

# ACEC/Matters

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES OF MASSACHUSETTS

October 26, 2023

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## ACEC R&D Amortization Update

Now that the US House of Representatives has a new House Speaker, ACEC is relaunching our R&D amortization [action alert](#) and asking all ACEC members to contact their Members of Congress **again**. The focus of the message is the need for congressional action before the end of the year.

Time is running short and we need to make sure that R&D amortization is a top priority for Congress. We need your action to get this done by sending a letter to your US House Representative. Even if your Member of Congress has cosponsored the House and Senate repeal bills, we need ACEC members to reach out again and stress the urgency of Congress fixing R&D amortization now. ACEC makes it very easy for you.

In addition, ACEC's Katharine Mottley reported earlier this week that there are 10 new cosponsors of the House bill to repeal the R&D amortization requirement. [Full list of US House co-sponsors](#)

Please contact [Abbie Goodman](#) if you have any questions.

## Governor Healey Files Legislation Unlocking \$800 Million to Compete for Federal Funding

Please join us on **Friday, October 27 at 10 AM at The Engineering Center in Boston or on Zoom** as we meet with Governor Healey's Director of Federal Funding and Infrastructure, Quentin Palfrey, on the challenges you and your clients are facing when applying for federal infrastructure grants. [Contact Us for Details.](#)

On October 19, Governor Maura Healey unveiled legislation in a State House event to create a fund to back the commonwealth's efforts to seek grants from Washington. Massachusetts has the potential to secure more than \$17B in federal funding, ACEC/MA Executive Director Abbie Goodman attended the State House event in the Governor's office.

[More Info](#)

## ACEC/MA Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Commitment Award

### Applications Due January 12, 2024

This award honors a firm's ingenuity, leadership, and commitment to advancing Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion within the profession.

[More Info](#)

- Sanborn Head & Associates
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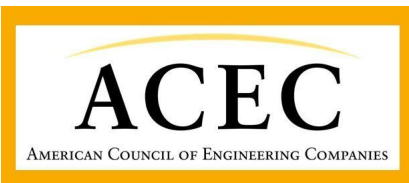
## ACEC/MA Board of Directors FY2024

## ACEC/MA Forums & Committees

## ACEC/MA Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion

## Events & Briefings Calendar

## Join an ACEC/MA Committee or Forum



## ACEC/MA HR Forum: [EEOC Updates, Pregnancy & Maternity Requirements & Accommodations](#)

ACEC/MA is grateful to HR Forum Co-Chairs **Katie Murphy** (GZA GeoEnvironmental) and **Leila Cahillane** (City Point Partners) for this October 20 Member Briefing.

## [I'm a Proud Member of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe](#)

ACEC/MA is grateful to **Keith Foxx**, PE, PMP, CCM for sharing this information on the Mashpee Wampanoag. Keith is Principal at FOXXSTEM Engineering Services, and the National Director representing ACEC/Metro Washington on the ACEC National Board. He is the Immediate Past Chair of the ACEC/Metro Washington Board of Directors.

## Risk Management Forum: Davis-Bacon Update

ACEC National worked with outside counsel **Andy Martone** of Hesse Martone, an employment law expert and counsel to ACEC-Illinois, on [this Davis-Bacon memorandum](#) that covers questions related to survey crews, inspectors, and material testers. It also provides general guidelines for whether Davis-Bacon covers employees. The Davis-Bacon Update took effect on October 23, 2023.

[More Info](#)

## ACEC/MA Featured in Engineering Inc.

Check out the latest issue of Engineering Inc., ACEC's award-winning national magazine with a special feature on ACEC/Massachusetts.

[Engineering Inc.](#)

## Government Affairs

### FEDERAL NEWS

### [ESG Disclosures: What All ACEC Business Leaders Need to Know](#)

### [Highlights from the 2023 Fall Conference](#)

### [DEI&B Committee Discusses Opportunities and Challenges Going Forward](#)

### STATE NEWS

### [Massachusetts Climate Chief Issues Report on October 25](#)

State Climate Chief Offers Sweeping Call For Change in new report.

## [MBTA Announces Launch Of Bus Priority Vision And Toolkit, Supports Bus Priority Investments Across 26 Bus Corridors](#)

### [MassDOT Highway Division Issues Updates to Project Development and Design Guide \(PDDG\)](#)

Updated Chapters of PDDG as of 10/18/24: 1, 4, 9, 10, 12, 13

The purpose of the Project Development and Design Guide (PDDG) is to define the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) Highway Division's project development process and guide the planning and design of transportation projects. The PDDG's intended audience includes planners, designers, practitioners, and decision makers.

The previous edition of the PDDG, published in 2006, expanded MassDOT's framework for incorporating context-sensitive design and multimodal elements into transportation improvement projects. This new edition of the PDDG expands on those elements and formally incorporates process changes and guidance revisions that have occurred since 2006. MassDOT is actively updating the 2006 edition's content and modernizing the PDDG to a web-based format to aid the ease and regularity of future updates. Updated chapters are published in this new web-based format. For chapters currently undergoing updates, the 2006 edition is temporarily posted to that chapter's web page.

### [ACEC/MA's Government Affairs Committee \(GAC\) Acts on Bills Impacting our Eng/PLS/A/E Community.](#)

Quentin Palfrey, Massachusetts Director of Federal Funds and Infrastructure joins us on 10/27 at 10 AM. [MassTaxpayers Foundation Report with background.](#)

[Join ACEC/MA GAC on 10/27](#)

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### [Seeking a Professional Engineer](#)

The Designer Selection Board (DSB) **seeks 1 PE** for the Board.

[Read](#)

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### [STEM Task Force Opportunities](#)

Opportunities & Resources for your firm to promote **STEM careers**, particularly in Engineering & Land Surveying

[More Info](#)

### [STEM Starter Academy](#)

Technical Students for Entry Level Roles in Your Firm from Massachusetts Community Colleges

[More Info](#)

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## LAST WORD

The ACEC Last Word Blog: News and insights on the Council and the industry

ACEC Last Word

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## Program Registration

**\*If Your Firm is an ACEC/MA Member, You're an ACEC/MA member.**

**Get the ACEC/MA Member Rate for Webinars & Programs: Register with your INDIVIDUAL assigned username/password. Never use someone else's login info.**

?s: Contact [acecma@engineers.org](mailto:acecma@engineers.org) or 617-227-5551

Links live 10/26/23; Next issue: 11/2/23

ACEC/Matters: Produced by Abbie Goodman and Megan Alper

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