

# Steve Crain

## Integral Blue

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### Brief History:

Steve has over 26 years of communications and Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) technology experience. He started his career in the United States Marine Corps where he served as a combat arms Radio Chief and was responsible for wireless communication systems in a field artillery firing battery. After the military Steve found his passion in Intelligent Transportation Systems. Steve is a co-founder and managing partner of Integral Blue and currently serves as executive vice president. He has spent the past 9 years diligently cultivating a culture of safety, collaboration, client customer service and commitment to excellence. Steve has worked in MDOT ITS for 23 years with experience in technical project management, ITS construction, systems integration and maintenance. As a Registered Communications Distribution Designer (RCDD), Steve has demonstrated knowledge in the design, implementation and integration of information technology systems and their related infrastructure.

In his free time Steve enjoys traveling with his wife and 6 and 12 year old boys. Bicycling is a favorite hobby as he rides a street bike but also enjoys mountain biking. Steve is a car and music enthusiast, often combining the two for a relaxing weekend drive.

### Surprising/Interesting Fact:

I used to be a tower climber and worked on microwave radio systems as high as several hundred feet and, also, I was a tower climbing safety and rescue instructor and traveled the US training other corporate teams.

### Favorite quote:

*"Clarity breeds confidence that inspires commitment and competence."* ~ Chris Edmonds from the book "the culture engine"

### Finish the sentence:

My job would be a lot easier if . . . I had a mentor.

# Corey Den Uyl

## AECOM

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### Brief History:

My name is Corey Den Uyl. I was born and raised in Holland, Michigan and that is where I reside with my wife Kara. I am a graduate of Michigan State University and have been working on transportation projects for the past eight years. I am currently a Project Engineer for AECOM in Grand Rapids, Michigan, working primarily on road and bridge Design-Build projects.

My hobbies include playing soccer and golf, attending Spartan Football games with my wife, snowmobiling in the Upper Peninsula, and aerial photography.

### Surprising/Interesting Fact:

I designed a house with my best friend in a high school Architectural Drafting class which was selected to be built by the school's Building Trades class the following year. Seeing this design come to life first-hand played a big role in my path towards a career in the field of engineering.

### Favorite quote:

"Never give up on a dream just because of the time it will take to accomplish it. The time will pass anyway." ~ Earl Nightingale.

### Finish the sentence:

My job would be a lot easier if . . . I was more proficient at delegating tasks to others.

# Patrick Droze

## OHM Advisors

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### Brief History:

I graduated from Michigan State University in 2005 and work at OHM. I actually started with OHM in high school back in 2001 through an internship program with the Livonia Public Schools.

At OHM, I am a project manager and principal within our Municipal Group. I manage a variety of projects that include utility replacement, neighborhood infrastructure renewal and non-motorized improvements. I also oversee a project with DWSD where we are developing concept plans for green infrastructure on 200+ private sites across the City of Detroit. The project brings 2 passions of mine together as I am able to work with Detroiters and also in the stormwater realm. Stormwater has long been a focus for me, and I have been lucky to have had projects that feature green infrastructure, streambank restorations, habitat restoration and drainage studies.

I married my wife Katie in 2010. We have three kids - Michael (1), Claire (3) and John (5) - and live in Livonia.

### Surprising/Interesting Fact:

I visited my great grandfather's former farmhouse in Ireland in 2006.

### Favorite quote:

I recently saw a meme on Twitter that showed a picture of Thomas Jefferson. The quote read: *"Crap, that's due tomorrow?!"* Thomas Jefferson, 7/3/1776 While I think that is my favorite quote, I suspect that he did not actually say that.

If I have to use a real one, I suppose it would be: *"If you think you can do a thing or think you can't do a thing, you're right."* ~ Henry Ford

### Finish the sentence:

My job would be a lot easier if . . . I had a default instinct that there are plenty of people that can do as good of job or better than me with tasks on my to-do list that never seems to get shorter.

# Jake Ensley

## Spalding DeDecker

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### Brief History:

I grew up in the Metro Detroit area (Clinton Township) where my passion for engineering and construction started to develop at a young age. I went on to graduate from Lawrence Technological University in 2007 with a B.S. degree in Civil Engineering. My professional career started at Spalding DeDecker as an engineering intern during the summer of 2006, and I became a full-time engineer with our Construction Engineering Division upon graduation. A year later, I was transferred to our Land Development Division where I currently work on site engineering and pavement management projects for various types of clients including K-12, higher education, worship, commercial/retail, etc. I became a licensed professional engineer in 2012.

On a personal level, I currently reside in Harrison Township with my wife Jennifer, our 2-year-old son Ethan, our 1-year-old son Austin, and our pet corgi dog Fitzy. My hobbies include recreational sports, collecting records, and attending live music events. I also enjoy spending time on the water, whether it's visiting beaches, kayaking/canoeing, or boating with friends.

### Surprising/Interesting Fact:

I was born in South Korea and adopted by an American family when I was 6 months old.

### Favorite quote:

"The future is unwritten." – Joe Strummer

### Finish the sentence:

My job would be a lot easier if . . . there were more quality hires available to meet the current staffing demand.

# Glenn Glidden

## Byce & Associates, Inc.

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### Brief History:

I graduated from Western Michigan University in 2008, with a major in Mechanical Engineering. I have worked for Byce & Associates, Inc. for the past 11 years, and I currently serve as a Senior Mechanical Engineer. I am currently a licensed Professional Engineer, sustainably certified with LEED AP BD+C, and a Green Globes Professional. I have extensive experience in designing Laboratories, Correctional Facilities and Industrial Buildings.

I have been married for 7 years, and have 2 young children ages 3 & 4 months. I have lived in Southwest Michigan my whole life going through school, working professionally, and working on and now owning my family farm. When not working in the office or on the farm I enjoy cars, motorcycles, and anything that involves working with my hands.

### Surprising/Interesting Fact:

My farm celebrated its Sesquicentennial a few years ago.

### Favorite quote:

"The only man who never makes mistakes is the man who never does anything." ~ Theodore Roosevelt

### Finish the sentence:

My job would be a lot easier if . . . there was more time in a day.

# Michael Leuffgen

## DLZ Michigan, Inc.

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### Brief History:

I enjoy immersing myself in complex problems and finding solutions that help my clients succeed. From 2002 to 2008 I worked for consulting firms that focused on private developments. In 2008, I began working for Johnson & Anderson where my focus shifted to municipal clients. This opened a lot of opportunities with more complex projects such as pumping stations and water treatment plants. My daily activities vary. In March of 2019, Johnson & Anderson was acquired by DLZ, and I am optimistic the opportunities will continue to grow.

Outside of the office, my wife and I are committed to raising two exceptional children who challenge our knowledge of cars, dinosaurs, Disney princesses, and anything related to science. I love being outdoors to experience this great country of ours with activities like camping, fishing, hiking, and biking.

### Surprising/Interesting Fact:

I am a football junkie - when I'm not watching it on the weekends, I am coaching my son's Flag Football team.

### Favorite quote:

"I guess I've been working so hard, I forgot what it's like to be hardly working." ~ Michael Scott (Steve Carell), The Office

### Finish the sentence:

My job would be a lot easier if . . . email interruptions didn't constantly derail concentration.

# Chad McCollum

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### Brief History:

Chad holds a Bachelor of Science Civil Engineering degree from Michigan State University, as well as an Associates in Applied Sciences in Civil Technology from Lansing Community College. In September of 2000, after working 3 years at MDOT Construction and Technology, he joined Bergmann as a CADD operator. Chad attended MSU to complete his degree while working full time at Bergmann. He is currently the Practice Leader for the Midwest Region Highway group and manages a staff of about 15 roadway and traffic engineers.

Chad has been married to his wife Melissa for 20 years and has an English Bulldog named Tankopatamus (Tank for short). Outside of work, he enjoys MSU sports and home brewing.

### Surprising/Interesting fact:

In middle school in Iowa, I was part of a travelling jump rope team that performed at different functions.

### Favorite quote:

"A sign of a good leader is not how many followers you have, but how many leaders you create." ~ Mahatma Gandhi

### Finish the sentence:

My job would be a lot easier if. . . I stopped multi-tasking and focused on finishing one task before starting another one.



# Mark McRobie

## RS&H Michigan, Inc.

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### Brief History:

Mark McRobie is a Business Development Leader with RS&H, Inc., a national firm with a focus on transportation, aviation, aerospace, defense, health and science, and corporate markets. He has over 11 years of experience working in the AEC industry in transportation, water resources, and power generation. Since joining RS&H in 2016, he has played a role in expanding RS&H's construction engineering practice into new states including Michigan, Colorado, and South Carolina. He is also currently the Chair of the American Segmental Bridge Institute's Communications & Membership Committee.

Mark has recently relocated to Michigan where he lives in Holt with his wife, son, and black lab. In his spare time, he enjoys hunting, fishing, and golfing.

### Surprising/Interesting Fact:

I had the opportunity to work on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Set of Locks Expansion Project of the Panama Canal which included temporarily living in Panama and frequent trips for the better part of 5 years.

### Favorite quote:

"Never let the fear of striking out keep you from playing the game." ~ Babe Ruth

### Finish the sentence:

My job would be a lot easier if . . . I could focus more of my time on the impactful parts of my job and less on the minutiae.



# Mary Nykamp

## Wightman

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### Brief History:

I currently reside in the Benton Harbor area, although I grew up in Hartford and graduated from HHS as valedictorian of the Class of 2000. I earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Michigan. As an undergrad, I focused on geotechnical engineering. After graduation I spent two years in upstate New York working in the civil engineering field before I returned to U of M to complete a Master of Science degree in Environmental Engineering with a focus on environmental biotechnology. I joined Wightman in 2008 as a civil engineer, and since then I have earned my PE licensure, have been promoted to senior project manager, and will be transitioning into an exciting new role as manager of the company's water and wastewater process group, a newly focused discipline within Wightman. My passion is clean water, the most important natural resource on the planet!

As a working mom, I try very diligently to balance my work life and my home life. I have two young sons at home, as well as a very supportive husband, which makes my life complete. I enjoy returning to Hartford to participate in the school's annual foundation auction which raises money for scholarships for graduating seniors and I am a proud supporter of the Habitat for Humanity project in Bridgman. I'm thrilled to be part of this year's ACEC Emerging Leaders class, and I look forward to networking with all of my classmates.

### Surprising/Interesting Fact:

I have three kidneys!

### Favorite quote:

"I want to stand as close to the edge as I can without going over. Out on the edge you see all kinds of things you can't see from the center." ~ Kurt Vonnegut, Player Piano

### Finish the sentence:

My job would be a lot easier if ...I had a clone.

# Andrea Pike

## Hubbell, Roth & Clark, Inc.

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### Brief History:

I have been with Hubbell, Roth & Clark, Inc. since 2006 after graduating from Western Michigan University with a B.S.E. in Construction Engineering. I started my career at HRC working in the field, first as a testing technician and then as a construction inspector, before moving into the office working on the design side of things after obtaining my PE license. I have served multiple roles on projects, including Lead Designer, Project Engineer and Project Manager. Currently I am the Transportation Manager and lead one of HRC's road design groups, responsible for generating bid documents for various road reconstruction, rehabilitation, and resurfacing projects for municipal clients.

I grew up in Clawson and currently live in Royal Oak with my black lab, Tyson. In my free time, I enjoy spending time with friends and family, reading, and attending concerts (I am a fan of all types of music – it keeps me sane).

### Surprising/Interesting Fact:

I enjoy baking, especially cakes and cupcakes. I have made the birthday cakes every year for my best friend's three kids – now ages 14, 13, and 10. I'm happy that they still enjoy receiving a cake from me even though they aren't exactly little anymore.

### Favorite quote:

"I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel." ~ Maya Angelou

"You are braver than you believe, and stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think."  
~ AA Milne

### Finish the sentence:

My job would be a lot easier if . . . I had more time.

# Lauren Roller

## Harley Ellis Devereaux

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### Brief History:

I grew up in the Detroit suburb of Clinton Township with my parents and older sister. I attended Michigan State University for my bachelor's and master's degrees in civil/structural engineering. After graduation I began working at Harley Ellis Devereaux (HED) as a structural engineer. The work at HED excites me since we are a full service building design firm with a national presence. I am now an associate in the firm and a licensed PE, responsible for leading projects that range from complex renovations to multi-million dollar new-build facilities. My role extends past engineering to working directly with contractors and clients, mentoring colleagues, and engaging on project proposals and interviews.

I currently live in Pinckney with my husband, our two dogs and cat. I am passionate about travel and hiking, and also enjoy swimming, camping, boating, and renovating our home.

### Surprising/Interesting fact:

I have traveled to 14 countries including some uncommon places like Iceland, Ukraine and Thailand.

### Favorite quote:

"The grass is greener where you water it." ~ Neil Barringham

### Finish the sentence:

My job would be a lot easier if . . . technology did not so often cause us to disregard face to face communication.

# Scott Roosa

## SME

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### Brief History:

I am a senior geotechnical engineer with SME and have over 15 years of experience. I graduated from Michigan Technological University (MTU) in 2004 with a BS in Civil Engineering. While at MTU, I met my wife, Sara, and we've been married for 12 years. We live in Mattawan with our daughter (Ellie, 7), son (Ben, 5) and rescue lab (Josie, 1).

I joined SME's Kalamazoo office in February 2018 after working with Earth Exploration, Inc. (a *Terracon Company*) for 11 years in Indianapolis, IN and Niles, MI. My focus has been primarily on publicly funded transportation projects with geotechnical involvement ranging from bridge foundations, earthen embankments, earth retention systems, dams, slide corrections, and pavement design. I also have experience performing pressuremeter and pile driving analyzer (PDA) testing, as well as installing and monitoring geotechnical instrumentation on transportation, development, and tunneling projects.

### Surprising/Interesting Fact:

My wife and I started a small hobby orchard on our property and are up to 42 fruit trees!

### Favorite quote:

"When I was a boy of 14, my father was so ignorant I could barely stand to have the old man around. But when I got to be 21, I was astonished how much the old man had learned in seven years." ~ Mark Twain

### Finish the sentence:

My job would be a lot easier if . . . I'd like to say...if there were more hours in the day and we had more support staff, but that is a testament to how busy everyone in our industry is. We can't complain about being busy! I'm blessed to work with a great organization full of talented individuals, and have the opportunity to work with outstanding client representatives in the transportation industry.

# Geric Rose

## Fleis & VandenBrink

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### Brief History:

Geric is a licensed professional engineer and surveyor whose current role is operations manager for F&V's Grand Blanc office. Geric is primarily involved with municipal engineering and MDOT LAP design and construction.

In his free time, Geric enjoys Michigan's ATV trails, hunting, water skiing, wake surfing, and just relaxing on the water. During the summer golf is the sport of choice until hockey commences in the fall.

### Surprising/Interesting Fact:

Hockey has been a life-long passion and Geric has been either playing or coaching continuously for nearly 40 years.

### Favorite quote:

"Hard work beats talent when talent doesn't work hard," originally contributed to Tim Notke (per Google), a high school basketball coach. Kevin Durant has more recently used this quote during his draft into the NBA.

### Finish the sentence:

My job would be a lot easier if . . . deadlines didn't exist!

# Erica Rowley

## Tyme Consulting Engineers, Inc.

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### Brief History:

Erica is a Project Engineer at TYME Consulting Engineers, Inc. She has more than 13 years of construction engineering experience. Since she joined the TYME team in 2013, Erica has served in many roles including Project Manager (PM), Project Engineer (PE), Assistant Engineer, Office Technician, and Construction Inspector on many road, bridge, and ITS construction projects. She is currently the Project Engineer for the rehabilitation of the Dix Toledo Road bridges over Allen Road and Pennsylvania Road in Wayne County; where differing site conditions caused the project to evolve from the original scope of two bridge deck overlays to utilizing a design-build process to implement two bridge deck replacements and roadway reconstruction. Erica is also proficient in the design and QA/QC of project plans and proposals. In addition, she is currently providing design services for the high profile I-94 Advanced Bridges project where she developed the design concepts necessary to re-route the ITS infrastructure around 16 bridges that are being removed and reconstructed as part of this massive project.

Erica got her start in the transportation industry by working as a construction laborer for SE Johnson Co where she worked on several bridge construction projects in northwest Ohio and southeast Michigan. While attending college she participated in MDOT's Engineering Co-Op program for 6 years. Erica graduated from the University of Michigan; has been married 18 years and has 4 children.

### Surprising/Interesting Fact:

During her off time, Erica enjoys camping with her family and going for long motorcycle rides with her husband.

### Favorite quote:

"The road to success is always under construction." ~ Lily Tomlin

"Be yourself; everyone else is already taken." ~ Oscar Wilde

### Finish the sentence:

My job would be a lot easier if . . . I had the experience and personal relationships to encourage clients to select TYME for more contracts. Often the pursuit for future work is more arduous than fulfilling executed contracts.

# Guy Stickler

## ROWE Professional Services Company

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### Brief History:

I grew up outside of Remus, a small town in Central Michigan. I graduated from Chippewa Hills High School in 2001 and attended Ferris State University where I graduated with my bachelor's degree in Surveying Engineering in 2006. After graduating, I went to work for High Country Engineering in Glenwood Springs, Colorado for the summer and then moved back to Michigan and worked for Holland Engineering until 2011.

I then moved to London, England to marry my fiancé Veronica. I lived, with my wife, and worked in the London area for the next 2 years for XYZ Surveys. In 2013 we moved back to the Remus area and I started working for Rowe PSC in their Mt. Pleasant office. Veronica and I now have 2 children ages 2 & 4, 2 dogs, 2 cats and 2 donkeys.

### Surprising/Interesting Fact:

I live-in/own the home in which I was born (literally) and raised.

### Favorite quote:

"If I were given the opportunity to present a gift to the next generation, it would be the ability for each individual to learn to laugh at himself." ~ Charles M. Schulz

### Finish the sentence:

My job would be a lot easier if . . . on a project everyone remembered we were all part of the same team.



# Alex Svilar

## Michael Baker International

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### Brief History:

Alex Svilar attended Case Western Reserve University, graduated with a BS in Civil Engineering in 2003 and is a licensed PE in Michigan and Ohio. Alex spent time at the City of Akron and the City of Cleveland before joining Michael Baker in the roadway department. After several years he transitioned into the structural group, gaining experience in design and complex load rating utilizing 3D finite element analysis. Along the way he's done railroad track design, MOT, and pavement management. A little over a year ago Alex moved from Cleveland to help grow the Detroit office of Michael Baker, and he's currently heading up the structural department.

Alex is married to his wife Kendra, and they have two children, Simon (7) and Georgia (5), and currently reside in Ann Arbor.

### Surprising/Interesting Fact:

Something surprising: I'm not patient, but I like to golf.

### Favorite quote:

"Success is getting what you want, happiness is wanting what you get."~ W.P. Kinsella

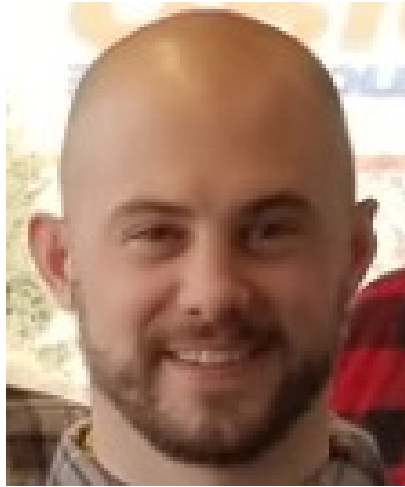
### Finish the sentence:

My job would be a lot easier if . . . I was never interrupted.

# Paul Wakefield

## FK Engineering Associates

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### Brief History:

I grew up in Escanaba. My childhood consisted of sports, lots of sports, and building things out of whatever leftover supplies I could find. My dad flipped houses on the side and thus there was always a plethora of tools and construction materials to create with.

I attended the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor (Go Blue!) where I majored in Civil and Environmental Engineering with focuses on structures and construction management (and the football and basketball teams).

After graduating from UM in 2013, my first job was with Northwest Consultants in Canton where I primarily did survey work. After my brief stint with Northwest, I moved to Maumee, OH where I worked for Matrix Technologies for one year and nine months. This time was spent primarily traveling to job sites and oil refineries around the U.S. as a field engineer, designer, and assistant construction manager. Lastly, in November 2014 I moved back to Michigan and began working at FK Engineering Associates. Since then I have progressed to a Project Engineer and primarily specialize in large infrastructure construction, tunnel rehabilitation, and geotechnical engineering.

I currently reside in Southfield and spend my free time with my church family, working on houses and old trucks, traveling the globe, and spending time with my fiancé Ria.

### Surprising/Interesting Fact:

During college I was a bus driver who drove the big blue buses, shuttling students, faculty, and Ann Arbor residents around town.

### Favorite quote:

"(Physics is) a good framework for thinking...Boil things down to their fundamental truths and reason up from there." ~ Elon Musk

### Finish the sentence:

My job would be a lot easier if . . . I could see through concrete.

# Andy Wakeland

## Giffels Webster

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### Brief History:

Andy attended college at the University of Detroit Mercy (UDM). He joined Giffels Webster in 2004 as part of the UDM co-op program. After graduating, Andy started full time with Giffels Webster, received his Professional Engineers License in 2012 and has worked his way up to Senior Project Manager. Andy has designed many private development projects around metro-Detroit as well as stepping in to take the lead on several municipal clients throughout the years.

Andy is married to wife Lydia, also a Civil Engineer, and has two children, Margot and Henry. Andy currently serves as the Chair of the Madison Heights Planning Commission and is always looking to improve his City with his knowledge of the Engineering world. He is also the past Presiding Officer of the Millennial Mayors Congress, a group that aims to bring young leaders into city government. Andy also serves as President of the UDM College of Engineering and Science Alumni Board.

### Surprising/Interesting Fact:

My wife is also a Civil Engineer. I had open heart surgery in May.

### Favorite quote:

"If you spend too much time thinking about a thing, you'll never get it done." ~ Bruce Lee

### Finish the sentence:

My job would be a lot easier if . . . work was simply given to me.

# Talese Yensch

## SmithGroupJJR

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### Brief History:

Talese Yensch joined SmithGroup's mechanical engineering department in 2011, bringing with her experience in the planning, design, construction documentation, and construction follow-up of mechanical systems. Her responsibilities include analyzing building energy performance through simulation models and developing heating and cooling load calculations as well as planning, designing and documenting HVAC, plumbing, and specialty systems using AutoCAD and REVIT.

Prior to working at SmithGroup, Talese attended the Milwaukee School of Engineering and graduated with a mechanical specialty in Architectural Engineering. Talese spent two years at Norr engineering for the retail market and eight years at Peter Basso Associates designing for K-12 and healthcare clients.

Talese lives in New Boston, MI where she has coached basketball from 5th grade through junior varsity. She has four children, six chickens, a cat and one husband who has also "emerged" as a leader. Playing volleyball and basketball, reading, throwing pottery, and learning alternative healthcare and construction techniques are some of her hobbies/interests.

### Surprising/Interesting Fact:

I trained/train at the Kronk boxing gym in Detroit.

### Favorite quote:

"Master, grant that I may never seek so much to be consoled as to console." ~ St. Francis  
Or if you don't want to get religious (but also by St. Francis) "Start by doing what's necessary, then do what's possible, soon you are doing the impossible."

### Finish the sentence:

My job would be a lot easier if . . . there were reasonable schedules.

# Chris Zull

## Progressive AE

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### Brief History:

Chris Zull is the Transportation Practice Leader at Progressive AE (PAE) in Grand Rapids Michigan. He has responsible oversight of all PAE transportation engineering services focused on traffic analysis, road design, and data collection.

Prior to joining PAE, Chris served as the Traffic Safety Manager for the City of Grand Rapids. During the 15 years Chris worked for Grand Rapids he managed a \$9 million dollar operating and capital budget for Lighting, Signals, and Signs, implemented over 80 miles of on-street bike infrastructure, helped create the Vital Streets Plan and Guidelines, and created [Driving Change](#) (a bike safety education program). With a passion for safety, mobility, and infrastructure, Chris believes in community engagement, learning, and iteration to deliver placemaking and well-designed outcomes.

As a Michigan resident for his entire life he grew up in Oakland County, attended Michigan State University (01,10), and settled in West Michigan to raise a family with his wife Heather. His boys, Isaac (12) and Ethan (11), are heavily into sports with Chris volunteer coaching for as many opportunities as he can.

### Surprising/Interesting Fact:

Chris has jumped out of a perfectly good airplane and is an award winning fisherman.

### Favorite quote:

"Golden Rule": "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." ~ Jesus, Luke 6:31

### Finish the sentence:

My job would be a lot easier if . . . I had more experience with and confidence in my team.