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AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES
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ACEC/Matters -
News from ACEC/Massachusetts

Dear Sean,

**Here's Your 7/15/21
ACEC/Matters**

**We've mailed Dues
Invoices for FY2022 to
Firm Representatives
this week.** We are grateful
for your firm's prompt
payment of ACEC/MA
membership dues so we
can focus on advocacy,
leadership education,
programs, and other work
on your behalf, **Thank
you!**

**Save the Date:
September 30, 2021**
We're planning an **in-
person Engineering
Excellence Awards Gala
for 2020 + 2021 Projects
and other Awards. More
info soon!**

Baker-Polito Administration Issues Future of Work Report

[Press Release](#)

[Report](#)

On 7/13/21, the Baker-Polito Administration released the [Future of Work Report](#), commissioned by the

Administration to evaluate the ways that the COVID-19 pandemic has changed work habits in Massachusetts as the Commonwealth emerges from the pandemic. The

Administration also outlined steps that it is taking to

address the key findings of the report, with investments and other initiatives to boost housing production and downtown economies, connect workers with skills for high-demand fields, support changing transportation needs, promote flexibility in childcare, and more.

The report predicts the state's population is likely to grow, though more slowly than pre-pandemic levels, that existing



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Briefings & Events

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Donovan Hatem LLP

HDR

equity challenges will intensify, and that "housing options that work for all will be key to retaining and attracting people into the state."

To address high costs, the report, done by McKinsey & Company, estimates that the state will need up to 200,000 additional housing units by 2030 and up to 30,000 additional child care workers.

New ACEC Private Industry Brief Shows Strong A/E Revenue Growth

ACEC published a new Private Industry Brief this week, highlighting a huge rebound in A/E revenues. Based on the U.S. Census Bureau's "preliminary estimate," A/E revenues in the first quarter of 2021 rose to \$85.6B, a 7.8% increase over the fourth quarter of 2020... [More >](#)

Digital Subscription to Engineering Inc For You

ACEC's Engineering Inc. current issue's cover feature examines how many of our member firms have relied on IT capabilities to stay productive in this new business normal and has been a digital lifesaver as firms work remotely.

Other articles include:

- How member firms helped to battle COVID.
- 2021 Annual Convention Wrap-up.
- How ACEC/PAC exceeded \$1M in donations despite the pandemic, and much more.

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ACEC Updates on PPP Loans / FAR Credits Clause Issue

ACEC is launching a **new grassroots campaign** to push federal lawmakers to protect engineering firms that received forgiven PPP loans from problems stemming from the FAR credits clause. ACEC is making progress – the House of Representatives has approved an amendment to provide partial relief – but more ACEC member engagement is needed to bolster the case for a waiver to allow firms to keep their PPP loans.

ACEC is asking Congress to include a legislative fix in the infrastructure package currently under consideration to ensure that all firms qualifying for forgiven PPP loans may be allowed to keep this critical assistance.

[Contact Your US Representative and Senators](#)

Even if you have already written to your Senators and House members, please continue to reach out. The sample letter has been modified to reflect the current state of play. You are strongly encouraged to add firm-specific information about the impact of this issue on your business.

Background

On July 3, 2021, the US House passed the \$720B [INVEST in America Act](#) (H.R. 3684) which includes a five-year \$592B surface transportation reauthorization, \$54B for clean water infrastructure, and \$105B over 10 years for

Triunity, Inc

drinking water infrastructure and the replacement of lead service lines.



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

We strongly supported the bill as it is both a transformative measure and a vital step towards our goal of passing comprehensive infrastructure legislation this year.

COVID-19 Resources & Guidance

We also won a partial fix to the PPP/FAR credits clause issue in the bill, limiting the FAR credit to federal dollars in contract payments and thereby preventing state DOTs from applying the FAR provision to state-funded contracts.

Click [here](#) to learn how you can take action on the credits clause.

ACEC/MA Forums & Committees

Open to All Members

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

Government Affairs

FY2022 Budget Finalized by Legislature, Sent to Governor Baker's Desk ...[More on our ACEC/MA FY2022 Budget Resource Page...>](#)

Discuss the Issues with your Massachusetts State Legislators This Summer

Engineers & Land Surveyors Virtually @ the State House or in person in your home district is a great way to build bridges to your State Senator and State Representative, based on where you live and vote....[More >](#)

ARPA Funding Resource Page for ACEC/MA Members

The legislature and the Baker-Polito Administration continued work on the process for allocating nearly \$5.2 billion in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding, as the legislature overrode the Governor's veto on 6/22 to sweep most of the money into the Legislature's COVID-19 Relief Fund while giving Baker "some latitude around \$200 million" and "a lot of latitude in things that need immediate need." ... [More >](#)

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

Next GAC Meeting = 7/23 @ 8 AM on Zoom

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

Program Registration:

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Links live 7/8/21; Next issue 7/15/21

ACEC/Matters: Produced by Sean McShane + Abbie Goodman

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