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# ACEC/Matters - News from ACEC/Massachusetts

Dear ACEC/MA Member,

**Here's Your 11/4/21  
ACEC/Matters**

**Last Chance to Register for:**

## **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

Featuring:

**Jamey Tesler, Secretary and CEO, MassDOT**

[More Info and Registration >](#)



ACEC/MA Board of Directors

ACEC/MA Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Resource Page

Briefings & Events

Join a Committee or Forum

## **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](#)



## **ACEC/MA Private Sector Committee:**



## The Retention Solution: Creating an Exceptional Employee Experience

11/16, 8:30 - 9:30 AM on Zoom

Thank you 2021  
ACEC/MA Corporate  
Sponsors

**Member Briefing Topic: The Retention Solution:  
Creating an Exceptional Employee Experience with  
SMART Conversations: Paul Weisman**

### [More Information](#)

#### **PLATINUM**

**AECOM**

**Donovan Hatem LLP**

**HDR**

**Jacobs**

**Michael Baker**

**International**

**Stantec**

**The LiRo Group**

**VHB**

**Woodard & Curran**

**WSP**

#### **GOLD**

**Architectural Engineers,  
Inc**

**Arora Engineers, Inc**

**BSC Group, Inc**

**CHA**

**Dewberry**

**GEI Consultants, Inc.**

**Green International**

**Affiliates, Inc**

**Kleinfelder**

**Nitsch Engineering**

**SMMA**

**Tetra Tech**

**Tighe & Bond**

**The LiRo Group**

**TranSystems**

#### **SILVER**

It's on every businessperson's mind. And, if it isn't, it certainly should be. Retention. If COVID has taught us one thing, it's that employees have unaddressed lifestyle needs that working from home satisfies. Remote work has opened new doors for work-life balance, as individuals can successfully work from anywhere and for anyone in the world. But that is only half of the story. Employee retention and engagement starts and ends with creating an Exceptional Employee Experience, one where people feel appreciated, valued, included, challenged and respected. .

. [More >](#)

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

## Government Affairs

### **Similarities, But Big Differences In House, Senate**

**ARPA Bills:** On 11/3/21, the Massachusetts Senate Ways & Means released its version of the ARPA Bill.

Amendments will be due by 3 PM on Friday, though that might be extended to 11/8. Debate is planned to begin on 11/10.

Last week, ACEC/MA and coalition partners from MWWA and UCANE advocated for an increase in water infrastructure funding. While the House did not adopt one one specific amendment, environment and climate spending represents another sizable chunk of the House version of the ARPA bill with more than \$400M total following the adoption of a mega-amendment. Rep.

AI Engineers, Inc.  
 Alfred Benesch & Co.  
 Beals and Thomas, Inc  
 BETA Group, Inc.  
 CDR Maguire, Inc  
 CDW Consultants, Inc  
 City Point Partners  
 Environmental Partners  
 Greenman-Pedersen, Inc  
 Haley Ward, Inc  
 Hardesty & Hanover  
 Howard Stein Hudson  
 Hoyle, Tanner &  
 Associates, Inc  
 Patrick Engineering, Inc  
 Stacey DePasquale  
 Engineering (SDE)  
 STV  
 Trinity, Inc

Carolyn Dykema said areas that will see new investments include combined sewer overflow issues, climate resiliency (MVP), offshore wind development and PFAS mitigation.

[More on our ARPA Funding Resource Page](#)

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[HB 3297, An Act supporting safe excavation practices,](#)

an ACEC/MA backed bill, had a virtual hearing before the Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy on 11/2/2021. **Ken Conte, PLS**, Vice President, Massachusetts Association of Land Surveyors and Civil Engineers (MALSCE) and a Principal of ACEC/MA Member Firm Beals and Thomas testified on behalf of MALSCE and ACEC/AM at the Joint Committee's virtual hearing on natural gas bills filed for the 2021-2022 Legislative Session. . . [More >](#)

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[Safety Bills Mix With Calls For Natural Gas Transition](#)

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

**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/MA  
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 Committees**

Open to All Members

**If Your Firm is an  
[ACEC/MA Member](#),  
 YOU're an ACEC/MA  
 Member.**

**Vaccination Mandate for Federal  
 Contractors Update**

On 11/1/2021, the Safer Federal Workforce Taskforce released new guidance for federal contractors, including new guidance and steps that employers should take in the event of an employee's refusal to receive a vaccination, what workplace safety protocols need to be followed for those that have received an accommodation, and how corporate affiliates are treated with respect to being a covered contractor.

Web page with guidance from federal agencies as of 11/1/21...[More >](#)

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## From ACEC National

**Engineering Influence Podcast:** WSP USA's Chris Harman on Digital Delivery and Innovation: On the latest Engineering Influence podcast, Chris Harman, WSP USA's National Director for Digital Delivery and Innovation in Transportation, talks about why the firm has made a corporate-wide commitment to digital delivery and how it will change the face of the engineering industry.

Click [here](#) to listen to the episode.

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**ACEC Research Institute Releases Highlights of New Five-Year Industry Forecast:** Engineering industry revenues will grow by 8.1% for 2021, a big snapback from the 7.2% drop in 2020, according to a new five-year engineering industry forecast from the ACEC Research Institute.

Joe Bates of the Research Institute and Erin McLaughlin, ACEC Vice President for Private Market Resources, presented the highlights of the forecast. The Institute will publish the full forecast in the coming weeks. . . [More >](#)

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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 Paid Webinars and Programs: Register with [your INDIVIDUAL assigned username/password.](#)*

- **Never use someone else's login info**
- **Need help? Contact [acecma@engineers.org](mailto:acecma@engineers.org) or 617-227-5551**

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

ACEC/Matters: Produced by Sean McShane + Abbie Goodman

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