

ACEC/Matters

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES OF MASSACHUSETTS

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November 26, 2025

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Happy Thanksgiving from ACEC/MA!

MassDOT Updates Applicability Form for Intersection Control Evaluation

The updated form should be used for all new evaluations. The updated form has a new introduction sheet to explain the functionality and formatting of the form. The updated form also includes revised language in the first question to clarify that the minor street AADT should be assessed regardless of the street directionality.

Download the [new form](#) here and see [this webpage](#) for more information.

Public Hearing Planned for January 5, 2026, 9 AM on Teams.

On September 25, 2025, the Massachusetts Board of Registration of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors took an initial vote in support of amendments to 250 CMR that would allow engineers from the United Kingdom (UK) to practice in the US and vice versa and to blend expertise between the UK and states in the US.

A virtual public hearing on the regulations is expected on January 5, 2026

[See this web page for the proposed amendments and more information.](#)

December TALC Registration Now Open

December 17, 12:00pm

Registration for ACEC/MA's TALC December meeting in person on December 17 is [now open](#). This will be the last in-person TALC until April 2026. Register to attend in-person at CDM Smith in Boston until in-person registration is full at 75 people or by December 10, whichever comes first. We'll send Zoom info to all of TALC.

December 17 Guest: **MassDOT Highway's Mike O'Dowd, Frank Welch, Murthy Kolla, Brian Kelleher** to train ACEC/MA on the responsibilities of Preliminary Designer on Design-Build projects after the actual Design-Build team has been selected. They will discuss MassDOT's needs and expectations. This will benefit both firms that currently serve as Preliminary Designers as well as firms that are interested in this work for future DB projects.

NB: In-person attendance for the 12/17 TALC meeting is limited to 2 people per ACEC/MA Member firm. Determine which employees will attend in person before anyone from the firm registers.

Presentation from 11/19 TALC Meeting with Hanan Fouad, PE, State Hydraulics Engineer, MassDOT Highway here: [PDF of Presentation](#)

- CDW Consultants
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Register

VTrans Issues RLOI for Burlington–Winooski Design-Build Projects

The Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans), representing the Cities of Burlington and Winooski, has issued a Request for Letters of Interest (RLOI). Parties interested in being shortlisted for the Design-Build Request for Proposal (RFP) process for the Burlington-Winooski BF RAIZ(2) & Burlington STP 5000(29) projects, along with related ancillary projects, should submit a Letter of Interest by the deadline specified in the RLOI.

Access the RLOI and additional information here: [Design Build & Progressive Design Build | Agency of Transportation](#)

State House News Service Event: Transit NEXT: Challenges for the Mass. transportation system in an age of diminishing resources (Phil Eng Participating)

December 9, 7:30AM, MCLE Conference Center (Downtown Boston)

Massachusetts' transportation infrastructure has suffered from decades of underfunding, but with a new infusion of capital from the recently passed Transportation Bond Bill, the commonwealth signaled a financial commitment to system-wide improvements. Challenges and critical policy decisions loom: addressing the cancellation of federal funding for the Mass Pike/I-90 Allston Multimodal Project; meeting ongoing funding needs for the MBTA and Regional Transit Authorities; awarding a new Commuter Rail contract; and realizing the dream of the West-East Rail.

Opening Remarks:

Phil Eng, Interim MassDOT Secretary and MBTA General Manager

Legislative Panel

Sen. Brendan Crighton, Senate Chair, Joint Committee on Transportation

Rep. Jim Arciero, House Chair, Joint Committee on Transportation

Moderator: Gintautas Dumcius, Editor, MASsterList

Panel (in formation)

Stephanie Pollack, Former Federal Highway Deputy Administrator and MassDOT Secretary

Michael Lambert, Administrator, Brockton Area Transit Authority

Pete Wilson, Senior Policy Director, Transportation for Massachusetts

Kate Dineen, President & CEO, A Better City

Moderator: George Donnelly, President, State House News Service / MASsterList

Register

MBTA Request for Qualifications: General Engineering Consulting Services for OPM Services.



Due Date: 12/15/2025

From MBTA on 11/19/25: The Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority is soliciting Consultant Teams to perform Owner Project Manager (OPM) Services for complex capital projects using Construction Management at Risk services under MGL Ch. 149A. The Owner's Project Manager (OPM) will support the Engineering & Capital Division (ECD) with a broad range of essential services throughout all stages of a project. The OPM assists the MBTA to run its projects more smoothly and ensures goals are more easily met. The OPM role is to act as an integrated member of the MBTA Engineering & Capital Division (ECD) that delivers capital projects, including but not limited to planning, design, construction, commissioning, and closeout phases. [Link to the full RFQ.](#)

ACEC/MA Education Corporation Scholarships



For Engineering and Land Surveying Students

Scholarship Apps Due January 21, 2026 @ 5 PM.

More Info: <https://www.acecma.org/news/acec-ma-education-corporation-fy2026-scholarships>

Share the news with Massachusetts engineering and land surveying students you know:

Apply for scholarships from the American Council of Engineering Companies of Massachusetts Education Corporation (ACEC/MA EC) + ACEC Research Institute .

- Deadline for ACEC/MA Education Corporation scholarships: **January 21, 2026.**
- Deadline ACEC Research Institute scholarships: **March 13, 2026.**

Register

EEA now accepting construction loan applications for dam, levee, and seawall repair or removal projects

The MA Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) is now accepting loan applications from MA municipalities for the repair or removal of dams, levees, seawalls, or other inland-flood control and coastal protection infrastructure. Applications are due via electronic submission no later than **December 17, 2025, 11:59 pm.**

Review the RFR, application, and associated documents available on COMMBUYS, bid # [BD-26-1042-ENV-ENV01-122704](#). Questions regarding the RFR will be accepted through November 26, 2025. See the RFR from Q&A submissions instructions.

MBTA Requests Invoices by 12/5

MBTA Chief Engineer, Sam Zhou, has asked ACEC/MA to remind our members about MBTA Year End Invoice Processing in this message:

*In an effort to pay MBTA contractors, consultants, and vendors prior to the end of the calendar year, they are requesting that complete and accurate invoices for contract work through November 30, 2025 be submitted in e-Builder **no later than Friday, December 5, 2025.***

This deadline will allow sufficient time for review and processing by the MBTA Project Office, Finance Department and Accounts-Payable prior to the final pay cycle of the calendar year.

In addition, all parties are reminded that every effort should be made to convert ETSAs to Task Orders/Amendments and Work Directives to Change Orders/Risk Reallocations as soon as possible to allow for invoicing prior to the end of the fiscal year.

Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities (EOHLC) Seeks 1 Professional Engineer for Designer Selection Committee

The MA Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities (EOHLC) is looking for one PE to fill a two-year term for the EOHLC Designer Selection Committee (DSC) beginning in November/December 2025, with the possibility to serve another 2-year term beyond that. All DSC members are eligible to serve two consecutive 2-year terms.

Jim McCurdy, Supervising Architect, AESU, Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities (EOHLC) joined our BEC meeting on 11/18 to discuss their Designer Selection Committee and process.

We have been asked to identify qualified candidates to serve on the DSC.

[Learn More](#)

Massachusetts Board of Registration of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors Seeks Chemical Engineer

[More Information](#)

Government Affairs

ACEC and FEDERAL NEWS

[ACEC Applauds Advancement of SPEED Act](#)

The bipartisan SPEED Act offers practical reforms that preserve underlying environmental protections while restoring predictability to the NEPA process.

[RI DOT Issues DBE Guidance](#)

In reaction to the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) issuing the Interim Final Rule (IFR) making changes to the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program, RI DOT provided updated guidance. See the link above for more information.

[U.S. Department of Transportation Posts Updated Guidance on Changes to Disadvantaged Business Enterprise \(DBE\) Program](#)

The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) has published answers to a list of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) on the Interim Final Rule (IFR) making changes to the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program. See the link above for more information.

[U.S. DOT Changes to the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise \(DBE\) Program](#)

Monitoring the Trump White House's Impact on Engineering:
[Bookmark this ACEC page](#) - announcements, executive actions, & decisions **including tariffs** from White House that directly impact America's engineering & design services industry

STATE and LOCAL NEWS

[Transportation Committee Chairs Signal Openness to New MBTA Revenue Options \(Boston Globe - May Be Paywalled\)](#)

At a recent Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce forum, Sen. Brendan Crighton and Rep. Jim Arciero, Senate and House Chairs of the Joint Committee on Transportation, emphasized that all funding strategies should be considered as the Commonwealth works to address the MBTA's long-term fiscal needs.

[Massachusetts Energy Chair Comments on Pennsylvania Exit from RGGI \(State House News Service Article - Subscription Required\)](#)

Senator Michael Barrett, who serves as the Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy, said Pennsylvania's withdrawal from the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative does not change the compact's overall stability. He highlighted the value of RGGI revenue for programs like Mass Save and the role of carbon markets in reducing emissions and supporting ratepayers.

[Massachusetts energy market ready for jolt of Canadian hydropower](#)

In a bright spot for the state's climate agenda during a year marked by stalled clean energy projects, the long-delayed transmission line that will deliver Canadian hydropower to New England is on track to send 1,090 megawatts of electricity into Massachusetts by the end of 2025.

[Fatal E-Bike Crash Prompts Review of Safety Laws](#)

[Healey-Driscoll Administration Releases Comprehensive Strategy for Coastal Protection](#)

[MTF Summary of Governor Healey's Mass Ready Act](#)

ACEC/MA's Government Affairs Committee (GAC) acts on bills impacting our Eng/PLS/A/E Community. GAC meets next on 12/11, 10 AM on Zoom. [Request Zoom for 12/11.](#)

Join us as we review bills impacting the engineering, land surveying, and design professional community.

Join ACEC/MA GAC

ACEC/MA STEM Task Force

Opps & Resources to promote **STEM careers**, particularly in Engineering & Land Surveying.

See our [STEM Task Force page](#) for opportunities to increase awareness about engineering and land surveying careers.

Upcoming Major Events to Save the Dates

March 4: ACEC/MA Breakfast Update on Climate Resiliency - [Save the Date](#)

April 2: State Markets Conference - [Save the Date](#)

April 14: Engineering Excellence and Awards Gala - [Save the Date](#)

May 3-6: ACEC National Annual Convention, Washington, DC - [Save the Date](#)

Program Registration

***If Your Firm is an ACEC/MA Member, You're an ACEC/MA member.**

Get the ACEC/MA Member Rate for Programs: Register with your Individual username/password. Never use someone else's login info. ?s: Contact acecma@engineers.org or 617-227-5551.

Links live 11/26/2025; Next issue: 12/03/2025

ACEC/Matters: Produced by Abbie Goodman and Kevin O'Shea

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