



## Engineers and Land Surveyors Day at the State House

### **Massachusetts Transportation Infrastructure: *INVESTING TODAY FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH: Support coordinated New England tolling or road usage charges.***

**ACTIONS REQUESTED:** Support new revenue for transportation, including increased use of tolling, in conjunction with the other New England states or a pilot project for collecting fees on VMTs (Vehicle Miles Traveled.) Continue to support the Financial Management Control Board as it works to improve business processes and develops a long-term plan for the T that efficiently uses its resources. Support a multiyear commitment of \$300 M/year for Chapter 90 funding, enabling municipalities to do longer term planning for capital needs.

### **Water Infrastructure Investment Creates Jobs: *Clean Water comes with a Price: Support increased funding of water infrastructure, including increased contract assistance funding for the State Revolving Fund; Support Delegation of the NPDES Program***

**ACTIONS REQUESTED:** Support increased funding for water infrastructure. Chapter 259 of the Acts of 2014 raised the state capitalization of the SRF program from \$88 million to \$138 million, but the legislature needs to appropriate the funding. Support efforts that will enable Massachusetts to assume delegation of the NPDES program. (see Support Delegation of NPDES Program Fact Sheet)

**NPDES Delegation: Support Delegation of the NPDES Program:** Massachusetts is one of only four states in the nation that does not currently have delegation of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Program (NPDES) from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The NPDES program is an important water quality program established by the federal Clean Water Act. It is anticipated that the EPA will be facing significant budgetary cuts. It makes sense for Massachusetts to join the other 46 states to implement this program to provide continued protection of our water resources.

**ACTION REQUESTED:** Support efforts that will enable Massachusetts to assume delegation of the NPDES program.

**Dig Safe: For Public Safety and Efficiency: Support HB1813, An Act relative to public safety in excavation, Claire D. Cronin (D-Easton), Marjorie C. Decker (D-Cambridge) [Jt Committee on Transportation]** Professional Land Surveyors need to be able to gather accurate information on the location of underground utilities early in the design of a project. Including accurate utility location information in the planning phase of a road, bridge, water or sewer or other project minimizes the hazards, cost, and work to produce the final project and helps to protect public safety. HB1813 provides updates to the Dig Safe law [MGL c. 82, §§ 40, 40A-40E] that are endorsed by the Common Ground Alliance, a national organization committed to saving lives and preventing damage to underground infrastructure by promoting effective damage prevention practices.

**ACTION REQUESTED:** *Pass HB 1813 this session.*

**Maximizing Private Sector Innovation:** Delivering for Massachusetts: The critical role the engineering industry plays in addressing state and municipal infrastructure needs. **OPPOSE** bills like these (both are in study): S.1741-An Act to promote safety, efficiency and accountability in transportation projects through public inspections. **OPPOSE:** S.1750-An Act relative to protecting the taxpayers of the Commonwealth

**ACTION REQUESTED:** The House and Senate should oppose any bills or amendments that would prevent state agencies and municipalities from contracting out for design services and construction phase engineering or testing services. Public agencies need the flexibility to determine how they will get this work done.

**Climate Resiliency: Building Tomorrow's Infrastructure Today That Will Improve Quality of Life for All:** Support Legislation for Climate Resiliency and Adaptation in Response to Climate Change: HB 4438, Environmental Bond Bill: In House Committee on Bonding, Capital Expenditures and State Assets (5/15 hearing); SB 2196, Comprehensive Adaptation Management Plan

**ACTION REQUESTED:** Ask legislators to Support the Climate Resiliency provisions in HB 4438, to take the next steps to build upon the Commonwealth's initial climate change adaptation efforts: Make permanent and fund the Integrated Hazard Mitigation and Adaptation Plan and the Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Program (MVP). Include language for an Advisory Board that includes a Professional Engineer. Comprehensive Adaptation Management Plan, SB 2196: Thank Senators for their past support of this climate resiliency language & urge House members to support it; Invest in sustainable infrastructure, which considers both lifecycle and capital costs.