IN FOCUS

A Year in Review and Looking Ahead…

As I write my last article, I reflect back on a busy and productive year, both at the national and state level. Last week, many ACEC/PA representatives traveled to Washington, DC to attend the ACEC Spring Convention and Legislative Summit. Along with the usual strong program of educational sessions and a black-tie affair celebrating the great engineering achievements of 2018, we conducted a coordinated Capitol Hill advocacy effort to continue the ever-critical role of educating our legislators. With the needs clearly defined: infrastructure; energy; water; sustainability; resiliency; workforce; safety; and a government that has agreed in principle on the importance of these needs being addressed ($2 trillion?!), we are poised for a potentially historic moment in this country. Recognizing the importance of our civil advocacy duty and responsibility, I was proud to be part of the Capitol Hill messaging team.

Here in Pennsylvania, our efforts and message are not very different. Over the past year ACEC/PA continued to educate its members on the business of engineering and advocacy. Both the fall and spring conferences continued to offer educational and networking opportunities. In March, there was a well-coordinated “storm the hill” advocacy effort in Harrisburg to again continue the critical messaging and education of our state legislators. Again, I was proud to be a part of that Legislative Day messaging team.

The state of ACEC/PA is strong and growing stronger. Momentum continues to build with the committees and the solid work they are doing for this organization and our industry. We have continued to foster client relationships through committee work and partnering organizations like the Keystone Transportation Funding Coalition. And, the wheels are in motion regarding strategic planning, a robust membership recruitment program, and a new leadership initiative. Folks – If there is anything, I have learned over the past seven years on the board, there is an incredible amount of work that goes on behind the scenes for the good of the membership and to benefit our industry.

This weekend, many ACEC/PA members will travel to Nashville, TN for our annual meeting where I will hand over the gavel to president-elect Eric Frary. At this time, I wish to thank the membership for the opportunity to serve as your ACEC/PA president this past year. I wish to thank the board as well for all of your guidance, support and friendship. And to executive director Leeann Sherman along with the ACEC/PA staff - Kim and Tina, a special thank you for your tireless efforts. It has been a year of challenges, successes, learning, and growing. And I was proud to be a part of it.
Stay on top of issues pertaining to transportation and other legislative matters.

- **Transportation Recap** - Read it [here](#)
- **Capitol Recap** - Read it [here](#)
- **Bill Tracker** - Read it [here](#)

**ACEC Annual Convention with Legislative Visits**

ACEC Annual Convention with Legislative Visits was held May 5-8 in Washington, DC. Please see the three Fact Sheets provided to our legislators along with several other important documents.

- **Engineering a 21st Century American Infrastructure**
- **Growing the Engineering Workforce**
- **Sustainable Energy Solutions**

Of the 18 Congressional offices for PA, the 112th District is vacant, 103rd (Dwight Evans (D)) was unable to meet due to time constraints and 115th (Glen Thompson (R)) was not willing to meet with anyone except a current constituent. These meetings were not held. Scott Perry (R) in the 110th will be meeting in his district office to discuss challenges and success in more detail as more time will be able to be allotted. Fourteen congressman/women were visited by 26 ACEC/PA members on May 7 in Washington, DC with great success. We are excited to continue the relationships already in place and build upon those with our new legislators. Thank you to all who joined us in DC.

**Pennsylvania Primary Features a Couple High-Profile Matchups**

Pennsylvania’s primary election will decide nominees or officeholders for several high-profile offices, including mayor of the nation’s sixth largest city and one of the state’s 18 members of the U.S. House…[Read more](#)

**Transportation and Infrastructure Committee to Hold Hearing on State-Owned Enterprises and Transportation**

Last week, Chair of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure Peter DeFazio (D-OR)
announced the Committee will hold a hearing titled “The Impacts of State-Owned Enterprises on Public Transit and Freight Rail Sectors.”...Read more

In New Bipartisan Letter, Committee Leaders Urge Congressional Leaders to Address Key Infrastructure Priorities in Budget Talks
Recently, the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure Chair Peter DeFazio (D-OR) and Ranking Member Sam Graves (R-MO); Subcommittee on Highways and Transit Chair Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC) and Ranking Member Rodney Davis (R-IL); and Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment Chair Grace F. Napolitano (D-CA) and Ranking Member Bruce Westerman (R-AR) sent a letter to Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy requesting two Committee-related priorities be included in any upcoming budget agreement...Read more

Committee Approves Slate of Legislation to Maintain Nation’s Ports, Increase Transparency, Encourage Energy Efficiency in Federal Building Leases, and More
Today, the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure approved a slate of bipartisan measures by voice vote, including the Full Utilization of the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund Act, the DISASTER Act, the Transparency in Federal Buildings Projects Act of 2019, and nearly two dozen General Services Administration (GSA) Capital Investment and Leasing Program Resolutions...Read more

Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission Proposes $31.7 Billion in Transportation Projects Through 2045
The Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission will begin a series of meetings Monday to display a draft long-range plan for the region that highlights $31.7 billion worth of expected transportation projects through 2045.…Read more

Deal with State Would Sell Old SCI Pittsburgh Site for $1 to Manchester Bidwell
The former State Correctional Institution Pittsburgh site wouldn’t be an easy remodeling project…Read more

The ACEC Minuteman Fund Wants You
The Minuteman Fund represents one of the most direct ways in which ACEC provides assistance to M.O.s for local battles of national importance…Read more

Mayor Peduto Creates Pittsburgh’s First ‘Office Of Equity’
Mayor William Peduto today signed an executive order creating the City’s Office Of Equity, which will be working across the city government to embed the importance of equity in government work, address inequities and work to break inequities…Read more
ACEC/PA Annual Meeting: May 19-21, 2019
Kimpton Aertson Hotel, Nashville
Read more

SAVE THE DATE

Tri-State Conference
September 22-24, 2019 ● Tropicana, Atlantic City

ACEC/PA Scholarship Golf Outing
September 30, 2019 ● Armitage Golf Club
Learn more here

ACEC Fall Conference
October 13-16, 2019
Learn more here

ACEC/PA Fall Conference
November 20, 2019 ● Hershey Lodge

Diamond Awards
February 27, 2020 ● Lancaster Marriott at Penn Square

ACEC/PA Spring Conference
May 11-13, 2020 ● Hilton Harrisburg

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.

Here’s Why SEPTA’s Improvement Projects Are Back on Hold — Again
If the transit agency isn’t able to resume bridge maintenance and other infrastructure projects, some of its routes could end up being at risk by this time next year…Read more

Bender to Join ACEC/National as Political Affairs VP
ACEC/Illinois President Dave Bender will join ACEC/National on June 17 as Vice President of Political Affairs…Read more
I-95 Corridor Coalition -- Mileage-Based User Fee

As part of the FAST Act, Congress mandated and funded studies for long-term sustainable revenue alternatives to support future transportation funding needs. The I-95 Corridor Coalition is running a Mileage-Based User Fee study to test if this could be a viable, long-term option. The Coalition is looking for Pennsylvania drivers across the Commonwealth to participate. Here’s a letter from Secretary Richards that details more information on the project. There are a couple things you can do to help.

- Sign-up now to participate – I95coalitionmbuf.org *The deadline to sign up is Friday, June 14.
- Help to enlist participants within your organization and individuals and stakeholders in your network
- Share social media and collateral content. I-95 Corridor Coalition has developed suggested social media posts and e-newsletter content, and a graphic. I’ve also attached that material here.

As a friend of PennDOT and a respected influencer in Pennsylvania, your help is crucial to our success. Please sign up and spread the word. Here is a sample social media campaign and graphic.

RESOURCES

Strategic Thinking — Think Like a Leader Should
Tuesday, June 4 ● 1:30 – 3 p.m.
Register now

Succession Planning: Rewarding Senior Owners & Opportunities for Younger Employees
Thursday, June 20 ● 1:30 – 3 p.m.
Register now

ACEC Private Industry Briefs
Keep current on key trends in private-sector markets here

T.Y. Lin International Names Matthew G. Cummings, P.E., as President and Chief Executive Officer
T.Y. Lin International (TYLI), a globally recognized, full-service infrastructure consulting firm, announces that Matthew (Matt) G. Cummings, P.E., has been named President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO), effective April 22, 2019…Read more
Jacque L. Foster Promoted to Marketing Manager

Ms. Jacque L. Foster has been promoted to Marketing Manager at Skelly and Loy, Inc. Read more

JMT Announces Six Employees from Five Pennsylvania Offices Have Been Promoted to Vice President

Tony Andrejasik, EIT
Andrew Birmingham, P.E.
David Heyne
Corey Hull, P.E.
Patrick Kelly
Carlton Williams, P.E.

Read more here.

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?

1787 Delegates gathered in Philadelphia to draw up U.S. constitution.

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.
Our mailing address is:
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Suite 301
Harrisburg, Pa 17102

Add us to your address book

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You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).