IN FOCUS

Our thoughts and prayers go out to all the victims and families impacted by the senseless mass shootings in El Paso, Texas and Dayton, Ohio this past weekend. The frequency of these events should concern us all. Let us not forget the shooting that occurred in our own backyard in a Pittsburgh synagogue just 9 short months ago. That was too close for comfort to me and my family, despite residing outside of Philadelphia, although we hear about our share of gun violence in Philly.

Both PA Senators Toomey and Casey agreed that measures should be taken to reduce mass shootings in the future showing that common bi-partisan positions are possible. Similarly, Governor Wolf emphasized the need for change concerning firearms and community safety. Time will tell whether their actions speak louder than their words.

I guess my point is that while advocacy for our industry is a primary objective of ACEC/PA, our elected officials have a lot on their plates. A once a year visit to Harrisburg or Washington DC will not cut it if we want legislation that provides long-term and sustainable funding for the safety of our transportation network. Advocacy is a way of life and we should all be working to promote our industry each and every day.

Lastly, thank you to all of our committee leaders for volunteering. While many of you have been working hard throughout the summer, several of our new leaders are just getting started, including the creation of three new committees. September is right around the corner and our calendars are filling up with events leading up to the Fall Conference at which we hope to hear from each of our committees in Hershey. Stay tuned for more details.

In the meantime, enjoy the remainder of our summer and treasure the time spent with your family. Life is way too short.

E.D. Franz

President, ACEC/PA
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

Senate Committee Unanimously Approves $287B, Five-Year Highway Bill
The Senate Environment and Public Works Committee has unanimously approved a five-year, $287-billion highway bill, an eagerly awaited initial piece of what would be a multi-part surface transportation package…Read more

Targeted by the GOP, Pa’s Democratic U.S. House Newcomers Fill 2020 War Chests
Freshmen Democrats from Pennsylvania are just getting settled in the U.S. House, but they continue to rake in campaign cash as they brace for battle again in 2020…Read more

Pennsylvania Turnpike Using Technology to Clear Accident Scenes Quicker
As a senior traffic operations manager for the Pennsylvania Turnpike, John Parker knew that tons of information is available about conditions on the toll road from a variety of sources: public safety reports, mobile apps such as Waze, even social media…Read more

Inclined Plane Rehab Grinds to Halt; Turnpike Lawsuit Delays State Grant
A major rehabilitation of the Johnstown Inclined Plane has been put on hold by a lawsuit against the Pennsylvania Turnpike…Read more

Engineering Influence Podcast: ACEC Government Affairs Update
In this episode of the Engineering Influence podcast ACEC's Senior Vice President Advocacy and External Affairs Steve Hall and Senior Director Transportation Programs Matt Reiffer discuss the upcoming Senate Environment and Public Works Committee…Read more

ARBTA Summary of American Transportation Infrastructure Act July 2019
The bipartisan leadership of the Senate Environment & Public Works (EPW) Committee July 29 introduced reauthorization legislation that for the first time in nearly 15 years would significantly increase investment in traditional core highway accounts and create several new initiatives and pilot programs…Read more

Western Chapter Meeting with Executive Director Mary Kay Babyak and Program Director Gina Barrett from the Consortium for Public Education and ACEC/PA President Eric Frary, P.E.
Government Affairs Breakfast
September 11 ● Hilton Garden Inn Harrisburg East

Central Chapter Meeting with Auditor General, Eugene DePasquale and and ACEC/PA President Eric Frary, P.E.
September 11 ● Hilton Garden Inn Harrisburg East

Eastern Chapter Meeting with Larry Bankert, P.E., PTOE, Associate Vice President, Toll Services, c/o PA Turnpike Commission, Michael Baker International and ACEC/PA President Eric Frary, P.E.
September 17 ● Desmond Hotel

Tri-State Conference
September 22-24 ● Tropicana, Atlantic City
Registration is now open

ACEC/PA Scholarship Golf Outing
September 30 ● Armitage Golf Club
Register and sponsor NOW

ACEC/PA Fall Conference
November 20, 2019 ● Hershey Lodge
Lock in your sponsorship and learn more here

Diamond Awards
February 27, 2020 ● Lancaster Marriott at Penn Square
The call for entries is open. Click here to learn more.

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

You Are ACEC/PA
We recently requested our members to fill vacant committee leadership positions due to many Vice Chairs moving to the Chair position and some newly created committees. Since that time, we do have a few additional committee leadership positions and are asking the ACEC/PA membership to contact Leeann Sherman, ACEC/PA executive director, if you are interested in the Diverse Partnerships Vice Chair, Alternative Delivery Vice Chair, Bureau of Public Transportation Vice Chair (new committee) and Business/Finance Vice Chair.

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.

ACEC Senior Executive Leadership Institute
Learn more here

American Road and Transportation Builders Association Convention
September 22-25 • Hyatt Regency Savannah
Register now

RESOURCES

The Professional Procrastinators Guide to Dealing in Difficult Conversations
August 29 • 1:30 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Register now

Get to Know AIA Contract Documents: What Architects, Contractors, Engineers and Owners Need to Know
September 26 • 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Register now

RETTEW Announces Strategic Leadership Succession
RETTEW is pleased to announce Senior Vice President and CMO Clayton Bubeck, P.E., will be promoted to the role of president, effective September 1, 2019… Read more

H. Daniel Cessna, P.E., Promoted to Senior Vice President and National Practice Leader for Transportation, Malcolm Dougherty, P.E., Elevated to National Practice Executive for Transportation
Michael Baker International, a global leader in engineering, planning and consulting services, today announced a pair of promotions in the firm's growing Transportation Practice… 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?
On this day in 1961, the first case of motion sickness in space reported.

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.

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