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A Note from Your ACEC-KY Executive Director Russ Romine

It's hard to believe that July is over and – for those of you with kids – a new school year is right around the corner. Life is fast-paced, but I hope you've had an opportunity to enjoy some of the beautiful weather we've had so far this summer. I won't take too much of your time, but wanted to provide a quick update on a few items we've been engaged in and tracking...

Special Legislative Session?

As of today, there are no specific details on when Governor Matt Bevin will call legislators to Frankfort to tackle comprehensive tax reform and public pensions. As you know, ACEC-KY is part of the Kentucky Infrastructure Coalition (KIC) – a group of organizations working together to facilitate dialogue and promote awareness of the need for increased transportation infrastructure investment. As a member of the KIC steering committee, we've been meeting regularly to determine how best to target our message and spread the word with Kentucky's elected leaders. Unfortunately, it's looking more and more like any focus on transportation funding may have to wait until the General Assembly's 60-day Regular Session that begins in January. It looks like a special session may be called later this year (September/October), but the focus of the call is expected to be narrow and only address public pensions and tax reform... and tax reform only to the extent of shoring up the pension system. Even still, we are encouraged by Kentucky House Speaker Jeff Hoover's recent formation of a bi-partisan taskforce of legislators challenged with looking at ways to tackle Kentucky's growing infrastructure needs. In a press conference announcing the groups formation a few weeks ago, Speaker Hoover said, "Funding for our road system is a critical issue." He continued, "How can it be done better? What are other states doing? How have other states made adaptations to better fit current society?" As a member of ACEC-KY, we need to make sure our individual and collective voices are heard as long-term, sustainable solutions for funding transportation are identified. Stay

tuned for specific ways you can help.

ACEC-KY / FHWA / KYTC Annual Partnering Conference

If you haven't registered already, please make plans now to join us for the 2017 Partnering Conference at the Galt House in Louisville in just two weeks – August 15, 16, and 17. Take advantage of this opportunity to network with your partners at the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet and the Federal Highway Administration, and hear the latest on topics ranging from Connected Vehicles to Performance Based Flexible Solutions to Effective Leadership. Also, don't forget to download this year's Partnering Conference App: <https://crowd.cc/partnering2017> Kudos to Jennifer Gatewood for developing the app – the first ever for the Partnering Conference! I encourage everyone to take advantage of this user-friendly tool!

Call for Entries – 2018 ACEC-KY Engineering Excellence Awards

Do you have a recent project you would like to highlight? Would you like the opportunity to showcase your engineering achievement and promote the quality and innovative work you're providing for your clients? Why not consider participating in the 2018 Engineering Excellence Awards (EEA)? The 2018 ACEC-KY EEA competition is approaching and we want your projects. The deadline for submitting your entry is November 27, with entries due at the Kentucky Engineering Center by 5:00 PM EST. For those considering participation on the state level, I will provide an EEA orientation at the Kentucky Engineering Center on September 14. You may also participate in the national competition and have your project considered alongside the best in the country. Entries for ACEC-National's competition are due on January 5, 2018. Stay tuned for more details.

Qualifications Based Selection

Progress continues to be made on the QBS-front. QBS resource materials – designed to aid local leaders as they

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procure engineering and architectural services for their publicly funded projects – are being finalized. The QBS Kentucky Coalition, which was chartered by ACEC-KY, AIA-KY and KSPE, continues to look for opportunities to grow the Coalition and raise awareness of this important issue. Looking ahead, I'm excited to moderate a QBS panel discussion at the 42nd Annual Governor's Local Issues Conference in Louisville on August 24. The panel will include state and local leaders who have first-hand experience with QBS and see the value produced through the use of a qualifications based selection process for their projects. The Local Issues Conference will be held at the Galt House Hotel, August 23-25. For more information on the conference, please see the following link: <https://kydlgweb.ky.gov/LocalIssues/glicNameSearch.cfm>. Also, be sure to check the QBS Kentucky Coalition's website (www.QBS-KY.org) for regular updates on this front.

That's a (very) quick rundown of some of the issues and items we've been tracking lately. Please look for a message from ACEC-KY President, Shawn Washer, in next month's edition of *THE KENTUCKY TIMES – Engineering Edition*. As always, if you have any questions or would like to discuss any of these issues (or other issues you may have), please let us know. On behalf of Marcie, Jennifer and myself, thank you for your membership with ACEC-KY and your service to the engineering profession and community!

All the best!



REGISTRATION OPEN! 2017 ACEC-KY/FHWA/KYTC Partnering Conference

Registration is now open for the 2017 ACEC-KY/FHWA/KYTC Partnering Conference being held August 15-17, 2017 at the Galt House Hotel in Louisville.



Early Bird Registration is \$175.00 per person through today, July 31st. After August 1st, registration is \$200 per person.

The room block has closed.



REGISTER NOW! Kentucky Engineers' Golf Classic - September 20, 2017

Be sure to save the date for the 22nd Annual Kentucky Engineers' Golf Classic being held on September 20, 2017 at the University Club of Kentucky, located at 4850 Leestown Road in Lexington.

We are looking forward to another outstanding golf outing this year, so be sure to mark us down on your calendar! Registration is open here: <http://www.kyengcenter.org/events/EventDetails.aspx?id=932760&group=>

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Roadside Design Guide

Kentucky Engineering Center - Frankfort, KY
August 2-3, 2017

InRoads I V8i SS4

Kentucky Engineering Center - Frankfort, KY
August 8-11, 2017

2017 ACEC-KY/FHWA/KYTC Partnering Conference

Galt House Hotel - Louisville, KY
August 15-17, 2017

Roadside Design Guide

Kentucky Engineering Center - Frankfort, KY
August 23-24, 2017

InRoads II V8i SS4

Kentucky Engineering Center - Frankfort, KY
September 11-13, 2017

Check <http://www.kyengcenter.org/events/> to see what other classes we have scheduled for the coming months!