

ACEC/Matters

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES OF MASSACHUSETTS

August 20, 2026

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Register Today: ACEC/MA Education Corporation Golf Tournament – September 28

[Registration and sponsorship](#) opportunities are open for the 2026 ACEC/MA Education Corporation Golf Tournament, taking place on **Monday, September 28, at Ferncroft Country Club** in Middleton.

Over 85% of golfer spots are already filled, with just 21 of 144 spots remaining. Last year's tournament sold out with a waiting list, so register soon to secure your spot.

Sponsorship opportunities are also still available at a variety of levels, offering valuable visibility while directly supporting the Education Corporation's charitable mission.

Join colleagues from across the engineering industry for a day of golf, networking, contests, raffle prizes, and dinner, all while supporting the ACEC/MA Education Corporation's mission of investing in the next generation of engineering leaders.

Proceeds from the tournament fund scholarships and professional education programs that strengthen Massachusetts' engineering profession. By participating in or sponsoring the tournament, you are making a direct investment in the future of the profession.

If your firm would like to donate an item for the raffle or live auction, please contact [Gerry Preble](#). Interested in volunteering at the tournament? Please contact [Dori Ross](#).

[Register today and explore sponsorship opportunities on the ACEC/MA website.](#)

In-Person Registration Open for August 26 TALC Meeting

In-person registration is now open for the August 26 meeting of the ACEC/MA Transportation Agencies Liaison Committee (TALC), hosted by AECOM. This month's program will feature **Caroline Bean, Director of Climate and Sustainability Planning at the MBTA**, presenting on the MBTA's new **Resilience Roadmap**.

In-person attendance is limited to 35 attendees and two people per ACEC/MA member firm, so firms should coordinate internally before registering. Registration closes **Monday, August 24, or when capacity is reached**, whichever comes first.

Thank you to AECOM for hosting and providing lunch for in-person attendees. *AECOM employees should not register and should coordinate attendance through Brian Vaillancourt.*

The Zoom link will be sent to all ACEC/MA TALC participants closer to the meeting.

[Register to Attend In Person](#)

- Fitzmeyer & Tocci Associates, Inc.
- French & Parrello Associates
- GPI
- GZA GeoEnvironmental
- Howard Stein Hudson
- Hoyle, Tanner & Associates, Inc.
- Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc.
- Kleinfelder
- LEC Environmental Consultants
- McFarland Johnson
- PKF O'Connor Davies
- RINA North America
- Samiotes Consultants
- Sanborn, Head & Associates
- Stacey DePasquale Engineering

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**Events & Briefings
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MassDOT Moving Together Conference: Registration Now Open

Registration is now open for the **2026 MassDOT Moving Together Conference**, taking place **October 27, 2026, at the Sheraton Boston Hotel**. The annual conference brings together transportation professionals and stakeholders from across Massachusetts to connect and discuss the issues shaping the Commonwealth's transportation system.

Early bird attendee registration ends August 28. Sponsorship registration is also now open.

[Learn more and register at MovingTogetherMA.org](https://MovingTogetherMA.org)

Registration Open: ACEC/MA Odyssey Leadership Program

[Registration is now open](#) for the **FY2027 ACEC/MA Odyssey Leadership Program**, an **in-person, nine-session** leadership development program beginning **September 24, 2026**, and hosted at **The Conference Center at Waltham Woods** in Waltham.

Designed for senior managers, middle managers, and emerging leaders with high leadership potential, Odyssey equips participants with the skills to lead teams, navigate change, communicate effectively, and develop their own leadership style.

Class size is limited to **22 participants**, with a maximum of **two registrants per firm** at this time. The program also includes an individual one-on-one executive coaching session and offers **58 PDHs**.

Nearly 50% of spots are currently taken. Make sure to secure your spot today!

[Register for Odyssey here.](#)

Support ACEC/PAC and Enter the 2026 Fall Sweepstakes

ACEC/PAC is the engineering industry's primary tool for political engagement at the national level. Strong participation from ACEC members helps ensure the engineering industry has a voice in Washington and supports ACEC's efforts to advance policies that strengthen the business environment for engineering firms and promote investment in the nation's infrastructure.

ACEC's advocacy has helped deliver historic federal infrastructure investment, protect QBS, promote contracting out, strengthen federal procurement rules, and advance important tax policies for engineering firms. [Learn more about ACEC/PAC's accomplishments and current policy priorities.](#)

The **2026 ACEC/PAC Fall Sweepstakes** is underway, with **18 prizes totaling \$50,000**, including a \$10,000 grand prize. Members can participate with a **\$200 contribution to ACEC/PAC**, with the drawing taking place October 27 during the ACEC National Conference in Phoenix.

Special for ACEC/MA members: Make a **\$200 contribution by October 7** and you'll also receive an invitation to the **ACEC/MA PAC Champions Event at Jacobs on October 7**.

Please note that ACEC/PAC participation is subject to federal election law. Employees of corporate ACEC member firms may be solicited only if their firm has provided ACEC with prior approval to solicit eligible employees. **Contributions must be made with personal funds; corporate checks**



and corporate credit cards are prohibited. Contributions are voluntary and are not tax deductible.

[Enter the ACEC/PAC Fall Sweepstakes here.](#)

ACEC National: Senate Passes Continuing Resolution with Surface Transportation Extension

The U.S. Senate passed a bipartisan continuing resolution (CR) late last week that would fund the federal government through December 11 and extend expiring highway and transit programs while Congress continues work on a long-term surface transportation reauthorization bill. The measure passed 90-6.

The Senate bill would maintain approximately \$80 billion for highway, transit, and safety programs funded through the Highway Trust Fund. However, it does not currently extend the \$36.8 billion in annual supplemental transportation funding provided through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), including supplemental funding for bridges, transit capital improvements, rail programs, ports, and airports.

ACEC and its coalition partners continue to advocate for inclusion of the supplemental IIJA funding in any final extension. The House, which previously passed a more limited CR extending government funding through December 4, will need to consider the Senate measure when lawmakers return to Washington in September. Review [the detailed fact sheet on the IIJA funding at risk](#) for additional information.

ACEC National's *The Market Edge* Podcast: What's Ahead for AEC Markets?

What markets are growing, which sectors are cooling, and what does the rapid rise of data centers and energy infrastructure mean for the AEC industry?

In the latest episode of **ACEC's *The Market Edge* podcast**, Diana O'Lare talks with **Brian Strawberry, Chief Economist at FMI**, about FMI's latest Q3 Outlook and what engineering and construction leaders should be watching over the next five years. The conversation covers trends in manufacturing, data centers, power generation and grid investment, with insights into the risks and opportunities shaping future demand.

[Watch or listen to the latest episode](#)

2026 ACEC Fall Conference Registration Open

Join engineering leaders from across the country at the **2026 ACEC Fall Conference**, October 25–28, at the JW Marriott Phoenix Desert Ridge Resort & Spa in Phoenix, Arizona.

The conference brings together more than 1,100 engineering industry leaders for four days of education, networking, and discussions on the issues shaping the future of the profession. Attendees will gain insights on emerging technologies, business strategy, leadership, market trends, and the opportunities and challenges facing engineering firms.

Registration is now open. Hotel information for the ACEC room block will be provided with your registration confirmation.

[Click here to register.](#)

FY2027 ACEC/MA Membership Dues Invoices Sent

FY2027 ACEC/MA membership dues invoices have now been sent to member firms.

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

ACEC National: August Programs on AI Risk, Public Engagement, and Data Centers

This August, ACEC National and the ACEC Research Institute are offering three programs to help firms navigate both the internal risks of AI adoption and the external challenges that accompany high-profile infrastructure projects.

On **August 20 at 12:00 PM ET**, communications leaders from GHD, DLR Group, and HDR will discuss **How A/E Firms Support Public Engagement on High Visibility Projects**, sharing strategies for helping clients navigate community concerns, public meetings, and media scrutiny on controversial infrastructure projects. [Register here.](#)

On **August 21 at 12:00 PM ET**, a 90-minute training session, **How to Navigate Media & Community Response to Data Centers**, will provide practical tools for assessing political and community risk, developing engagement strategies, and managing communications throughout the lifecycle of these increasingly high-profile projects. [Register here.](#)

Starts Today: ACEC National's Strategic Communications for Mission Critical & Public Facing Projects

As data centers, advanced manufacturing, and other mission critical projects face increasing public scrutiny, A/E firms are playing a growing role in helping clients navigate community concerns, public opposition and media attention.

This **two-part ACEC program, August 20–21**, offers a total of 2.5 PDHs and provides practical strategies for managing communications around high-visibility projects. **Today's session** features communications leaders from GHD, DLR Group and HDR discussing how A/E firms support public engagement and manage social and political risk. **Tomorrow's 90-minute training**, led by Adam Waitkunas of Milldam Public Relations, focuses on communications and PR strategies for data center development, including community engagement, town halls and media relations.

[Learn more and register here.](#)

DEADLINE TOMORROW: Massachusetts Designer Selection Board Seeks Professional Engineer Member

The Massachusetts Designer Selection Board (DSB) is seeking resumes from Professional Engineers licensed in and residing in Massachusetts to fill one opening on the Board. Engineers from all disciplines with at least 10 years of experience are encouraged to apply.

DSB members play an important role in the selection of designers for DCAMM-managed public building and charter school projects, helping ensure high-quality, sustainable, and efficient public facilities. The volunteer board meets approximately twice a month via Zoom, and appointments are made by the Governor for a two-year term. Applications are due **August 21, 2026**.

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

Government Affairs

Government Affairs Committee

The August GAC meeting will be held on August 20 at 10:00AM.

[Request Zoom for 08/20/26.](#)

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

[Join ACEC/MA GAC](#)

IN THE NEWS

[Mass. highway head outlines state's plan to reduce wrong-way driving](#)

[Lawmakers appear poised to take some big swings against competitive electric suppliers. How big is the question.](#)

[‘Future-proof’ or ‘a strategic mistake’? Inside the MBTA’s effort to electrify its commuter rail system](#)

[Mass. high court allows White Stadium rebuild to continue, sides with city of Boston](#)

[The Orange Line is about to shut down for 11 days. Here’s what to know.](#)

[Beacon Hill housing moves swish past Boston](#)

[Layoffs the latest sign of trouble for clean energy](#)

[Kennedy School researchers tout benefits of proposed North South Rail Link](#)

[Mass. regulators approve new plan to shield solar customers from unexpected price spikes](#)

[Somerville has gone 4 years without a traffic death. Here’s how New England’s densest city did it.](#)

[Healey, in new letter, urges MWRA to meet the ‘pressing needs’ of Quabbin Reservoir communities](#)

[Massachusetts is second state to appoint heat resilience officer](#)

[Massachusetts governor warn NextEra-Dominion merger could hike energy costs](#)

[Annual state revenues cleared benchmark by nearly \\$1.93B](#)

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 - [Register here.](#)

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 08/20/2026; Next issue: 08/27/2026

ACEC/Matters: Produced by Kevin O'Shea

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