

**SIGHTLINES**  
INSIGHTS FOR GREATER SAFETY

**AWP Safety**  
First Quarter 2024

Welcome to Sightlines, your source for leadership insights into infrastructure safety and traffic control.

**WHAT'S TRENDING: UTILITY SPENDING**

The U.S. power transmission lines and towers market is forecasted to grow at [4% CAGR](#) from 2022 to 2027 – behind the global market's [5.54% CAGR](#) forecast. More U.S. investment is needed to keep pace with global standards for safety and reliability, connect renewable energy sources to the grid, and meet the public's evolving power needs. Keep reading for details.



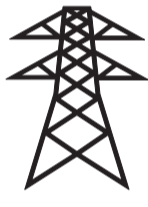
**INSIGHTS: INVESTING IN THE UNDERGROUND**

To meet goals for electrification, grid modernization and reliability, [TD World reports that 50% of electricity](#) needs to be underground by 2040. The U.S. is currently at 20%. Significant additional investment is needed to address these trends:

**AGING INFRASTRUCTURE**

**70%** of U.S. transmission lines are **25+ years old**

**40+ years**  
Average age of large power transformers



SOURCE: [U.S. DOE](#)

**INSUFFICIENT GOV'T FUNDING**

Only **\$5 million**

annually for transmission innovation projects  
Yet multiple states have undergrounding mandates



SOURCE: [Grid Innovation Program](#)

**MORE INTENSE STORMS**

**7+ hours**

Average duration of a 2021 power outage (up from 3.5 hours in 2013)



SOURCE: [Scientific American](#)

**INCREASED WILDFIRES**

Core fire seasons are

**78 days**

longer on average than they were in the 1970s



SOURCE: [Colorado Division of Fire Preservation & Control](#)

**THOUGHT LEADERSHIP: DEVELOPING BETTER JOBSITE SAFETY STRATEGIES**



Road maintenance workers die on the job approximately four times more than the average worker. Proactive safety planning prevents fatalities. Seth Walpole, AWP Safety's Vice President of Integration & Transformation, explains how [proper planning, training and use of technology](#) protect both infrastructure employees and businesses in the latest *Asphalt Contractor*.



**SAFETY CHECK:** OSHA [updated its recordkeeping regulations](#) to require certain employers to electronically submit injury and illness information. All establishments with 100+ employees are now required to submit Form 300A annually, effective January 1, 2024.

**PARTNERS IN NEXT-GEN SAFETY**

AWP Safety protects people who build and operate North America's utility, broadband and transportation infrastructure. Industry leaders rely on AWP Safety innovations to enhance safety, reduce risk and improve operational efficiency. Learn more at [awpsafety.com](#).

