

ACEC/Matters

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES OF MASSACHUSETTS

January 15, 2026

2026 Annual Corporate Sponsorship Opportunities Now Available

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TODAY: ACEC/MA Accounting and Finance Forum

January 15, 10-11 AM, Teams

Mergers & Acquisitions in A/E Industry: Trends, Challenges, Opportunities

Insights into the latest trends in the A/E/C market with our guest David Cohen, Matheson Financial Advisor.

Open to employees of ACEC/MA Member Firms.

[More Info & Request Teams](#)

ACEC/MA Building Engineering Comm Briefing

January 21, 9-10:30 AM, Hybrid @ Aldrich Center, The Engineering Center, Boston + Teams

Carleton Jones, Executive Director of the Boston Public Facilities Department (PFD) will brief BEC on the department's priorities and plans. PFD supports other City of Boston departments in planning, design, construction, and major renovations of City-owned buildings.

Open to employees of ACEC/MA Member Firms.

[More Info](#)

ACEC/MA January TALC Meeting

January 21, 12:00 PM, Zoom

Open to employees of ACEC/MA Member Firms.

[More Info](#)

4 Seats Open: 2026 ACEC/MA Emerging Leaders Program

February 24 - April 7, 2026, weekly evening sessions in person.

This seven-session leadership development course for engineers and design professionals on a leadership track focuses on the business and management skills that matter most, including strategic planning, government affairs, marketing, contracts and risk management, and leadership fundamentals.

Participants typically have **8 to 15 years of experience**, limited to two per firm. There are currently **less than 5 spots available**.

[More Info & Registration](#)

- LEC Environmental Consultants
- McFarlan Johnson
- PKF O'Connor Davies
- Sanborn, Head & Associates
- Stacey DePasquale Engineering

**ACEC/MA FY2026 Board
of Directors**

**ACEC/MA Forums &
Committees**

**Events & Briefings
Calendar**

**Join an ACEC/MA
Committee or Forum**



ACEC/MA Education Corporation Scholarship Applications Due January 21

For engineering and land surveying students you know:

Apply for scholarships from ACEC/MA Education Corporation (ACEC/MA EC) + ACEC Research Institute .

- ACEC/MA Ed. Corp scholarships Deadline **January 21.**
- ACEC Research Institute national scholarships Deadline: **March 13.**

[More Info](#)

MassDOT Updates Environmental Review Checklist (ERC)

MassDOT's Environmental Services Section's update to its Environmental Review Checklist (ERC) is now on the [MassDOT Environmental MEPA/NEPA Unit](#) webpage. **This new ERC is effective January 14, 2026.** Projects that reach the 25% design stage on or after January 14 are required to use this new version of the ERC. Projects that reached the 25% design prior to January 14 do not need to resubmit the ERC.

[More Information](#)

MassDOT CAD Standards Survey

MassDOT seeks input from the consulting community about the current CAD standards—what works, what doesn't, and what improvements may be helpful moving forward.

[Complete the MassDOT CAD Standards survey here](#) to provide input. Results will be anonymous.

ACEC/MA Award Nominations Now Open

[ACEC/MA 2026 Workplace Belonging and Engagement Award – Nominations Due 2-11-2026](#)

Honors a firm's ingenuity, leadership, and commitment to advancing belonging, fairness, and opportunity within the profession.

[ACEC/MA 2026 Community Service Award – Nominations Due 2-6-2026](#)

Recognizes principals or managers of ACEC/MA member firms who have made outstanding contributions to the quality of life in the community

[ACEC/MA Young Professional Award – Nominations due 2-6-2026](#)

Recognizes the accomplishments of our young professionals who have contributed to the engineering profession and impacted society. ACEC/MA will select two award recipients.

ACEC Roundtable Series: The Ideal Employer: What the Next Generation of Engineers is Really Looking For

February 4, 12:30 - 1:30 pm (Virtual)

What does the “ideal employer” look like to today’s emerging engineering talent? With insights from the ACEC Research Institute’s Workforce of the Future Study, this session explores the attributes, expectations, and decision drivers that define how engineering students and early-career professionals evaluate firms.

You'll need to create an ACEC National login & password to register if you don't yet have one.

[More Info & Registration](#)

DEP Public Hearings on Surface Water Quality Standards Proposed Amendments

On January 2, MassDEP published a Public Hearing Notice on proposed amendments to 314 CMR 4.00: MA SWQS (Surface Water Quality Standards) pursuant to M.G.L. c. 21, §§ 26–53, M.G.L. c. 30A, and Section 303 of the federal Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. § 1313).

The 30-day public comment period closes on February 9, 2026. MassDEP is holding two virtual public hearings to receive comments on the proposed amendments on: January 27, 6 PM; and January 28, 2 PM.

[More Info](#)

TECET Annual Leadership Dinner

February 11, Copley Plaza, Boston

Honoring outstanding leaders who have contributed to the engineering & land surveying professions and awarding scholarships to engineering students. This year's honorees include Michael Carragher, Chair & CEO, VHB and Richard Davey, CEO, Massport.

[More Info](#)

Government Affairs

ACEC and FEDERAL NEWS

[5 Numbers That Explain America’s Engineering Shortage](#)

[Appropriations Update – State of Play in Washington](#)

[US drops appeal of order blocking Trump plan to tie state transportation funds to immigration enforcement](#)

[Monitoring U.S. DOT Changes to the Disadvantaged Business](#)

[Enterprise \(DBE\) Program](#): ACEC National's continually updated landing page on DBE-related resources, including DBE FAQs on the Interim Final Rule (IFR), an interactive State DOT DBE Policies map, and ACEC Resources

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

[New report: Gas utilities spent record amount replacing leaky pipes in 2024](#)

[Judge reverses Trump order halting Revolution Wind](#)

[Warren and Markey say Trump's policies have cost Massachusetts \\$8.6B in clean-energy funding and over 16,000 jobs \(Paywall\)](#)

[Should green transit projects be exempt from some environmental rules? \(Paywall\)](#)

[MassDEP delays implementation of Clean Heat Standard to 2028 \(Paywall\)](#)

[MBTA bails on Alewife project, leaving fate of crumbling garage unknown \(Paywall\)](#)

January GAC Zoom will be 1/28/26 at 10 AM. [Request Zoom for 1/28/26.](#)

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: ACEC/MA State Markets Conference - [Save the Date](#)

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

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

May 28: Engineers and Land Surveyors Day at the State House - [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 1/15/2026; Next issue: 1/22/2026

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

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