

ACEC/Matters

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES OF MASSACHUSETTS

June 25, 2026

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THIS MORNING: A Conversation with Melissa Lavinson on Massachusetts Energy & Climate Priorities

Join ACEC/MA's Water, Energy & Environment Committee (WEEC) **TODAY Thursday, June 25, from 10:00 to 11:00 AM** for a conversation with **Melissa Lavinson, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Office of Energy Transformation.**

As Executive Director of the nation's first Office of Energy Transformation, Melissa leads the Commonwealth's efforts to coordinate the clean energy transition, including electric grid readiness, gas-to-electric transition planning, and strategies to ensure an affordable and equitable energy future.

Register [here to receive the Zoom information.](#)

Annual ACEC/MA Membership Recertification

As part of the annual ACEC/MA membership recertification process, your firm's primary contact should have received an email sent out from acecma@engineers.org.

The form can be found [here](#). **If your firm has not submitted yet, please do so ASAP.**

Please reach out to acecma@engineers.org with questions or to confirm if your firm has completed the survey.

Massachusetts Senate Released Energy Affordability Bill

Senate Democrats have released a wide-ranging energy affordability bill designed to reduce utility costs for Massachusetts residents and businesses while maintaining the Commonwealth's long-term clean energy and climate commitments.

Senate leaders estimate the proposal could generate more than \$14 billion in ratepayer savings over the next decade through reforms to utility regulation, infrastructure financing, energy procurement practices, and oversight of existing energy initiatives. Key provisions include changes to the Gas System Enhancement Program (GSEP), expanded authority for utilities to refinance certain infrastructure investments through lower-cost financing mechanisms, increased oversight of the Mass Save program, and efforts to address electric supply procurement costs.

The Senate is expected to take up the legislation for debate on July 1. If approved, the measure would need to be reconciled with the House-passed bill before a final energy package can be sent to Governor Healey.

Read a detailed summary of the Senate energy affordability bill [here](#).

MassDOT Reminds Cape Cod Bridges Proposers of Procurement Communication Restrictions

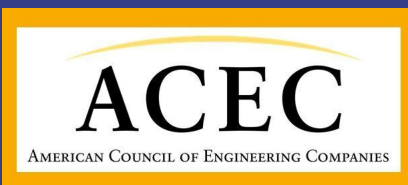
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ACEC/MA FY2026 Board of Directors

ACEC/MA Forums & Committees

Events & Briefings Calendar

Join an ACEC/MA Committee or Forum



MassDOT has asked ACEC/MA and CIM to remind firms interested in the Cape Cod Bridges Program, including the Sagamore Bridge Replacement project, that unauthorized communications with MassDOT personnel, affiliated consultants, or members of the selection and prequalification committees during the procurement process are strictly prohibited and may result in disqualification.

All questions and requests for clarification must be submitted through the official RFQ process to ensure a fair, transparent, and consistent procurement. Any clarifications deemed necessary by MassDOT will be issued through formal addenda available to all proposers.

Questions regarding the RFQ process should be directed to massdotSpecifications@dot.state.ma.us.

Massachusetts House Releases Economic Development Bill

The House has released its version of an [Economic Development Bill](#), which was favorably reported by the Joint Committee on Economic Development and Emerging Technologies and referred to the Committee on Bonding, Capital Expenditures and State Assets. A hearing on the legislation is scheduled for July 2.

Of particular interest to ACEC/MA members, Section 126 would create a streamlined pathway for Massachusetts-licensed professional engineers to obtain a home inspector license. Under the proposal, licensed PEs who have completed at least 50 home inspections under the supervision of a licensed home inspector would be eligible for licensure without having to satisfy certain existing requirements applicable to other applicants.

ACEC/MA has been engaged on this issue and will continue to monitor the legislation and remain involved as the bill moves through the legislative process.

ACEC National Urges Member Firms to Support Surface Transportation Reauthorization

ACEC National is calling on member firms to contact their members of Congress in support of **H.R. 8870, the BUILD America 250 Act**, bipartisan legislation to reauthorize federal surface transportation programs before current authorizations expire at the end of September.

The five-year bill would authorize **\$580 billion through Fiscal Year 2031**, including **\$375 billion for roads and bridges** and **\$87 billion for transit programs** through the Highway Trust Fund. Every state would receive a 3.4% increase in formula funding compared to current law.

The legislation also includes several ACEC priorities, including support for state DOT use of lump-sum contracts for engineering services, project delivery reforms, and grant funding to advance new technologies.

[Members can contact their U.S. Representative through ACEC National's grassroots action center here.](#)

ACEC/MA's Public Agency Partnering Committees - Sign Up By July 17

ACEC/MA partners with public agencies to streamline project delivery and strengthen communication between public agencies and the ACEC/MA



design professional business community. These committees provide a forum to address issues impacting procurement, contracts, project delivery, and collaboration across the industry.

To participate in a public agency partnering committee or serve as a co-chair beginning in August 2026 for the next two years, [review the volunteer position descriptions and sign up by July 17](#).

Please coordinate participation within your firm. [Only one person per ACEC/MA Member Firm may serve on a particular public agency partnering committee](#), though individuals from the same firm may participate on different committees.

More information - including the job descriptions and signup sheet - can be found [here](#).

ACEC/MA Rising Professionals Committee: Tour of Waterworks Museum on July 7

Join ACEC/MA's Rising Professionals Committee on **Tuesday, July 7**, for a special behind-the-scenes tour of the historic Waterworks Museum in Chestnut Hill.

Beginning at **4:00 PM**, participants will have the opportunity to explore the museum's impressive collection of engineering history, including three massive steam engines that are more than 130 years old. This special-access tour allows attendees to climb onto the engines as operators did in 1895 and venture below the machinery for a unique look at the engineering and mechanics that powered Greater Boston's water system.

Following the tour, attendees are invited to continue the conversation with drinks and appetizers at Cityside Tavern in Cleveland Circle.

Register [here](#).

ACEC/MA HR Forum: ACEC/MA Pay Equity and Salary Transparency Webinar on July 14

Join ACEC/MA's Human Resources Forum on **Tuesday, July 14, from 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM** for a webinar on pay equity and salary transparency featuring compensation expert David Weaver, Founder of the Compensation and HR Group and author of *Pay Matters* and *Equal Pay Matters*.

As new laws, evolving workplace expectations, and competition for talent reshape compensation practices, managers and HR professionals are increasingly expected to navigate pay conversations with confidence and consistency. This webinar will explore the fundamentals of pay equity, salary range development, compensation strategy, salary transparency requirements, and practical approaches for handling employee questions and concerns.

Attendees will gain actionable insights into making fair, defensible compensation decisions while building trust and supporting equitable workplace practices.

Register [here](#).

MassDOT Bridge Section SharePoint Training – July 15

Join ACEC/MA on **Wednesday, July 15, at 10:00 AM** for a virtual presentation with Alyson Bedard and Alex Bardow of the MassDOT Bridge Section on the agency's newly launched external SharePoint platform for consultant designers.

Following six months of internal use, the platform is now available to the design community and is intended to improve communication, collaboration, and access to key Bridge Section resources. The presentation will provide an overview of available technical guidance, training materials, project process information, designer inquiry submission tools, and other features designed to create a more consistent and transparent interface between MassDOT and consultant teams.

The session will be recorded for those unable to attend live. Please register to receive the virtual meeting information.

Register [here](#).

MassDEP Opens 2027 State Revolving Fund Solicitation Period

MassDEP has opened the project solicitation period for the 2027 Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) financing cycle. Municipalities and other eligible borrowers seeking SRF financing must submit Project Evaluation Forms (PEFs) by **July 24, 2026**, to be considered for inclusion in the 2027 Intended Use Plan.

The SRF program remains a critical funding source for drinking water, wastewater, stormwater, and resilience projects across Massachusetts. MassDEP has indicated that projects addressing PFAS, sewer overflows, nutrient reduction, and climate resilience continue to be priorities. The Department will also host an informational webinar on June 18 to review program requirements, application procedures, and key deadlines.

More information on the solicitation process, upcoming deadlines, the temporary pause of the Asset Management Planning (AMP) Grant Program, and the EPA's upcoming 2027 Clean Watersheds Needs Survey can be found [here](#).

MBTA Announces Upcoming Changes to Track Access Training Requirements

The MBTA has provided advance notice of significant changes to its track access training and certification requirements for contractors, consultants, and vendors working on MBTA projects. Beginning later this year, the Authority will transition from its current Right of Way Rulebook to a new Roadway Worker Protection (RWP) program in response to updated federal requirements.

The new program will introduce revised training, certification, and documentation requirements, including a one-day, in-person certification course for personnel performing roadway work. The MBTA has also indicated that it plans to implement per-person training fees following the initial rollout.

ACEC/MA and the MBTA Partnering Committee will remain closely engaged with MBTA leadership as the new program is implemented.

Members are encouraged to review the [notice](#) for additional details.

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](#).

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

Government Affairs Committee

The July GAC meeting will be held on July 16th at 10:00AM.

[Request Zoom for 07/16/26.](#)

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

Join ACEC/MA GAC

IN THE NEWS

[Mass. high court strikes rent control question from ballot](#)

[SJC blocks high-stakes income tax cut question from the November ballot](#)

[A look at Massachusetts' new plan to prevent wrong-way crashes](#)

[A climate chief in an era of Trump and energy affordability: Does Melissa Hoffer still get a say?](#)

[Mass. primary election overhaul eligible for November ballot, SJC rules](#)

[Springfield mayor calls for ending regional fare-free bus program, drawing criticism from state transit advocates](#)

[Top Massachusetts real estate lobby ends rent control negotiations after SJC ballot question decision](#)

[Boston city councilors propose subway extension instead of center bus lane for Blue Hill Ave.](#)

['Why aren't they listening?': For many Black residents, this Blue Hill Avenue transit plan repeats old problems](#)

[A new Zillow report shows rent is getting more affordable across the U.S. — but less so in Boston](#)

[Mass. launches 'Park Passport Challenge' to get more visitors to state lands](#)

[Trump refuses to sign bipartisan housing bill championed by Warren](#)

[Boston taxi drivers can now accept Uber, Lyft ride requests under terms of new pilot program, city says](#)

[FEMA makes \\$17 million in funding available for New England communities to address flooding](#)

ACEC and Federal Updates

[**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

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

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 06/25/2026; Next issue: 07/02/2026

ACEC/Matters: Produced by Kevin O'Shea

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