

ACEC/Matters

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES OF MASSACHUSETTS

May 21, 2026

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Federal Surface Transportation Reauthorization Bill Released

Earlier this week, the House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee Chairman Sam Graves (R-MO) and Ranking Member Rick Larsen (D-WA) released their long-awaited surface transportation reauthorization bill.

The *Building Unrivaled Infrastructure and Long-term Development for America's 250th Act (BUILD America 250 Act)* totals approximately \$580 billion over five years in funding authorizations. This includes \$475 billion in spending out of the Highway Trust Fund for highway, transit, and safety programs - a roughly 4% increase over the IIJA - along with additional authorizations for future General Fund appropriations for rail programs.

The committee press release is [here](#). The bill text is [here](#). A section-by-section summary is [here](#).

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

MBTA Fiscal Year-End Invoice Submission Deadlines

The MBTA has asked that we share [this memo](#) from Sam Zhou, Chief Engineer, Engineering & Capital Division, regarding fiscal year-end invoice deadlines.

To help ensure that contractors, consultants, and vendors are paid prior to the close of the fiscal year, all invoices must be **submitted in e-Builder** no later than **Friday, June 5th** close of business. Notably, this due date assumes there aren't any issues and the invoice can be processed.

If you have any questions, please email [Elena Franks](#) directly.

Register Today: ACEC/MA Annual Celebration - June 16

Register today to join ACEC/MA as we mark the end of another successful year. We will celebrate our FY2026 Board of Directors and Committee/Forum leaders and introduce our FY2027 Board at this reception, as we enjoy appetizers and cocktails (your registration includes two drink tickets) with plenty of opportunities for networking.

Register [here](#).

We will be joined by two special guests for this celebration:

- **Doug Howgate, President, Massachusetts Taxpayers Foundation**

- **Matt Reiffer, Vice President and Advocacy Counsel, ACEC National**

Doug and Matt will speak about the Massachusetts and federal government budgets respectively and how they intersect. With so much of our industry's work dealing with public agency projects, this will be a conversation you won't want to miss.

Sponsorship opportunities for this dynamic event bringing together leaders in our industry are available. More information can be [found here](#) or by email [ACEC/MA](#) for more information.

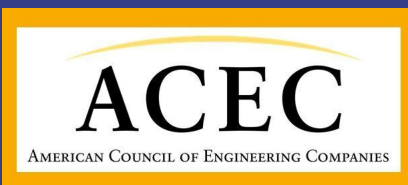
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**ACEC/MA FY2026 Board
of Directors**

**ACEC/MA Forums &
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**Events & Briefings
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Massachusetts Designer Selection Board Seeks 1 Professional Engineer for the Board

The Massachusetts Designer Selection Board (DSB) is seeking resumes from candidates who are Professional Engineers with 10 or more years of experience licensed in and residing in Massachusetts for 1 opening on the DSB.

As a Professional Engineer licensed in Massachusetts, you possess the expertise needed to help improve the delivery of public projects across our Commonwealth. By joining the DSB, you'll have the opportunity to contribute your skills to the selection of designers for state facilities and charter schools.

As part of an autonomous 11-member Designer Selection Board, you'll play a hands-on role in evaluating proposals and ideas from design professionals, ensuring that our public building projects meet the highest standards of design quality, sustainability, and efficiency.

More information and how to apply can be found [here](#).

Rising Professionals Committee Summer Social - June 9

The ACEC/MA Rising Professionals Committee is hosting a Summer Social for **committee members** on **June 9, 2026 at 5:30 PM**.

The event will be held at [Owl's Nest \(Night Shift on the Esplanade\) in Boston](#). It is located on the Charles River Esplanade off of Storrow Drive.

For questions, please contact RPC Co-chair [Sydnie Lambert-Picard](#).

MassDOT Highway: New Guidelines for SUE Deliverables

The MassDOT Highway Division issued two important documents regarding the performance of Subsurface Utility Engineering (SUE) services on MassDOT projects.

The first is a set of [Guidelines for MassDOT SUE Deliverables](#).

The second document is [Engineering Directive E-26-002, MassDOT Requirements for Performing Subsurface Utility Engineering Investigations](#).

If you have any questions, please reach out to [Tom DiPaolo](#) directly.

ACEC National Opposes Gas Tax Holiday

ACEC National and the other members of the Transportation Construction Coalition (TCC) sent a [letter](#) to Congressional lawmakers expressing strong opposition to a gas tax holiday, as proposed by the President.

TCC believes suspending the gas tax does not appreciably lower prices and undermines the foundation of transportation funding. A better approach to addressing cost of living concerns is to invest in road, bridge, and transit improvements in a long-term surface transportation bill that improves road conditions, reduces congestion, and facilitates efficient supply chains.

ACEC National will monitor developments closely and continue to advocate against this idea.



Annual ACEC/MA Membership Recertification Notification

As part of the annual ACEC/MA membership recertification process, your firm's primary contact will be receiving an email to be sent out by May 8th from acecma@engineers.org. **The deadline to submit this form will be May 22nd.**

Please reach out to acecma@engineers.org with questions.

MBTA Systemwide Resilience Roadmap

Last week, the MBTA yesterday released its first-ever systemwide [Resilience Roadmap](#), a comprehensive plan to strengthen transit infrastructure and prepare operations against the impacts of climate change and severe weather, including flooding, extreme heat and cold.

The Roadmap can be found [here](#).

Massport 2025 Strategic Plan Adopted

The Massachusetts Port Authority has released its [2025 Strategic Plan](#), outlining a long-term vision for investments across its aviation, maritime, and real estate assets. The plan focuses on modernizing aging infrastructure, expanding capacity, and improving the customer experience at key facilities including Logan International Airport, Worcester Regional Airport, Hanscom Field, and the Port of Boston.

Major initiatives include terminal and airside improvements at Logan, expanded passenger and cargo activity at Worcester, continued advancement of general aviation at Hanscom, and increased efficiency and capacity at Conley Terminal and Flynn Cruiseport. The plan also highlights a strong emphasis on climate resilience, sustainability, and long-term net-zero goals.

The Strategic Plan can be found [here](#).

MassDOT RFQ: Sagamore Bridge Replacement Program Management and Construction Management

MassDOT has posted a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for the procurement of a Program Management and Construction Management consultant for the Cape Cod Bridges Program for the Sagamore Bridge Replacement Project.

The qualifications submission deadline is **June 3, 2026, at 3:00 pm EST.**

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.

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

[Energy company proposes big natural gas pipeline expansion in New England](#)

[Senate plans to blend transportation bill into budget week mix](#)

[Mass Wins Act seeks global investment and talent for state](#)

[Port cities try to weather shifting winds](#)

[MBTA to launch Boston's new 'Harbor Loop' ferry route](#)

[A summer of disruptive repairs looms on Mass. roads, rails](#)

The March GAC Zoom will be 5/21/26 at 10 AM. [Request Zoom for 05/21/26](#)

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

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

June 16: ACEC/MA Annual Celebration in Boston - [Register here.](#)

September 28: ACEC/MA Education Corporation Golf Tournament - [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 05/21/2026; Next issue: 05/28/2026

ACEC/Matters: Produced by Kevin O'Shea

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