In South San Francisco, where space is tight and complexity is constant, stormwater management is about more than managing rain. It is about safeguarding the city from what you cannot see. Flooding, system failures, and utility conflicts were all threats beneath the surface.

The K+W team, including Sabrina Shuman, PE, turned these obstacles into opportunities. Instead of simply placing pipes, they engineered resilience. They reimaged a low-pressure fire water system, designed a bubbler pump for poorly draining soils, and optimized utility corridors to fit within tight spaces.

Every connection, every pipe, and every foundation was rethought for performance and

reliability. This is infrastructure that does more than fit into a city. It protects it.

Infrastructure is the foundation beneath progress, the invisible network that connects, protects, and sustains our world. All week, we explored the systems that shape our communities: pipelines that deliver life's essentials, grading that turns raw land into opportunity, trails that connect people to nature, renewable energy that respects the environment, and stormwater systems that guard cities from what you can't see.

But our work goes beyond design. It is about solving the unsolvable, transforming challenges into opportunities, and designing resilience into every project. From the streets of California to solar fields across the U.S., K+W and our affiliate KWRE are more than engineers, we are problem solvers, visionaries, and partners in building a sustainable future.

If you are planning a new development or expanding into new markets, partner with a team that views infrastructure as a catalyst for growth, resilience, and innovation.

Let's build what's next. Kier + Wright | Excellence in Engineering Since 1972 | ☐ Propelling Communities Toward a Brighter Future☐ Valuing Human Connections in Every Relationship☐ Collaboratively Tackling Complex Project Challenges☐ Success Rooted in Experience and Collaboration☐ Join Us in Shaping a Better Tomorrow!

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