

ACEC/Matters

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES OF MASSACHUSETTS

July 9, 2026

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MassDOT Public-Private Partnership Infrastructure Oversight Commission Membership Announcement

MassDOT has announced the members of the Public-Private Partnership (P3) Infrastructure Oversight Commission, the independent body established under state law to oversee the procurement for the Commonwealth's 18 highway service plazas.

The Commission includes:

Kevin Sullivan (Chair) – Vice President of Strategic Corporate Relations and Engagement at Babson College and former Massachusetts Secretary of Transportation, Secretary of Administration and Finance, and Mayor of Lawrence.

Joseph Bonfiglio – Business Manager of the Massachusetts and Northern New England Laborers' District Council, representing more than 20,000 workers across 33 local unions.

Joe Dorant – Environmental engineer with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection and former President of the Massachusetts Organization of State Engineers and Scientists (MOSES).

James Errickson – Town Administrator for Natick with more than two decades of experience in municipal and regional planning, including roles with MassDevelopment and the Cities of Lowell and Everett.

Eric Goodwine – Vice President at North Easton Savings Bank and Chair of the Audit and Finance Subcommittee of the MBTA Board of Directors, with an extensive background in commercial banking.

John Payne – Legal Counsel to Congressman Richard Neal and former First Justice of the Springfield District Court with more than 20 years of judicial experience.

The Commission is responsible for reviewing and approving the Request for Proposals (RFPs) that MassDOT will issue as part of the procurement to design, build, finance, operate, and maintain the Commonwealth's 18 highway service plazas.

The Commission plans to meet throughout the summer with the goal of releasing the new RFP in September. ACEC/MA will continue to monitor the Commission's work and keep members informed as the procurement advances.

Progress on the procurement, including the Commission's meeting schedule, agendas, meeting materials, and other updates, can be found on the [MassDOT project page](#).

FY2027 ACEC/MA Membership Dues Invoices Coming Soon

FY2027 ACEC/MA membership dues invoices will begin arriving in member firms' inboxes over the coming week.

If your firm has not yet completed its annual membership recertification, please do so as soon as possible. As part of the recertification process,

- Fitzmeyer & Tocci Associates, Inc.
- French & Parrello Associates
- GPI
- GZA GeoEnvironmental
- Howard Stein Hudson
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- LEC Environmental Consultants
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- Stacey DePasquale Engineering

ACEC/MA FY2027 Board of Directors

ACEC/MA Forums & Committees

Events & Briefings Calendar

Join an ACEC/MA Committee or Forum



your firm's primary contact should have received an email from acecma@engineers.org with instructions and a link to the online certification form. You can also access the form [here](#).

If you have questions or would like to confirm whether your firm has already completed the recertification, please contact acecma@engineers.org.

In-Person Registration Now Open for July TALC Meeting

[Registration](#) is now open for the **July Transportation Agencies Liaison Committee (TALC)** meeting on **Tuesday, July 29, from 12:00-1:30 p.m.**

The meeting will be held **in person at Jacobs**, 120 St. James Avenue, 5th Floor, Boston, and on Zoom. The Zoom link will be sent to all ACEC/MA TALC members closer to the meeting. Thank you to **Jacobs** for hosting the meeting and providing lunch for in-person attendees.

This month's program will feature:

Sam Zhou, Assistant General Manager & Chief Engineer, MBTA, presenting on the MBTA's FY2027-2031 Capital Investment Plan (CIP).

Stephanie Groll, Assistant Commissioner for Transportation Planning, City of Cambridge, discussing the City's approach to micromobility policy development and implementation.

Kris Carter, Co-leader of The Lab @ MassDOT, providing an update on the Special Commission on Micromobility's recommendations and the proposed Ride Safe Act, including updated vehicle classifications, safety initiatives, and the policy considerations shaping the future of micromobility in Massachusetts.

Please note: In-person attendance is limited to **two representatives per ACEC/MA member firm**. Firms are asked to coordinate attendees internally before registering. In-person attendance is limited to **50 attendees** and registration will close on **Thursday, July 24**, or when capacity is reached, whichever comes first. There will be a waitlist.

Jacobs employees interested in attending should coordinate directly through Dieckmann Cogill rather than registering.

Reserve your spot [today](#).

ACEC National Outlines Transportation Reauthorization Priorities

As Congress works to reauthorize federal surface transportation programs before the September 30 expiration of current law, the American Council of Engineering Companies is continuing to advocate for long-term infrastructure investment through its leadership role on the Transportation Construction Coalition.

The coalition is urging Congress to maintain and increase federal transportation funding to account for inflation, modernize the Highway Trust Fund with sustainable user-based revenue sources, streamline project delivery, encourage private investment, improve work zone safety, and provide greater flexibility to address mid-project cost increases. The coalition also supports practical implementation of Buy America requirements to avoid unnecessary project delays while maintaining the intent of domestic sourcing policies.



ACEC National has also launched an advocacy campaign encouraging members to contact Congress in support of the BUILD America 250 Act as negotiations on the next federal transportation authorization continue.

For additional background, see [this message](#) from Linda Bauer Darr outlining ACEC National's transportation reauthorization priorities

Massachusetts Plumbing Board Revises Policy for Unoccupied Infrastructure Facilities

The Massachusetts Board of State Examiners of Plumbers and Gas Fitters has voted to revise its Delegated Authority Policy, creating a streamlined path to eliminate restroom requirements for certain unoccupied facilities under 2,000 square feet. The previous threshold was 200 square feet.

The change addresses an unintended consequence of the Board's 2023 plumbing code update, which expanded restroom requirements to facilities such as electrical substations and other unoccupied infrastructure buildings. ACEC/MA worked in coordination with the electric and gas utilities, the Massachusetts Water Works Association, and other industry partners to help advance this practical solution.

Under the revised policy, applicants must still obtain a variance and demonstrate why a restroom is not practical for the facility. The building must be under 2,000 square feet, applicants must certify compliance with applicable OSHA requirements for mobile personnel, and the policy will sunset after three years while the Board evaluates whether to pursue a permanent plumbing code revision.

The revised policy is expected to reduce unnecessary costs and design challenges for qualifying utility and infrastructure projects while creating a pathway for a longer-term code change.

Massachusetts House Passes Economic Development Bill

On Wednesday, the Massachusetts House voted 148-2 to approve a \$561 million economic development bill aimed at strengthening the Commonwealth's competitiveness through investments and policy reforms. The legislation now heads to the Senate, which is expected to develop its own version before the two branches negotiate a final compromise.

Among the provisions of interest to ACEC/MA members, the bill establishes a new statewide framework governing micromobility devices, including motorized bicycles and other personal transportation devices. The proposal would establish operating rules and safety standards intended to provide greater consistency as micromobility use continues to expand across the Commonwealth.

The bill also establishes the Massachusetts Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Institute to advance hydrogen research, workforce development, and commercialization, further supporting the Commonwealth's growing clean energy and innovation economy.

The bill also includes a provision that would establish a streamlined pathway for Massachusetts-licensed professional engineers to become licensed home inspectors. Under the proposal, licensed PEs who have completed at least 50 supervised home inspections would be eligible for licensure without having to satisfy certain existing requirements

applicable to other applicants.

ACEC/MA will continue to monitor the legislation as it advances through the Senate and conference committee process and advocate for provisions that support the engineering industry.

Massport Accelerates Net Zero Goal to 2028

The Massachusetts Port Authority (Massport) has announced it will achieve **Net Zero emissions by 2028**, accelerating its original target by three years. The updated strategy builds on more than **\$500 million** in investments since 2022 and combines continued infrastructure improvements with renewable energy certificates (RECs), renewable energy agreements, and high-quality carbon offsets.

Key initiatives include transitioning Massport's diesel fleet to renewable diesel, expanding electric ground service equipment, advancing a **20-megawatt solar project at Worcester Regional Airport**, investing **\$60 million** in shore power at Flynn Cruiseport Boston, and supporting sustainable aviation fuel deployment through recently enacted tax credits. The Authority will also continue pursuing renewable energy and electrification projects across its facilities while advancing longer-term infrastructure improvements.

Massport's announcement highlights the significant role engineering, planning, and construction will continue to play in advancing the Commonwealth's transportation and climate goals.

Read Massport's announcement [here](#).

Save the Date: ACEC/MA Education Corporation Golf Tournament – September 28

Mark your calendars for the **ACEC/MA Education Corporation Golf Tournament** on **Monday, September 28, 2026**, at **Ferncroft Country Club** in Middleton.

This annual event brings together engineering professionals from across the Commonwealth for a day of networking, friendly competition, and philanthropy, with proceeds supporting the ACEC/MA Education Corporation's scholarship and workforce development initiatives.

Registration and sponsorship information will be available soon. We hope you'll plan to join us for one of ACEC/MA's premier networking events of the year.

If you are interested in sponsorship opportunities or donating raffle prizes, please email acecma@engineers.org.

ACEC National Seeks Member Feedback on Proposed EPA PFAS Drinking Water Rules

ACEC National is requesting feedback from member firms on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's proposed changes to federal PFAS drinking water regulations. Member input will help inform ACEC's engagement with EPA and any comments the organization submits during the rulemaking process.

The proposed rules would rescind drinking water standards for PFHxS, PFNA, HFPO-DA (GenX), and the PFAS Hazard Index while retaining the

existing standards for PFOA and PFOS. EPA is also proposing to extend the compliance deadline for public water systems from **2029 to 2031** under certain circumstances.

ACEC/MA members interested in providing feedback should contact [Jordan Baugh](#) as soon as possible to inform ACEC National's comments. EPA's public comment period is open through **July 20, 2026**.

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 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](#).

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 immediately, 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

[Faced with crippling housing crisis, Beacon Hill nibbles at the edges](#)

[Second bypass line installed after Haverhill sewer break](#)

[Offshore wind procurement facing latest delay](#)

[House readies \\$425M economic bill, minus Healey's centerpiece proposal](#)

[The largest development in Massachusetts? South Weymouth Naval Air Station is in new hands.](#)

[When the heat doesn't stop](#)

[Boston Harbor is about to fill with more than 50 tall ships from 21 countries. Here's what to know.](#)

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 07/09/2026; Next issue: 07/16/2026

ACEC/Matters: Produced by Kevin O'Shea

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