



AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES  
*of Kentucky*

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# THE KENTUCKY TIMES

ENGINEERING EDITION

## A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

We have had a very eventful beginning to the year at ACEC-KY. In my time on the Board of Directors, I have found that things very seldom slow down at the Engineering Center and this Summer has been no exception.

First, we would like to welcome Russ Romine as the new Executive Director of ACEC-KY and KSPE. Russ has been a longtime friend to our industry and we look forward to working with him to promote and advance our profession. More information can be found about Russ in the below article.

As we welcome Russ on board, we also want to thank George Binder for his continuing service to ACEC-KY. For me as President, it has been a great comfort to have George's guidance and steadying hand over the past several months. I know this sounds like a broken record, but I can never say enough about the contribution of Marcie Fisher and Jennifer Gatewood. Those two ladies are the engine that make the Engineering Center hum. A huge thank you to George, Marcie and Jennifer!

Over the past few weeks, we have entertained several members of our Federal Congressional Delegation at the Engineering Center. Thus far, we have met with Senator Rand Paul, Representative Brett Guthrie, Representative Thomas Massie, Representative Andy Barr, and Representative Candidate James Comer to discuss issues important to our profession. More details from these meetings can be seen in the following article. If you have not contributed to ACEC PAC, I would encourage you to do so. Access to our legislators is one of the true benefits of being an ACEC member.

Last but not least, preparations are feverishly underway for the 2016 ACEC-KY/FHWA/KYTC Partnering Conference. This year's conference will be held on September 6 - 8,

2016 at the Galt House in Louisville. As a change of pace, we are inviting all ACEC-KY members to the Tuesday evening reception at the Partnering Conference as our Fall Membership Meeting. Since I am a Water Resource Engineer, this will be my first time attending the Partnering Conference. If we have not met, please make a point to introduce yourself. I look forward to seeing everyone there.

That is all for now, but we are continually looking for exciting opportunities to engage our members. Please let me know your thoughts.

Thank you for allowing me to serve our profession!

Best wishes,

## ACEC-KY/KSPE ANNOUNCE RUSSELL L. ROMINE AS NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



After ratification from both the American Council of Engineering Companies of Kentucky (ACEC-KY) Board of Directors and the Kentucky Society of Professional Engineers (KSPE) Board of Directors, we are pleased to announce the new Executive Director for ACEC-KY/ KSPE is Russell L. Romine.

Russ comes to us after a brief retirement from the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet where he most recently served as the Deputy Secretary. Prior to that position, he worked as a top advisor to the KYTC Secretary for several years after serving in the Cabinet's Office of Budget and Fiscal Management. Through his experience with KYTC,

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Russ had the opportunity to work with many associations where he was able to help promote engineering, and in that particular position, engineering within the transportation sector.

As someone who has worked closely with – and for – professional engineers for over 20 years, Russ is excited to promote and advance the engineering profession as Executive Director of ACEC-KY/KSPE. Please help us in welcoming Russ as he begins his new role on September 1st.

To reach Russ by email, you can email him at [russ@kyengcenter.org](mailto:russ@kyengcenter.org). His direct line at the office is 502-783-0012.

## QUARTERLY MEETING AT THE PARTNERING CONFERENCE RECEPTION

TUESDAY, SEPT 6TH AT 4:45  
GALT HOUSE HOTEL IN LOUISVILLE

ACEC-KY President Brad Montgomery would like to invite the membership to join him for a reception on Tuesday, September 6th, at 4:45 pm at the Galt House Hotel & Suites in Louisville. This will be our first quarterly meeting for the 2016-2017 fiscal year. This reception is being held as part of the KYTC/FHWA/ACEC-KY Partnering Conference, and it appeared that a great number of our ACEC-KY membership would already be in attendance.

Please mark your calendars and plan to visit with your fellow ACEC-KY members and members of the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet.

We look forward to seeing you there.

## PARTNERING CONFERENCE BEING HELD NEXT WEEK

The ACEC-KY/FHWA/KYTC Partnering Conference is being held next week on September 6-8 at the Galt House Hotel in Louisville. If you have not already registered, please do so by the end of this week. You can get registered online [here](#).

## ACEC-KY MEMBERS MEET WITH MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

ACEC-KY and ACEC PAC held meetings with several members from our congressional delegation here at the Kentucky Engineering Center the last few weeks. Discussions centered around the issues highlighted in the

next section. If you would like additional information about ACEC PAC, please contact us.



*ACEC-KY members meet with Representative Andy Barr*



*ACEC-KY members meet with Representative Brett Guthrie*



*ACEC-KY members meet with Representative Candidate James Comer*



*ACEC-KY members meet with Representative Thomas Massie*

## ACEC/ACEC-KY Advocacy

### Priorities – Fall 2016

- **Comprehensive Energy Bill** – Legislation has passed the House of Representatives (HR 8) and the Senate (S. 2012) that seeks to promote energy efficiency; modernize the electrical grid with emphasis on resiliency and security; streamline the permitting for pipelines and liquid natural gas (LNG) exports; and enhance the federal agency coordination of policies affecting energy and water. Congress has the opportunity to pass the first major energy bill in over a decade, and ACEC urges final passage of an energy package in 2016 to promote energy markets and economic growth.

- **The Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2016** – the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee has cleared a WRDA bill that authorizes over \$9 billion for flood control, navigation, other water infrastructure needs; authorizes new water trust fund, funded through voluntary contributions; and financial assistance to reduce lead in drinking water, grant funding for combined sewer overflows (CSOs). A smaller bill authorizing new Corps projects has cleared the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, and ACEC urges Congress to move a final WRDA bill for passage before the end of the year.

**Water Resource Development Act (WRDA)**  
**Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA)**  
**State Revolving Fund (SRF)**

ACEC-KY supports re-authorization of the Water Resource Development Act (WRDA).

Specifically, ACEC-KY would like to encourage Congress to fund the **Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA)** while maintaining the strength of the **State Revolving Fund (SRF)** programs. For a small population State, like Kentucky, the SRF programs are crucial for funding water infrastructure in our smaller communities.

However, this is not “either/or” in our opinion. A well-funded WIFIA will relieve pressure on the SRF’s and provide funding for larger projects and growth projects that do not qualify for SRF. Therefore, both programs are essential to providing for our water infrastructure needs.

We also encourage Congress to include in WRDA, provisions for **Qualifications Based Selection (QBS)** as the process for selecting Engineering firms.

- **Funding the Nation’s Roadways and Transit Systems** – Congress passed the FAST Act last year by wide, bipartisan margins to reauthorize for five years the nation’s surface transportation programs. The Act provides for a modest increase in investments for transportation priorities in the states, but stops short of providing a long-term and sustainable source of funding to address critical transportation infrastructure needs. ACEC urges Congress to fully fund the program and stay focused on identifying and implementing long-term revenue solutions before the FAST Act expires in 2020.

### Key Agenda Items for 2017

- **FAA Reauthorization** – Congress cleared legislation in July to extend programs to fund airport improvement projects and other federal aviation programs through September of 2017. ACEC urges Congress to move quickly on a long-term reauthorization bill that increases investments in the nation’s airports, lifts the cap on Passenger Facility Charges (PFCs), facilitates greater use of unmanned aircraft systems (drones), and applies uniform federal contracting and audit principles to airport projects involving federal funds.

- **Tax Reform** – House recently released tax reform blueprint that reduces top rates for corporations to 20%, “passthrough” businesses (partnerships, LLCs, Subchapter S corporations) to 25%, and individuals to 33%, while eliminating individual & corporate AMT and the estate tax, and providing full expensing for capital investments. ACEC urges Congress to move forward on tax reform legislation that achieves parity in tax rates for corporations and passthrough businesses, while incentivizing business

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investment.

## DATES TO NOTE

**September 6 – 8, 2016**

KYTC/FHWA/ACEC-KY Partnering Conference  
*Galt House, Louisville*

**September 20, 2016**

EEA Orientation  
*Kentucky Engineering Center, Frankfort*

**September 21, 2016**

2015 Kentucky Engineers' Golf Classic  
*University Club of Kentucky, Lexington*

**October 19-22, 2016**

ACEC Fall Conference  
*Colorado Springs, Colorado*

**November 29, 2016**

Kentucky EEA Entries  
*due at the Kentucky Engineering Center, Frankfort*

**December 14, 2016**

ACEC-KY Board of Directors Meeting  
*TBD*

**January 6, 2017**

EEA Entries due to the National ACEC Office  
*Washington, DC*

**March 22, 2017**

ACEC-KY Board of Directors Meeting  
*TBD*

**April 23 – 26, 2017**

ACEC Annual Conference  
*Washington, DC*

**June 21, 2017**

ACEC-KY Board of Directors Meeting  
*TBD*

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Highway Capacity Analysis Using HCM 2010/  
HCM 6th Edition with HCS 2010/HCS 7  
KEC - Frankfort, KY  
September 27-29, 2016

Somerset One Day Fall Seminar  
Center for Rural Development - Somerset, KY  
September 28, 2016

Ashland One Day Fall Seminar  
EN Engineering - Catlettsburg, KY  
October 5, 2016

Bowling Green One Day Fall Seminar  
WKU - Bowling Green, KY  
October 7, 2016

Paducah One Day Fall Seminar  
WKCTC - Paducah, KY  
October 19, 2016

Madisonville One Day Fall Seminar  
Ballard Convention Center - Madisonville, KY  
November 9, 2016

InRoads I V8i SS4  
Kentucky Engineering Center - Frankfort, KY  
November 15-18, 2016

Prestonsburg One Day Fall Seminar  
Jenny Wiley State Park - Prestonsburg, KY  
November 16, 2016

InRoads I V8i SS4  
Kentucky Engineering Center - Frankfort, KY  
December 6-9, 2016

Lexington One Day Fall Seminar  
KRS 322 MTS Code of Conduct & Expert Witness  
Clarion Hotel - Lexington, KY  
December 7, 2016

Louisville One Day Fall Seminar  
Ramada Plaza - Louisville, KY  
December 16, 2016

REGISTER ONLINE! for these classes & more!