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Dear ACEC/MA Member,
**Here's Your 10/28/21
ACEC/Matters**

Transportation Update with MassDOT Secretary Jamey Tesler

An ACEC/MA Webinar Program



November 10, 2021 on Zoom

12:15 PM - Zoom Breakout Networking, 1:00 - 2:00 PM:
Zoom Webinar

Fee: \$55 ACEC/MA member* | \$110 Non-member |
\$25 Public Sector

ACEC/MA Board of Directors

Featuring:

ACEC/MA Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Resource Page

Jamey Tesler, Secretary and CEO, MassDOT

Briefings & Events

[More Info and Registration >](#)

Join a Committee or Forum

ACEC/MA Legislative Alert: Contact your State Representative Thursday morning to Support ARPA Funding for Water Infrastructure



The Massachusetts House of Representatives released its plan for ARPA spending on 10/25/21 and is only allocating \$100 million to the Clean Water Trust for water/wastewater infrastructure. This bill is [H4219](#)



**Thank you 2021
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We understand from talking with legislators this week that the legislature envisions rolling the \$5.3B of ARPA money out in phases, recognizing there is ongoing uncertainty as the pandemic continues and they may need funds for critical needs. We have worked with our partners at UCANE and MWWA to have two amendments filed to address our concerns that there isn't enough focus on water/wastewater in this proposal.

Action Requested on 10/28: Debate on the ARPA spending bill will begin Thursday, 10/28. We urge you to be in touch with your State Representative as soon as possible on Thursday (10/28) morning, and ask them to support several amendments. . . [More >](#)

ACEC/MA HR Forum

11/12, 3 PM on Zoom

To hire or not to hire candidates requiring visas? Not missing out on talented and diverse candidates can create the need to obtain USCIS visas. This session will help us understand the realities of hiring foreign applicants, including students. . . [More >](#)

[Zoom Info Request for ACEC/MA HR Forum](#)

Vaccination Mandate for Federal Contractors Update

OSHA Emergency Temporary Standard Advances to White House

[From ACEC Last Word Blog:](#) ACEC has heard from some member firms regarding the challenges that federal COVID-19 mandates pose for the A/E industry.....[More >](#)

ACEC would appreciate knowing your concerns about

AI Engineers, Inc.
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implementing a vaccine mandate at your firm. Send your feedback to [Katharine Mottley](#) or [Dan Hilton](#).

Web page with guidance from federal agencies as of 10/25/21...[More >](#)

Government Affairs

[ACEC CEO & President Darr Reports on Strong Industry, Council Performance](#)

Massachusetts Senate Agrees To Plan Reshaping Its 40 Districts: State senators approved new maps for their districts on a 36-3 vote on 10/27, with two of those who voted in opposition raising concerns about both their individual districts and the process behind the changes. The Senate's redistricting plan doubles the number of districts where a majority of residents are non-white -- from three to six, out of 40 -- and reduces the number of municipalities split among multiple districts.

Late US Census data this year put lawmakers on a condensed timeline for redrawing their districts; a process that normally takes about half a year was done in less than two months this cycle.

On 10/21, the Senate also passed a bill redrawing the 160 House of Representatives district boundaries, which the House green-lit last week on a 158-1 vote. The House will similarly need to vote on the Senate's maps.

[Revised Senate Maps](#) - takes a bit to download

[Revised House Maps](#) - takes a bit to download

ACEC/MA's Government Affairs Comm (GAC) reviews bills impacting our Eng/PLS/A/E community.

Next GAC Meeting = 11/19 @ 10 AM on Zoom

[Join ACEC/MA Government Affairs Comm](#)



[ACEC Last Word blog:](#)
 News & insight on the Council & the A/E/C Industry + [Blog with ACEC.](#)

ACEC/MA Forums & Committees

Open to All Members

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STEM Task Force + HR Forum: STEM Starter Academy

ICYMI: David Cedrone, Assoc. Commissioner, MA Department of Higher Education, + students from the [STEM Starter Academy](#), located at every Massachusetts community college, recently joined ACEC/MA's STEM Task Force and HR Forum on Zoom, to discuss partnerships with our firms through:

- Student Internships
- Career Awareness Programs with their student on campus or virtually
- Other opportunities

[STEM Starter Academy Resource Page](#), including contacts at MA Community Colleges

Program Registration:

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Links live 10/28; Next issue 11/4/21

ACEC/Matters: Produced by Sean McShane + Abbie Goodman

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