Welcome from the Windy City. I am here in Chicago with many of our colleagues across PA and the nation at the ACEC National Fall Conference. One of the topics this week is the rollout of the new Strategic Plan for ACEC. After an extensive 9-month effort by a committee representing all 52 Member Organizations and firms across the country, the brief but thought-provoking plan begins with a simple vision where ACEC is the “thought leader driving the delivery of valued engineering and other professional services for a better world.” The plan also builds on our core values that we can all relate to and accept as our own:

- Agile and visionary leadership
- Integrity and professionalism
- Inclusion and diversity
- Excellence through innovation
- Trusted advisors

The following five simple, but outcome-oriented goals, have been established to guide and measure ACEC’s future success.

- Leading Business Strategy
- Embodying Diversity and Inclusion
- Expanded and Influential Members
- Essential Value to Society
- Vibrant Member Engagement

The achievement of each goal will move the organization towards the realization of our “Envisioned Future.”

I encourage you all to read the plan and think about how we can apply these same fundamentals to our own organization in PA. While the ACEC/PA strategic plan is not dissimilar, it is due for a refresh to be more in line with the national organization while still focusing on the issues back in PA. I will be engaging our Board of Directors to begin that process in early 2020.
Chair DeFazio Urges Uber, Lyft to Reconsider Participation at Upcoming Hearing on Serious Issues Facing the Ride Hailing Industry

Today, Chair of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure Peter DeFazio (D-OR) strongly urged Uber CEO Dara Khosrowshahi and Lyft CEO Logan Green to reconsider their companies’ participation at a congressional hearing scheduled for Wednesday, October 16, 2019... Read more

Transportation Funding Coalition Keystone

Last week, the Keystone Transportation Funding Coalition met with U.S. Senator Pat Toomey.

Senator Toomey said he was hopeful that Congress would be able to produce a federal funding measure during the first half – or perhaps even the first quarter – of next year. The funding measure would likely NOT include a federal gas-tax increase but other revenue options are on the table, he said. Several Coalition members engaged the senator with questions.

FHWA Bridge Welding Reference Manual

FHWA has released the new FHWA Bridge Welding Reference Manual (FHWA-HIF-19-088). It can be found here.

FHWA undertook development of this manual to assist with workforce development and introduce newer engineer to the ins/out of welding. Typical college curriculums only delve into the design of a weld but leave students with on-the-job training to learn the nuance of how the weld is made, specified, and
their role in approvals and quality control. This reference manual was meant to address that gap and minimize the time to get caught up to speed. A couple highlights of the manual, which include:

1. Appendix A describing a detailed workflow of welding procedure specification approval for those delegated this duty.

2. Appendix B showing a detailed table contrasting the differences between AWS D1.1 Structural Welding Code and the AASHTO/AWS D1.5 Bridge Welding Code.

3. A nice chapter delving into the nuance of welding fracture-critical members.

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**Senate, House Leaders See Progress on Next Surface Transportation Bill**

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) this week suggested the chamber could complete a surface transportation bill before the end of the year…[Read more](#)

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**U.S. Navy to Build Ship Named for Harrisburg**

The U.S. Navy will name a ship that has yet to be built after Harrisburg…[Read more](#)

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**Record Number of Women Elected in Northwest Territories**

A record number of women have been elected to the Northwest Territories 19th Legislative Assembly — making it the jurisdiction with the highest proportion of women legislators in Canada…[Read more](#)

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**Abandoned Turnpike Tunnel to Receive Facelift, Host Marathon**

Built in the late 1930s, the Sideling Hill tunnel in Bedford County was only in operation for 28 years before being closed…[Read more](#)

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**PA Chamber Calling for Policies That Will Build on Positive Economic Momentum as Lawmakers Return for Fall Legislative Agenda**

The 2019 fall legislative session is underway, and the next several months are expected to see a number of legislative proposals from the House, Senate and Wolf administration’s agendas that could have a strong impact on businesses across the Commonwealth…[Read more](#)

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**Gov. Tom Wolf Signs Executive Order to Place Pennsylvania in Multi-State Carbon Fee Program**

Gov. Tom Wolf signed an executive order that starts Pennsylvania on a path toward its biggest step yet in the battle to mitigate climate change, but it remains to be seen what kind of a “Green New Deal” will result…[Read more](#)

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**Warren Proposes Tax on ‘Excessive’ Lobbying**

Democratic presidential candidate Elizabeth Warren came out this week with a plan to aggressively crack down on lobbying in Washington…[Read more](#)
Eastern Chapter Meeting with Gerard H. Sweeney, President, Chief Executive Officer and Trustee of Brandywine Realty Trust.

**HOT TOPIC:**
Discussion on the Schuylkill Yards project in Philadelphia, details of the development and what is expected relative to the transportation infrastructure in the area to accommodate the development.

Brandywine Realty Trust’s support and involvement with the area’s transportation agencies and coalitions and their support of the SE PA Mobility Coalition’s effort has been key to the community and partnerships.

October 22 ● Desmond Hotel
Register now

**Western Chapter Meeting** John Betchel, Assistant Director, Design & Construction, Penn State University and Mark J. Magalotti PhD. P.E, Professor of Practice, University of Pittsburgh, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering

November 1 ● Cefalo’s
Register now

**Volunteers Needed for Middle School Career Awareness Fair on November 1**
On November 1, the West Shore School District will hold its annual Middle School Career Awareness Fair for eighth grade students. The event is open to students at all three middle schools and will be hosted by Crossroads Middle School. If you are able to volunteer, please read more [here](#).

**ACEC/PA Fall Conference**
November 20, 2019 ● Hershey Lodge
Lock in your [sponsorship](#) and register now [here](#)

**Diamond Awards**
February 27, 2020 ● Lancaster Marriott at Penn Square
The call for entries ends Oct. 3. [Click here](#) to learn more.

**ACEC/PA Spring Conference**
May 11-13, 2020 ● Hilton Harrisburg
Committee Vice Chair Needed
ACEC/PA is looking for an HR professional to serve as the Vice Chair for the Workforce Development/Human Resources Committee. Please contact Leeann Sherman as soon as possible if you are interested.

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.

Take a Look at ACEC’s New Strategic Plan Video...See more

Turning Girl Scout Memories into Career Strategies...Read more

ARTBA’s Regional Meetings Feature Top State Agency Speakers
Key state transportation department officials are among the featured guest speakers at ARTBA’s four Regional meetings, upcoming from Oct. 23 through Nov. 14…Read more

Pa. Autonomous Vehicle Team Receives $8.4 Million Grant for Work-Zone Study
A team consisting of Carnegie Mellon and Penn State universities, along with PennDOT and the Pennsylvania Turnpike, has received an $8.4 million grant for testing and evaluation of integrating autonomous driving systems in work zones...Read more

RESOURCES

Construction Training Videos
Below are links to construction training videos that the Central Office developed. For PennDOT employees, these will eventually be loaded into ESS, and become mandatory but prior to that happening, please look through the list and watch whatever may be applicable

Note: The only way to find the video’s is via the link below, even though they are on YouTube, (they are not searchable).

Click here for the overall playlist:
And individual videos:
Safety harness
Pipe installation
Pile driving
Asphalt paving surface preparation
Pile driving log: form cs 1005
Bridge deck testing placement and pumping
Bridge deck preplacement operations
Concrete pavement patching
Bituminous pavement longitudinal joints

Once again, please pass this information along to staff and members for use.

Daily Buzz: Can You Identify Phishing Attacks
Cyberattacks tend to ramp up in Q4, and many are due to human error…Read more

Sponsorship Catalog
View our 2019-2020 sponsorship catalog by clicking here

IRS Issues Priority Guidance Plan for 2019-2020
The IRS will continue to focus on implementing the 2017 tax law and the Taxpayer First Act, according to its priority guidance plan for 2019-2020 released this week…Read more

SCI Names Rosanna Smithnosky, P.E., President-Elect
Susquehanna Civil Inc. (SCI) is proud to announce the promotion of Rosanna Smithnosky, P.E. to the position of president-elect. Ms. Smithnosky will assume the role of president in January 2020…Read more

Stahl Sheaffer Welcomes John Rautzahn as Director of Bridge Structures
Stahl Sheaffer Engineering, LLC, is pleased to welcome John Rautzahn as Director of Bridge Structures…Read more
Skelly and Loy Welcomes Geologist Paul F. Wyrwas, P.G.
Paul F. Wyrwas, P.G., is an Environmental Specialist, responsible for Phase I, Phase II, and Phase III Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) Reports…Read more

Shannon M. Ziemba Joins Skelly and Loy as Billing Specialist
Shannon M. Ziemba recently joined Skelly and Loy’s Accounting Department as a Billing Specialist…Read more

Senior Municipal Engineer Paul Wilson Joins Dewberry
Dewberry has announced that Paul Wilson, PE, has joined the firm’s Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, office as a senior project engineer in the site/civil department…Read more

Urban Engineers Announces New Vice President Promotions
Urban is pleased to announce the promotion of the following valued employees to the title of vice president: Aaron Barnes, PE – Construction Support Services, James Davis – Construction Support Services, Korin Giles, MS, CESCO, CWMP – Practice Leader for Environmental Services, Keith Shuster, PSP – Construction Support Services…Read more

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 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.

Did You Know?
The snowboard was invented by an engineer named Sherman Poppen of Muskegon, Michigan.

Connect with Us on Social Media
News travels fast. Please follow ACEC/PA on social media to keep up-to-date with the latest company news and industry highlights, and benefit from a range of useful resources.