IN FOCUS

In just over a week our Pennsylvania legislators will be back in session. With many items on the “agenda”, meetings to be had, conversations throughout the halls of the capitol and discussions, we have limited time left to see legislation passed and sent to the Governor’s desk before the end of the session.

What does this all mean to you? We need you to take action as the ACEC/PA Consultant Crusaders (grassroots action group) and contact your legislator today. Our industry and our partners will continue to focus on transportation funding, educating legislators on infrastructure and funding issues as well as many other items on the list but time to act on SB 172 is now.

We recently sent all our members a CALL TO ACTION email describing the bill, where it stands and what we need you to do today…without hesitation. We provided talking points to share with your legislator and the critical message we are spreading. If you are unfamiliar with SB 172 or missed the email, you can view it here.

Contact your legislator via telephone and ask them to ensure the bill is moved without amendments when they return from recess. The safety of our friends, colleagues, brothers, sisters, mothers, associates and employees is without question and SB 172 gives us the opportunity to create safer workzones.

As always, please don’t hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Leeann Sherman

ACEC/PA Executive Director
Stay on top of issues pertaining to transportation and other legislative matters.

- Transportation Recap - Read it here
- Capitol Recap - Read it here

Call to action
Senate Bill 172, which would establish a five-year automated speed enforcement pilot program in active work zones is in position to pass the House when the General Assembly returns on September 12. In order for this to happen, we need your help…Read more

AASHTO announces 12 America’s transportation awards finalists
The American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials has revealed which 12 transportation projects have entered the final phase of the America’s Transportation Awards competition…Read more

PennDOT replaces hundreds of structurally deficient bridges
Hundreds of bridges like the Spanglers Mill Road Bridge are part of PennDOT's "Rapid Bridge Replacement Project."…Read more

Fatal hit-and-run a reminder of work zone dangers on Erie’s interstates
Three PennDOT workers were among 19 people who died in work zone crashes on state roads in 2017…Read more

Wolf, Casey hold polling edge in reelection campaigns
Gov. Tom Wolf and U.S. Sen. Bob Casey hold double-digit leads over Republican challengers Scott Wagner and U.S. Rep. Lou Barletta in their re-election campaigns, according to a Franklin & Marshall College poll released Thursday…Read more

REAL-ID frequently asked questions
The REAL ID Act, passed by the U.S. Congress in 2005, requires changes to state standards, procedures, and requirements for the issuance of driver's licenses and identification cards, if they are to be accepted as identity documents by the federal government…Read more
Key ACEC Agenda Items on Capitol Hill Short List
The House and Senate will return next week with a focus on passing key infrastructure and spending bills before Election Day.

ACEC's primary priority for the fall session is final passage of a multi-year FAA reauthorization bill and the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA). The House has already passed both initiatives, and the Council and other stakeholder organizations are working with the Senate to win swift approval. Among other issues, ACEC has language in both bills to expand the use of Qualifications-Based Selection (QBS) for airport and drinking water projects.

Completing work on the various appropriations bills that fund key programs which support industry market sectors will also be a priority. Both chambers are moving bills to fund military construction, transportation, energy and water programs, and are expected to complete work on a number of them before the end of September.

ACEC will also continue its engagement on various regulatory initiatives into the fall, including the implementation of the new tax law.

For more information on ACEC’s advocacy agenda, contact Vice President of Government Affairs Steve Hall.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**September Western Chapter Meeting with Perry Schweiss, ACEC/PA President**
Monday, Sept. 10
Cefalo's Restaurant
[Read more](#)
[Register now](#)

**September Government Affairs Breakfast featuring the 2018 Republican Gubernatorial Candidate Scott Wagner**
Wednesday, Sept. 12
Hershey Country Club
[Read more](#)
[Register now](#)

**September Central Chapter Meeting with Perry Schweiss, ACEC/PA President and a panel from AECOM, Larson Design Group, Susquehanna Civil and possible additional ACEC/PA peer members**

Wednesday, Sept. 12
Hershey Country Club
Read more
Register now

September Eastern Chapter Meeting with Perry Schweiss, ACEC/PA President
Tuesday, Sept. 18
The Desmond Hotel
Read more
Register now

SAVE THE DATE

2018 Scholarship Golf Outing: Monday, Sept. 24, 2018

ACEC/PA Fall Conference: Wednesday, Nov. 14, 2018

Diamond Awards Gala: Thursday, Feb. 28, 2019

Donate to the Eric J. Gennuso and LeRoy D. “Bud” Loy, Jr. scholarship program
Consider making a donation to the Eric J. Gennuso and LeRoy D. (Bud) Loy, Jr. Scholarship Program by using this form.

ACEC/PA annual scholarship application available
Applications are available for our Eric J. Gennuso and LeRoy D. (Bud) Loy, Jr. Scholarship program.

The scholarship program was established in memory of Eric J. Gennuso and LeRoy D. (Bud) Loy Jr. Both Donald V. Gennuso, Eric’s father, and Bud Loy have made outstanding contributions to the consulting engineering industry. The Gennuso and Loy families are pleased to present these scholarships to deserving engineering students from Pennsylvania, in honor of their loved ones.

Since the scholarship program was established ACEC/PA has provided over $100,000 to students. This year, the association is planning to award close to $10,000 in scholarships, with at least one of those being $2,500.

If you know of a qualifying student, please share the application and eligibility guidelines with them prior to the Sunday, Sept. 30, 2018 deadline.
**Junior achievement fundraiser**
The Engineering careers & workforce development committee would like to invite you to a junior achievement fundraiser on Saturday, Sept. 15, 2018. To learn more or to purchase tickets, click here.

**Diamond awards committee has announced the 2019 Call for Entries**
Entries are now being accepted for the 2019 ACEC/PA Diamond Awards for Engineering Excellence. ACEC/PA’s annual Diamond Awards for Engineering Excellence competition recognizes engineering firms for projects that demonstrate a high degree of achievement, value, and innovation.

Take a moment to view the items needed for submission by Friday, Oct. 5, 2018.

**You Are ACEC/PA**
We have 22 different committees looking for your leadership and expertise. Check out the committee page to see which one is for you. Those interested in learning more should contact the ACEC/PA office at (800) 651-1946 or ACEC/PA Executive Director Leeann Sherman.

**2018 National Work Zone Management Conference**
Sept. 11-13
Learn more

**2018 ACEC Fall Conference**
Oct. 28 – 31
Learn more

**American Road & Transportation Builders Association (ARTBA)**
*Through the Lens* (construction photo submissions)
Learn more

**RESOURCES**

Submit your firm’s smart transportation infrastructure projects to Engineering Inc. by Friday, Sept. 7

The January/February 2019 issue of Engineering Inc. will spotlight Member Firm innovations in smart transportation infrastructure.

If your company has designed a smart transportation-related infrastructure project that you’d like to be considered for this special Engineering Inc. section, email the information below to Engineering Inc. Staff Editor Andrea Keeney by Friday, Sept. 7, 2018.
In a one- or two-page document, submit the following: project name and location; project overview, including unique aspects/challenges; a project photo; and the name, title, phone number and e-mail address of the member firm executive to be interviewed for the project profile. The project can be under construction or recently completed.

If you have any questions, contact Andrea Keeney.

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**Take advantage of the 20 percent pass-through deduction**

ACEC online class, Monday, Sept. 17

ACEC’s September 17 online class “The Nitty-Gritty on the New Passthrough Deduction” will provide a detailed overview of the 20 percent passthrough deduction and how it applies to your firm.

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act passed late last year created the deduction for companies operating as S corporations, partnerships, and sole proprietorships. ACEC and its member firms advocated successfully to ensure that engineering firms have full access to the new tax deduction.

The Treasury recently released its proposed rules governing the deduction, and in this exclusive ACEC online class, you will find out how your firm can claim this tax benefit.

Presented by Scott Hursh, Thomas Moul and Jennifer Nelson of Stambaugh Ness, the class will also include discussions of:

- What qualifies as eligible business income;
- Rules on reasonable compensation for owners;
- Anti-abuse safeguards; and
- Aggregation rules for firms with multiple legal entities.

For more information and to register, click here.

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**Understanding Multimodal Clients & Opportunities**

Thursday, Sept. 13 from 1:30 - 2:30 p.m.

Learn more

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**Essential Elements of Effective Leadership**

Wednesday, Sept. 19 from 1:30 - 2:30 p.m.

Learn more

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**Weekly Digest of Upcoming Live Online Classes**

Learn more
Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) crews are working hard to resurface Pennsylvania.

So far this year, they’ve used over 130,000 tons of patching material to fix Pennsylvania roads. That's the same weight as:

- 43,300 wrecking balls
- 20,000 elephants
- 3,250 tractor trailers
- 865 blue whales
- 355 jumbo jets

Source: PennDOT Facebook page

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**ACEC/PA Needs Your Help**

- Do you have committee news to share or know of a colleague/firm making a difference? We’d want to share that news! Please send ACEC/PA Executive Director [Leeann Sherman](mailto:leean.sherman@pennsylvaniaaec.org) the information for inclusion in an upcoming edition of *forward*.
- We want to communicate with you. Please take a moment to update your profile with us so you don’t miss any important news or events.

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**Did You Know?**

No one has received more U.S. patents than Thomas Edison. He received 1,093 patents!

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**Connect with Us on Social Media**

Follow ACEC/PA on social media to keep up-to-date with the latest company news, industry highlights and benefit from a range of useful resources.

Connect on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com) ● [Twitter](https://twitter.com) ● [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com)