

ACEC/Matters

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES OF MASSACHUSETTS

April 16, 2026

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450+ Celebrate Engineering Excellence at ACEC/MA Gala



On Tuesday, 450 industry leaders, clients, and partners joined ACEC/MA for our 2026 Engineering Excellence Awards Gala, recognizing 36 outstanding projects that demonstrate the impact of engineering across Massachusetts.

The program was expertly led by **ACEC/MA President Gerry Preble** and our emcees, **Jonathan Gulliver, MassDOT Undersecretary of Transportation and Highway Administrator**, and **Katherine Antos, EOEEA Undersecretary for Decarbonization and Resilience**, who guided a celebration of innovation, collaboration, and excellence across the industry.

Congratulations to all 36 Engineers Excellence Award winners, Young Professional, Workplace Belonging and Engagement, and Community Service award winners, as well as to our ACEC/MA Education Corporation scholarship recipients.

We also extend our congratulations to **Benesch** for earning the **Grand Conceptor Award** for the **William Felton "Bill" Russell Bridge over Boston Inner Harbor** project, a standout example of engineering excellence and impact.

We are grateful to our Diamond Sponsor, the **ACEC Retirement Trust**, and to all of our sponsors whose support made the evening possible.

Thank you again to everyone who attended and helped make the evening a success.

View the full program, which includes more information on all award and scholarship winners, can be found [here](#).

Photos from the event can be viewed [here](#) and purchased by emailing [Frank Monkiewicz](#).

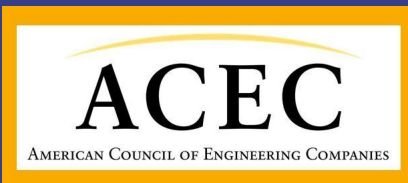
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**ACEC/MA FY2026 Board
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**ACEC/MA Forums &
Committees**

**Events & Briefings
Calendar**

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



Abbie Goodman Retirement Celebration - May 12

Please join the American Council of Engineering Companies of Massachusetts (ACEC/MA) as we celebrate the retirement of Abbie Goodman and recognize her extraordinary 30-years of leadership and service to ACEC/MA and the engineering community across the Commonwealth.

Join us on **May 12, 2026, from 5:00–8:00 PM at the Omni Parker House, Rooftop Ballroom, 60 School Street, Boston** for an evening reception. Your registration will include two drink tickets and heavy hors d'oeuvres. We expect this event to sell out, so early registration is encouraged.

[RSVP for the Celebration here.](#)

If you are unable to attend but would still like to support the event, an option to contribute is available through the registration link. **Firms or individuals interested in providing additional support to help defray event costs are welcome to contact [ACEC/MA](#) for more information.**

Registration Closing Today: Registration for Cape Cod Bridges Program/Sagamore Bridge Replacement Project Industry Day

Tomorrow, April 17, 2026, MassDOT representatives will be hosting an Industry Day to discuss the anticipated Design-Build Process for the Cape Cod Bridges Program/Sagamore Bridge Replacement.

WHEN: Friday, April 17, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

WHERE: U.S. Department of Transportation - John A. Volpe National Transportation Systems Center, Cambridge, MA (Hybrid Option Available)

This is an invitation-only event for design-builders, contractors, or consultants. Due to limited capacity and security requirements, all invitees must register to attend. Please confirm your attendance by clicking [here](#).

Registration closes TODAY on Thursday, April 16, 2026 at 5:00PM (ET).

MassDOT requests that, if possible, interested individuals prioritize in-person attendance.

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

Massachusetts House FY2027 Budget Released

The Massachusetts House has released its FY2027 budget proposal, outlining a \$60+ billion spending plan that continues significant investments in transportation, energy, and environmental priorities across the Commonwealth.

The proposal includes approximately **\$2.8 billion in total transportation funding**, supporting MassDOT, the MBTA, and regional transit systems, and continuing efforts to address long-standing infrastructure needs. This includes **\$1.4 billion in dedicated sales tax revenue for the MBTA**.

The budget also leverages **Fair Share surtax revenues**, with billions directed toward transportation and related infrastructure investments, including roads, bridges, and transit modernization.

In addition, the proposal reflects the Commonwealth's ongoing commitment to **energy, environmental, and resilience initiatives**,



supporting programs aimed at emissions reduction, climate adaptation, and strengthening community resilience in the face of increasingly frequent extreme weather events.

As the budget process moves forward, ACEC/MA will continue to review key provisions and advocate for policies and investments that support a strong and sustainable infrastructure pipeline across Massachusetts.

Read the House budget executive summary [here](#).

Registration Now Open: 2026 ACEC/MA Engineers & Land Surveyors Day at the State House - May 28

Join ACEC/MA at our annual advocacy day at the MA State House on **May 28**.

The event begins at **9:30 AM** with a Morning Briefing and breakfast in the Hall of Flags at the **Massachusetts State House in Boston**, followed by appointments with your State Senator and State Representative. ACEC/MA will schedule these meetings for you based on the information you provide during registration.

This is a free event for members of ACEC/MA. There will be three virtual preparation sessions offered ahead of May 28.

[Register now to attend.](#) Registration must be complete by **May 14** to ensure we can secure appointments.

If you do not live/vote in Massachusetts, **please do not register for Engineers and Land Surveyors Day at the State House, unless you plan to join colleagues in their meetings.**

EFSB Advances New Energy Siting Rules Under 2024 Law

The Energy Facilities Siting Board (EFSB) has released [draft final regulations](#) under docket EFSB 25-10, continuing implementation of the Commonwealth's 2024 climate and energy law that overhauls how major energy infrastructure is sited and permitted.

The law directs agencies to create a more streamlined and predictable process for approving clean energy and grid projects, including consolidated permitting, defined timelines, and enhanced requirements for community engagement and environmental justice. The proposed regulations advance these goals by clarifying site review standards and how impacts, including cumulative impacts, are evaluated.

The Board will hold a meeting on April 21 to discuss the proposed rulemaking and next steps, providing an early opportunity for stakeholders to better understand the framework and its implications for project development and permitting in Massachusetts.

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

MBTA Consultant Overhead Rate Collection Process Training Recording

On Monday, April 6, the MBTA held a training for ACEC/MA members on the implementation of a new **MBTA Consultant Overhead Rate Collection (MCORC)** workflow, which is designed to improve efficiency, transparency, and consistency in the submission, review, and renewal of overhead rates (OH).

A recording of the training can be found [here](#).

Follow up questions should be sent to MBTA Deputy Chief, Contract Services, [Elena Franks](#) directly.

ACEC Webinar on New Federal Executive Order on Addressing DEI Discrimination by Federal Contractors - April 17

April 17, 2026 - 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

President Trump's March 26, 2026, Executive Order 14398, "Addressing DEI Discrimination by Federal Contractors" (the EO), directs agencies to insert a new clause prohibiting "racially discriminatory DEI activities" in all federal contracts, subcontracts, and contract-like instruments by April 25. Penalties for contractor noncompliance include mandatory contract termination, debarment, and prosecution under the False Claims Act.

[More information and registration can be found here](#). Please note that this is a paid program from ACEC National and will offer 1 PDH.

April 29 TALC Meeting Registration Open - Hybrid

Registration for ACEC/MA's April TALC meeting, in-person (with a hybrid option) at **Nitsch Engineering in Boston**, on **Wednesday, April 29** is [now open](#).

You can [register](#) to attend in-person at Nitsch - **limit 2 people per ACEC/MA member firm** - until in-person registration is full at **40 people or by April 22, whichever comes first**. Within your firm, please coordinate who should attend in person in advance before anyone signs up to attend in-person. We'll send Zoom info to all of TALC. The guest for this meeting will be announced in the coming weeks.

Thank you to Nitsch Engineering for hosting the April TALC meeting and providing lunch.

Registration Now Open: Spring 2026 Genesis Program

ACEC/MA's Genesis Program provides three carefully designed instructional sessions that address key topics identified by firm leaders as vital for the professional with 3-5 years experience. This course has 3 sessions on different dates, in-person only. Attendees are expected to attend all three sessions.

Beginning on Monday, May 4, 2026, the classes are held at CDM Smith in Boston. Thank you CDM Smith for hosting.

Participation limited to 30. There are currently less than 3 spots remaining. Registration is first-come first-served, with a limit of 2 per firm. If there is space available after April 24, an additional participant per firm will be considered. There will be a waitlist.

[Learn more and reserve your spot today.](#)

MassDOT Preparing Updates to CAD standards

MassDOT is preparing updates to its CAD standards. To ensure you receive announcements, documentation, and training opportunities as they become available, please complete the form below.

[CAD Standards Mailing List – Fill out form](#)

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.](#)

Registration Waitlist: 2026 MassDOT Transportation Innovation Conference

The annual MassDOT Transportation Innovation Conference provides a forum for innovative transportation systems, management ideas, and initiatives. There is currently a waitlist for attendees.

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

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

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.](#)

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

[Opponents defend barrier to nuclear power development](#)

[Senate extends 20-cent fee on ride services](#)

[Mass. House leaders unveil \\$63 billion state budget plan amid looming 'dysfunction'](#)

[MBTA wants to know what the public thinks its transit priorities should be for the next 25 years](#)

The March GAC Zoom will be 4/30/26 at 10 AM. [Request Zoom for 04/30/26.](#)

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

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

May 12: Abbie Goodman Retirement Celebration, Boston, MA - [Register here.](#)

May 28: Engineers and Land Surveyors Day at the State House - [Register here.](#)

June 16: ACEC/MA Annual Celebration in Boston - [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 04/16/2026; Next issue: 04/23/2026

ACEC/Matters: Produced by Kevin O'Shea

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