

# ACEC/Matters

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES OF MASSACHUSETTS

**February 12, 2026**

## **2026 Annual Corporate Sponsorship Opportunities Still Available**

### **Thank You to 2026 ACEC/MA CORPORATE SPONSORS**

#### **PLATINUM**

- AECOM
- Arup
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- GFT
- HDR
- Jacobs
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- Michael Baker International
- Mott MacDonald
- Simpson Gumpertz & Heger
- Stantec
- TEC, Inc.
- VHB
- WSP

#### **GOLD**

- AI Engineers, Inc
- Arora Engineers
- B2Q
- Beals and Thomas
- Beta Group
- BSC Group
- Collins Engineers
- Fuss & O'Neill
- GEI Consultants, Inc
- Green International Affiliates Inc., A Lochner Company
- H&H
- HNTB
- Horsley Witten Group
- IMEG Corp.
- LiRo-Hill
- Nitsch Engineering
- Pare Corporation
- STV Incorporated
- Tetra Tech
- Tighe & Bond
- Weston & Sampson

#### **SILVER**

## **House and Senate Cleared a Five-Bill Package of Spending Bills for Fiscal Year 2026**

The House and Senate have [cleared a five-bill package of spending bills](#) for Fiscal Year 2026, including funding for the Departments of Transportation, Housing & Urban Development, Defense, Labor, and other programs.

[Read a summary](#) from the Senate Appropriations Committee

[Read a summary](#) from the House Appropriations Committee

## **MassDOT Highway Division Has Issued the 2026 Edition of the Standard Specifications for Highways and Bridges**

MassDOT Highway Division Assistant Chief Engineer Thomas DiPaolo recently announced that the **2026 Edition of the Standard Specifications for Highways and Bridges** and a series of updated **Construction Standard Detail Drawings** have been issued.

The 2026 edition of the Standard Specifications combines the previous (2025) edition with all supplemental specifications issued by MassDOT during 2025. The 2026 edition also includes a companion document that provides a full accounting of the changes to the previous (2025) edition.

[More information can be found here.](#)

## **2026 Engineering Excellence Awards Gala Registration Now Open - Sponsorship Opportunities Also Available**

ACEC/MA will be host our 2026 Engineering Excellence and Awards (EEA) Gala on **April 14, 2026** at the Renaissance Boston Seaport District.

The ACEC/MA Engineering Excellence and Awards Competition recognizes engineering achievements that demonstrate the highest degree of merit and ingenuity.

[Registration is now open.](#)

Sponsorship opportunities are also still available. ACEC/MA's largest annual event with limited sponsorship opportunities, the EEA Gala is an opportunity to get your firms in front of hundreds of members and public officials.

**More information on EEA sponsorship opportunities can be [found here](#) or by [emailing ACEC/MA Executive Director Kevin O'Shea](#).**

## **Registration Open for ACEC/MA Breakfast Program: Climate Resiliency Planning in Massachusetts**

Join ACEC/MA on **Wednesday, March 4, 2026**, for a morning program focused on how Massachusetts is advancing climate resiliency in infrastructure planning and delivery.

- ATANE
- Benesch
- CDR Maguire Engineering
- CDW Consultants
- Fitzmeyer & Tocci Associates, Inc.
- French & Parrello Associates
- GPI
- GZA GeoEnvironmental
- Howard Stein Hudson
- Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc.
- Kleinfelder
- LEC Environmental Consultants
- McFarlan Johnson
- PKF O'Connor Davies
- RINA North America
- Samiotes Consultants
- 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**



Hosted at CDM Smith's Boston office, with the option to attend virtually by Zoom, this program will focus on climate resiliency planning in Massachusetts. The event will bring together state agency leaders and community partners to discuss how resilience is being incorporated into building codes, infrastructure design, and project delivery across the Commonwealth. **PDHs will be available for registered attendees.**

**Wednesday, March 4, 2026 - 8:30-11:00AM.**

CDM Smith (75 State St, Ste 701, Boston). Thank you to CDM Smith for hosting.

[Registration and more information here - including a new speaker.](#)

## **FY27 Dam and Seawall Program Application Now Open**

Applications are due by **Friday, March 20, 2026 at 11:59 p.m.**

The Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) is currently seeking proposals for the Dam and Seawall Repair or Removal Program through the new [Environmental & Climate One Stop \(ECO One Stop\)](#) application.

[More information can be found here.](#)

## **Massachusetts' First Embodied Carbon Reduction Plan Released**

In January of 2026, the Embodied Carbon Intergovernmental Coordinating Council (ECICC) submitted the state's first Embodied Carbon Reduction Plan, outlining a plan for reducing embodied carbon in state-managed construction projects. Per legislation, the Council is tasked with submitting to the legislature an updated plan and progress report at least every two years.

[The full report can be read here.](#)

## **Registration Now Open: ACEC National Annual Convention and Legislative Summit**

Register now to be part of the engineering industry's largest gathering of leaders and decision-makers. Experience compelling general sessions, meaningful networking, a dynamic exhibit hall, and direct engagement with policymakers—at an event that delivers real value—all in the heart of the nation's capital.

**May 3-6, 2026 in Washington, DC.**

[More information can be found here.](#)

## **ACEC/MA Building Engineering Committee Meeting with MassSave Presentation**

ACEC/MA BEC is hosting a meeting with representatives from the MassSave Program Administrators on Tuesday, **February 24th from 9-10:00am virtually.**

This meeting will provide attendees with an overview on programs and opportunities currently being offered by MassSave.



[More information here.](#)

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### **ACEC/MA Rising Professionals Committee Presentation Skills Series**

ACEC/MA RPC is hosting a session of the Presentation Skills Series on Thursday, **February 19th from 5-6pm in person at Nitsch Engineering in Boston, MA.**

This meeting is intended to provide attendees with an opportunity to improve their speaking and presentation skills. Presentations can be prepared, or you can simply be prepared to stand in front of an audience and speak for about 10 minutes.

[Register here.](#)

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### **ACEC/MA Health and Safety Forum Meeting on Driving Safety/Distracted Driving**

ACEC/MA Health and Safety Forum is hosting a presentation by Ben Lemek of CNA on driving safety/distracted driving.

**Monday, February 23rd from 2:30-4:00pm virtually.**

[More information here.](#)

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### **ACEC/MA Seeking Volunteer Representatives to Serve as Trustees of The Engineering Center Education Trust (TECET)**

ACEC/MA is seeking volunteer representatives to serve as Trustees of The Engineering Center Education Trust (TECET). Several terms for our current trustees have ended or will conclude in June, creating an opportunity for new volunteers to join the Board.

TECET is an educational and charitable nonprofit trust and the owner of One Walnut Street in Boston.

[More information can be found here.](#)

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### **Registration Open: 2026 MassDOT Transportation Innovation Conference**

The annual MassDOT Transportation Innovation Conference provides a forum for innovative transportation systems, management ideas, and initiatives. Each year, the conference provides an important opportunity for transportation practitioners to share knowledge, sponsor peer-to-peer learning, and collaborate on issues of mutual interest.

**May 5 & 6, 2026 at the DCU Center, Worcester, MA**

[More information can be found here.](#)

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### **ACEC Engineering Influence Podcast: Change Management in the AEC Industry**

Betsy Bond from Prosci discusses the importance of good change management in the AEC industry. In today's rapidly evolving engineering landscape, even the best technical solutions can fall short if organizations struggle to adopt and sustain change.

[Watch and listen here.](#)

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## **Mass Taxpayers Foundation FY2027 Governor's Budget Analysis**

Last week, Mass Taxpayers Foundation held an open house to discuss Governor Healey's recently filed [FY27 budget proposal](#).

The presentation can be found [here](#) and you can watch the recording of the open house [here](#).

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## **Healey-Driscoll Administration and Electric Utilities Launch the Power Forward Initiative**

The Healey-Driscoll Administration has joined the state's two largest electric utilities – Eversource and National Grid – in announcing Power Forward, a new initiative to get housing connected to the electric grid faster.

[More information here.](#)

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## **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 January 2026, with the possibility to serve another 2-year term beyond that. All DSC members are eligible to serve two consecutive 2-year terms.

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

[Learn more.](#)

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## **Government Affairs**

### **ACEC and FEDERAL NEWS**

[A/E Industry Shows Resiliency in the Face of National Economic Volatility](#)

[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**

[Mass. climate chief missed her own deadline to calculate the cost of state's climate commitments](#)

[Waymo is returning to Boston for testing, urges legislators to clear path for autonomous vehicles](#)

[State's solar push collides with rural concerns](#)

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The February GAC Zoom will be 2/26/26 at 10 AM. [Request Zoom for 2/26/26.](#)

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

Join ACEC/MA GAC

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### 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.

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### Upcoming Major Events to Save the Dates

**March 4: ACEC/MA Breakfast Update on Climate Resiliency - [Register here.](#)**

**April 2: ACEC/MA State Markets Conference - [Save the Date](#)**

**April 14: ACEC/MA Engineering Excellence and Awards Gala - [Register here.](#)**

**May 3-6: ACEC National Annual Convention, Washington, DC - [Register here.](#)**

**May 28: Engineers and Land Surveyors Day at the State House - [Save the Date](#)**

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### 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](mailto:acecma@engineers.org) or 617-227-5551.**

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ACEC/Matters: Produced by Kevin O'Shea

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