IN FOCUS

Happy New Year to all! I hope everyone was able to enjoy some time off with family and friends.

While for most, January represents the start of a new year, in the case of the ACEC/PA calendar, we are only half way through the year. Nevertheless, this is a good time to reflect on accomplishments this past fall and looking forward to an active spring. As always, review the calendar on the ACEC/PA website for dates and details on monthly chapter meetings but each month there are also major events listed below:

- Diamond Awards of Engineering Excellence – February in Lancaster
- Legislative Days – April in Harrisburg
- ACEC National Annual Conference and Legislative Summit – April in Washington D.C.
- Spring Conference – May in Harrisburg
- Annual Leadership Meeting – June in Park City, Utah

Furthermore, we continue to work on improving the organization in order to increase its value to our membership. Below are some of the on-going initiatives that will continue into the spring:

- Continued and improved advocacy with the General Assembly;
- Development of PAthways to Leadership (skills, knowledge and career development for mid-level staff);
- Expansion of 2020 Spring Conference sessions;
- Increased Diversity & Inclusion through education and resources for members;
- “Tell Our Story” to provide members with resources, education and knowledge of ACEC/PA;
- Enhance our relationship with ACEC national and all 51 member organizations;
• Create and utilize materials to enhance our value proposition to prospective members;
• Continue to partner with PennDOT, PA Turnpike Commission, DGS and other state, local and federal government agencies, partners and coalitions; and
• Create quarterly PAC newsletter with CEPA and ACEC details for better transparency.

I have been encouraged by the growth and development of our organization in recent years but there is more that can be done. The first six months of my term as president has flown by and I have no doubt the next six will be very similar. I hope to see you all at the many events in the coming months.

I wish everyone a fulfilling 2020 in all that you do.

Thanks,

Eric Frary
President, ACEC/PA

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**WELCOME NEW ACEC/PA MEMBERS**

**T3 Global Strategies**
10 Emerson Lane, Suite 808
Bridgeville, PA 15017
(412) 221-2003
[www.T3gs.com](http://www.T3gs.com)
Bryan Metzler, Principal
Michael Joos, Director of Business Development

*T3 Global Strategies* offers extensive experience in civil engineering, land surveying, aerial photography, photogrammetry, orthophotography, lidar collection and processing, GPS surveys, and GIS surveys. Pennsylvania certified small business focused on exceeding industry standards and delivering client satisfaction in everything we do.

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**LEGISLATIVE**
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](#)

### Mileage reimbursement rates
The [U.S. General Services Administration (GSA)](https://www.gsa.gov) announced the mileage reimbursement rates are changing. The effective date of the rate change is for travel on or after January 1, 2020. The Commonwealth follows the GSA rates and SAP will be updated to reflect these rate changes.

- The Standard rate will decrease from $0.58/mile to $0.575/mile.
- The Other Vehicle Available rate will decrease from $0.20/mile to $0.17/mile.

### Former U.S. Rep. Michael Fitzpatrick from suburban Philly dies
Michael Fitzpatrick, a former congressman from suburban Philadelphia who served four terms in the House before handing off the seat to his brother, died Monday morning after a long battle with melanoma, his family said… [Read more](#)

### Multi-state pact could curb transportation carbon emissions, raise gas price
Carbon emissions from cars, trucks and other means of transportation would drop while gas prices would jump under a multi-state draft climate proposal released recently… [Read more](#)

### 2020 State business tax climate index
The Tax Foundation’s State Business Tax Climate Index enables business leaders, government policymakers, and taxpayers to gauge how their states’ tax systems compare… [Read more](#)

### Ohio, Pennsylvania, Michigan stand to lose U.S. House seats after 2020 census, analysis shows
Ohio and neighboring Pennsylvania, Michigan and West Virginia are among the states
in line to lose congressional seats after the 2020 census, an analysis of the new state-by-state population estimates shows…Read more

2020 Watch: Will the real front-runner please stand up?
Presidential politics move fast. What we’re watching heading into a new week on the 2020 campaign…Read more

January 6th playbook
Reps. Chrissy Houlahan and Conor Lamb endorse former VP Joe Biden’s presidential campaign...Read more

UPCOMING EVENTS

Government Affairs Breakfast with the Honorable Martina White from the PA House of Representatives will be discussing the House Transportation Infrastructure Task Force and its recent report
January 8 ● Hilton Garden Inn Harrisburg East

Central Chapter Meeting with Judd Pittman, Special Consultant to the Secretary of Education on STEM and Computer Science
January 8 ● Hilton Garden Inn Harrisburg East

Western Chapter Meeting with Gary Graham, P.E., Assistant Chief Engineer with the PA Turnpike Commission
January 10 ● Cefalo's

Eastern Chapter Meeting with Rob Henry, Executive Director, GVF who will speak on: A New Decade and A New Approach to Route 422 and Montgomery County Commissioner Kenneth Lawrence, Jr.
January 14 ● Desmond Hotel
Register here
Western Chapter Meeting
February 7 ● Cefalo's
Register here

Government Affairs Breakfast
February 12 ● Hilton Garden Inn Harrisburg East
Register here

Central Chapter Meeting
February 12 ● Hilton Garden Inn Harrisburg East
Register here

Eastern Chapter Meeting
February 18 ● Desmond Hotel
Register here

Diamond Awards
February 27 ● Lancaster Marriott at Penn Square
*Sponsorships opportunities can be found here

ACEC/PA Legislative Day
April 6-7 ● Capitol, Harrisburg
*Sponsorships opportunities can be found here

ACEC/PA Spring Conference
May 11-13 ● Hilton Harrisburg
*Sponsorships opportunities can be found here

ACEC/PA Annual Leadership Meeting
June 7-9 ● Park City, Utah
*Sponsorships opportunities can be found here
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.

The Heavy Lift
As someone who devoted eight years of high school and college to powerlifting, I learned at least three lessons that I think are relevant to ARTBA’s mission…Read more

Safety, funding measures top 2019 highway issues
In our final edition of E-motion for 2019, we reflect on the public policy highlights of this year…Read more

RESOURCES

10 Keys to Increasing Utilization in Your A/E Firm
Register here

2019 ACEC Professional Liability Insurance Survey of Member Firms For FY 2018
Register here

10 Basic Rules for Good Teaming!
Register here

WBCM Names Jesse Lindsay, P.E., Executive Vice President and Principal
Jesse Lindsay, PE, LEED AP, DBIA, has been named an Executive Vice President and
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 Leann 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?
Did you know, Mary Anderson invented the windshield wiper in 1903 -- years before Henry Ford industrialized automobile production.

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.
Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can update your preferences or unsubscribe from this list.