AGENDA ITEM
CA 7

TRAVEL APPROVAL FORM

Department: Engineering

Event Name: 2026 TACERAConference

Location: 100 Washington Ave, Waco, TX 76701

Event Dates: October 19-22, 2026

Purpose:

- ☑ Required Continuing Education/Certification
- ☐ Job Training
- ☐ Other: _____

Name of Attendees:

Colt Friedrich

Court Decision:
This section to be completed by County Judge's Office

Johnson County APPROVED Commissioners Court

8.10.2026

Required Documents Checklist:

**** Same-Day Travel - Commissioners Court Approval is not required ****

Overnight Travel

- ☑ Travel Approval Form
- ☐ Registration Information or Confirmation
- ☑ Itinerary, Agenda, or Breakdown
- ☑ Hotel Information, Confirmation, or Hotel Reservation Request Form

For Out of State Travel, please also include:

- ☐ Cost Estimation Breakdown for Trip with Airfare, Rental Car, Meals, Hotel, Etc.
- ☐ Narrative as to why the Out of State Travel is necessary

Signature of Elected Official/Department Head:

Approved in CC on 9/11/2023

2026 Texas Association of County Engineers & Road Administrators (TACERA) Conference Registration Form

Tuesday – Thursday, October 20, 2026 thru October 22, 2026
Conference Location – Waco Convention Center
100 Washington Ave, Waco, TX 76701

Cost to Attend Full Conference

☑ $175 (Member) ☐ $250 (Non-Member)

Name: Colt Friedrich

Title: County Engineer

County or Business: Johnson County, TX

Address: 2 N Mill, Ste 316

City / State / Zip: Cleburne, Texas 76033

Telephone Number: (817) 202-2990 E-mail: cfriedrich@johnsoncountytx.org

Please make checks payable to: ***TACERA***

Send check and completed Registration Form to:	**TACERA** **P.O. Box 185276, Fort Worth, TX 76181-0276**
Questions, call:	**(512) 260-1376** **Robert Berndt, Executive Secretary** **tacera1@yahoo.com**
Credit Card payments:	**www.tacera1.org under Events**
Refunds:	**No Refunds after August 28, 2026 at 5pm (CST)**

Hotel Accommodations (Both Hotels will offer FREE Breakfast to TACERA Attendees)

TACERA has negotiated a special group rate of only $164.73/night. To make your reservations and get this special rate, simply call the ***Hilton Waco*** (254-754-8484) and give the representative our Group Name (TACERA 2026) and/or the Hilton Code 910. You may also use the following Booking Link: (hilton.com/en/attend-my-event/actwhhf-910-60950b2d-6e81-496a-b23e-6e9ed6de820a/)(Copy & Paste Link)

TACERA has negotiated a special group rate of only $139/night. To make your reservations and get this special rate, simply call the ***Courtyard Waco*** (254-752-8686) and give the representative our Group Name (TACERA 2026) and/or the Courtyard Code TXCN. You may also use the following Booking Link: (marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1776360354503&key=GRP&app=resvlink&_branch_match_id=1034125823625893235&_branch_referrer=H4sIAAAAAAAAA8soKSkottLXTywo0MtNLCrKzC8p0UvOz9UvSi3OyczLtgdK2ALZZSCOWmaKraG5uZmxmYGxqYmpgbFadmqlrXtQgFpdUWpaKlB3Xnp8UlF%2BeXFqka1zRlF%2BbioA62ixf2AAAAA%3D) (Copy & Paste Link)

These group rates will be available until September 1, 2026 or until the room block is sold out, whichever comes first. Don't delay, make your reservations NOW!

2026 TACERA Conference

(October 19 - October 22, 2026)

Waco Convention Center (Tuesday & Wednesday) & Hilton Waco (Thursday)

TACERA ANNUAL CONFERENCE GOLF TOURNAMENT - Monday, October 19, 2026	
11:30 AM-12:30 PM	**Golf Tournament Registration & Lunch** Cottonwood Creek Golf Course | 5200 Bagby Avenue Waco, TX 76711 | Phone: (254) 745-6009
1:00 PM-5:00 PM (4 hours)	Golf Tournament (Shotgun Start)
5:00 PM-6:00 PM (60 min)	Golf Tournament (Results & Awards)

TACERA ANNUAL CONFERENCE - Tuesday, October 20, 2026			
7:30 AM-5:00 PM	**Registration**		
8:00 AM-8:30 AM	Opening Ceremony & Announcements - Jaime Mendoza, TACERA President (Brazos Ballroom South)		
8:30 AM-9:15 AM (45 min)	**NACE Update** Jacob Thorius, P.E. - NACE Past President from Washington County, Iowa | Kevan Stone - NACE Executive Director / CEO		
9:15 AM-10:00 AM (45 min)	**Keynote Speaker** Sgt. Billy Ray - Media and Communications, Texas Highway Patrol | Risky Business: Typical Factors in Vehicular Crashes		
10:00 AM-10:30 AM	**Networking Break - Exhibit Hall**		
10:30 AM-12:00 PM	**SESSION A (Brazos Ballroom South)** Moderator - TBD	**SESSION B (McLennan Hall)** Moderator - TBD	**INNOVATION SHOWCASE (Exhibit Hall)** Moderator - TBD
10:30 AM-11:15 AM (45 min)	**The Three Phases of All Successful Roadway Construction** Dale A. Rand, PE, Executive Director Lime Association of Texas	**Maximizing Impact, Minimizing Cost: Cost-Effective Strategies to Drainage Master Planning** Zach Gerich, PE, County Engineer | Ellis County	**Innovation Showcase** TBD TBD
11:15 AM-12:00 PM (45 min)	**Full-Depth Reclamation Done Right: Faster Repairs, Longer-Lasting Roads** Barry Dill, Roads and Reclamation Specialist | Asphalt Zipper, Inc.	**Wait...We can pump Stormwater!** Eric Heppen, Director of Engineering Harris County Precinct 3, Office of Commissoner Tom S. Ramsey	**Innovation Showcase** TBD TBD
12:00 PM-1:20 PM	**Lunch (On Your Own) / TACERA Board Meeting**		
1:20 PM-1:30 PM	Announcements - Jaime Mendoza, TACERA President (Brazos Ballroom South)		
1:30 PM-2:30 PM	**SESSION A (Brazos Ballroom South)** Moderator - TBD		
1:30 PM-2:30 PM (60 min)	**Mental Health First Aid: Prevent a Second Tragedy from Occurring After the First** Bryce Boddie, LMSW, Executive Director | Hill Country Family Services Cal Wallace, Driver/Operator | Boerne Fire Department		
2:30 PM-3:00 PM	**Networking Break with Lime Sherbet - Exhibit Hall (Sponsored by Lime Association of Texas)**		
3:00 PM-5:00 PM	**SESSION A (Brazos Ballroom South)** Moderator - TBD	**SESSION B (McLennan Hall)** Moderator - TBD	**INNOVATION SHOWCASE (Exhibit Hall)** Moderator - TBD
3:00 PM-4:00 PM (60 min)	**When Wildfires Arrive in Your Area and Your Personnel are Asked to Help Fight Them: How to Prepare** Damian Moudry, TxLTAP Instructor | University of Texas at Arlington - TxLTAP	**Comal County's Multi-Faceted Approach to Flood Protection and Mitigation in Flash Flood Alley** Robert Boyd, PE, County Engineer | Comal County	**Innovation Showcase** TBD TBD
4:00 PM-5:00 PM (60 min)	**Woulda', Coulda', Shoulda': An Ounce of Prevention is Worth a Pound of Cure** Beth Slate, Owner | B-Greener Industrial Cleaners, LLC	**Ethics: A Revolutionary Concept** Ron Reichert, Technical Marketing Texas Concrete Products Association	**Innovation Showcase** TBD TBD
5:00 PM-6:30 PM	**Social Networking - Exhibit Hall (Dinner On Your Own)**		
7:15 PM-10:15 PM	**Casino Night and Charlie Hastings Memorial 42 Domino Tourney (Sponsored by Texas Concrete Products Association) - ??LOCATION??**		

2026 TACERA Conference

(October 19 - October 22, 2026)

Waco Convention Center (Tuesday & Wednesday) & Hilton Waco (Thursday)

TACERA ANNUAL CONFERENCE - Wednesday, October 21, 2026			
7:30 AM-5:00 PM	**Registration**		
7:55 AM-8:00 AM	Announcements - Jaime Mendoza, TACERA President (Brazos Ballroom South)		
8:00 AM-10:00 AM	**SESSION A (Brazos Ballroom South)** Moderator - TBD	**SESSION B (McLennan Hall)** Moderator - TBD	**INNOVATION SHOWCASE (Exhibit Hall)** Moderator - TBD
8:00 AM-8:45 AM (45 min)	**Important Considerations for Developing and Scoping a Successful Hot Mix Asphalt Pavement Project** Larry Peirce, Director of Special Projects | Texas Asphalt Pavement Association	**Good Enough, Not Guesswork: Systems Engineering for County Drainage Policy** Lucas Hvasta, PE, Engineer III | Montgomery County	**Innovation Showcase** TBD TBD
8:45 AM-9:15 AM (30 min)	**Bridging the Gap - Bridge Inspections and Follow-Up Actions** Stephen Kasberg, PE, Director of Maintenance | TxDOT - Waco District	**What's the Latest Waters of the US Rule?** Matt Patyk, Director - Environmental | Principal Dunaway Associates	**Innovation Showcase** TBD TBD
9:15 AM-10:00 AM (45 min)	**Pavement Restoration - Yes or No?** Don Ward, PE, Corporate Engineering and Marketing Manager Pavement Restoration, Inc.	**Utility Coordination - Zero Relocations of Relocations!** Paul Cooper, Chief Utility Relocation Manager | Dallas County Public Works Les St. John, Assistant Director | Dallas County Public Works	**Innovation Showcase** TBD TBD
10:00 AM-10:30 AM	**Networking Break - Exhibit Hall**		
10:30 AM-12:00 PM	**SESSION A (Brazos Ballroom South)** Moderator - TBD	**SESSION B (McLennan Hall)** Moderator - TBD	**INNOVATION SHOWCASE (Exhibit Hall)** Moderator - TBD
10:30 AM-11:15 AM (45 min)	**Beyond Sliplining: Structural Rehabilitation of Deteriorated Culverts Using UV-Cured GRP CIPP** Jason Walborn, Southwest Director of Operations | Omega Liner Company	**Forming a Partnership with Developers - One Year Later** Joe England, PE, TACERA Honorary Member | England Engineering, PLLC Clarence Daugherty, PE, Director of Engineering | Collin County	**Innovation Showcase** TBD TBD
11:15 AM-12:00 PM (45 min)	**Best Practices in Asphalt Pavement QC and QA** Dennis Turner, PE, East Texas Regional Director | TXAPA	**Drawing the Line: Platting Across Texas** Benjamin L. Worsham, PE, PTOE, PTP, CFM, County Engineer/Director of Transportation | Cameron County	**Innovation Showcase** TBD TBD
12:00 PM-1:25 PM	**Lunch (On Your Own)**		
1:25 PM-1:30 PM	Announcements - Jaime Mendoza, TACERA President (Brazos Ballroom South)		
1:30 PM-2:30 PM	**SESSION A (Brazos Ballroom South)** Moderator - TBD	**SESSION B (McLennan Hall)** Moderator - TBD	
1:30 PM-2:30 PM (60 min)	**Beyond the Blade: Strategic Herbicide Solutions for ROW Management** Duane Whittaker, Sales Representative | Nutrien Solutions	**Panel Discussion - Subdivision and Roadway Requirements** Erika Bridges, PE | Rockwall County Chad Davis, PE, CFM | Wise County Matt Hanks, JD, PE | Brazoria County Benjamin L. Worsham, PE, PTOE, PTP, CFM| Cameron County	
2:30 PM-3:00 PM	**Networking Break / Last Chance To Compete In Equipment & Simulator Rodeos - Exhibit Hall**		
3:00 PM-5:00 PM	**SESSION A (Brazos Ballroom South)** Moderator - TBD	**SESSION B (McLennan Hall)** Moderator - TBD	
3:00 PM-3:45 PM (45 min)	**How to Develop a Motor Grader Operator and Program** Brian Jackson, Owner/Operator/Trainer | Jackson's Heavy Equipment Training, LLC	**Big Enough to Matter, Small Enough to Care: Turning Rockwall County's Strategic Plan 2050 Into Action** Dana Macalik, Rockwall County | Rockwall County Commissioner, Precinct 2	
3:45 PM-4:15 PM (30 min)	**Safety & Silence: Overcoming the Momentum of Not Speaking Up** Rudy Estrada, Risk Control Consultant | Texas Association of Counties (TAC)	**Addressing Development Through Watersheds and Roads** Dr. Mukesh Kumar, Director Waco Area Metropolitan Planning Organization	
4:15 PM-5:00 PM (45 min)	**Practical Bridge Maintenance for Local Governments** Steven Austin, PE, Vice President | LJA Engineering	**TXDOT Highway Bridge Program Overview** Ross L. Langdale, PE, Bridge and Hydraulic Engineer TxDOT - Waco District	
5:00 PM-6:30 PM	**Social Networking - Exhibit Hall (Dinner On Your Own)**		
9:00 PM-12:00 AM	**Nightcap Event (Sponsored by GFT) - Open Courtyard between Hilton and Waco ConventionCenter**		

2026 TACERA Conference

(October 19 - October 22, 2026)

Waco Convention Center (Tuesday & Wednesday) & Hilton Waco (Thursday)

TACERA ANNUAL CONFERENCE - Thursday, October 22, 2026	
8:00 AM-10:00 AM	Announcements - Jaime Mendoza, TACERA President (Waco Hilton - **??LOCATION??**)
8:00 AM-8:30 AM (30 min)	**Road Assessments for Dummies - A Brazoria County Perspective** Matt Hanks, JD, PE, County Engineer | Brazoria County Clay Forister, PE, CFM, TACERA Vice President | Kendall County
8:30 AM-9:00 AM (30 min)	**Beyond the Pavement: Building a Comprehensive Roadway Assessment Management Program** Erika Bridges, PE, County Engineer | Rockwall County
9:00 AM-9:45 AM (45 min)	**"I Wish I Had Known About This Sooner" - The Benefits of Inspection** Ron Reichert, Technical Marketing | Texas Concrete Products Association
9:45 AM-10:15 AM	**Break**
10:15 AM-10:45 AM (30 min)	**TACERA Business Meeting, Officer Elections & Awards Presentation |** Jaime Mendoza **Scholarship & Bylaws Report |** Joe Trammel, P.E.
10:45 AM-11:45 AM (1 hours)	**Texas Legislative Update |** Jim Allison - Allison, Bass & Magee
11:45 AM-12:00 PM (15 min)	**Final Review and Announcements |** Jaime Mendoza

Updated on 7-28-2026

[redacted]

Hilton Waco

113 South University Parks Drive,
Waco, TX, 76701-2241 US

+12547548484

View your stay in app

Add to calendar (iOS/Outlook)

Add to calendar (Other)

Monday

Oct 19

Check In: 4:00 PM

3
Nights

Thursday

Oct 22

Check Out: 11:00 AM



View booking details

[redacted]