Items included in this ACEC Missouri Weekly Update are listed below.

- **COVID-19 News** (ACEC/MO COVID-19 Business Impact Survey Sent to Member Firms; Senate Passes Workforce Provisions to Aid Economic Revival)
- **Industry News** (ACEC Board Meets Virtually - No CPI Dues Increase; ACEC Launches Virtual Advocacy Campaign)
- **Notable Events** (ACEC/MO Future Leaders Academy Update; Important Update to ACEC Midwest States Conference; ACEC Midwest Regional Leadership Meeting Zoom Call)
- **Member Information & Calendar** (Reminders; Member News; Calendar of Events; Tip of the Week)

If there is something you would like us to include in the weekly updates, or if you need anything else, please contact the ACEC/MO staff. We are working remotely so please contact us by email: Bruce Wylie (BruceWylie@acecmo.org) / Dawn Hill (DawnHill@acecmo.org). We would love to hear from you!

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**COVID-19 NEWS**

**ACEC/MO COVID-19 Business Impact Survey Sent to Member Firms**

Last week we sent out an ACEC/MO COVID-19 Business Impact Survey to the key contact at each member firm. If you received that email and have not taken the survey yet, please do so today. The deadline to complete the survey is **Today, May 1st**. The more firms that participate in the survey, the better we can see how COVID-19 is affecting Missouri firms. We'll compile the results after the deadline and will send out to member firms, will post them on our website, and will include an article in our next Weekly Update.

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**Senate Passes Workforce Provisions to Aid Economic Revival**

The COVID-19 health crisis has left 450,000 Missourians out of work and created significant new challenges for employers seeking to reopen their doors. In an effort to aid this recovery, the Missouri Senate has passed an important bill to help create more flexibility in the state's workforce and provide greater career mobility. **House Bill 2046**
As amended and passed by the Senate, the bill makes changes to the state's occupational licensing laws, allowing skilled professionals who are already licensed in another state to come to Missouri enter the workforce. In addition, the legislation would enhance apprenticeships in the state by making it possible for apprentices to obtain industry licenses as part of an apprenticeship. Another important component of the bill will help people with past criminal convictions who are seeking to reenter the workforce.

While these provisions were originally proposed as ways to help fill the workforce shortage that was present in the state before the COVID-19 crisis, they remain very important as the state seeks to recover and get Missourians back to work.

INDUSTRY NEWS

ACEC Board Meets Virtually - No CPI Dues Increase

ACEC held its first-ever virtual meeting on Saturday, April 25th. Almost 300 members participated in the virtual event including Bruce Wylie, ACEC/MO President & CEO; Ed Alizadeh, ACEC/MO National Director / New ACEC Executive Committee Member; Linda Moen, ACEC/MO Incoming National Director; and Mike DeBacker, ACEC/MO Incoming Alternate National Director.

ACEC briefed members on their response to COVID-19 – Rescue/Recover/Rebuild, which is a great value to member firms. They also reviewed the Strategic Plan Goals & Objectives (Leading Business Strategy; Embodying Inclusion & Diversity; Expanded and Influential Membership; Essential Value to Society; and Vibrant Member Engagement). ACEC has strongly demonstrated their commitment to these goals and objectives in the past 2 months.

The ACEC Board of Directors then discussed and unanimously voted to forego the planned 1.6 percent Consumer Price Index (CPI) increase to 2020-2021 member firm dues. Not implementing the CPI increase “translates to about $180,000 in lost revenue,” said ACEC President & CEO Linda Bauer Darr. They will offset this by continuing to review where they can cut operational costs, examining outside consulting and membership expenses, and working to keep revenue growing by bringing in new members. To see the latest on ACEC's plans, click here.

The new ACEC Research Institute crafted the COVID-19 ACEC member firm impact surveys. It will also grow their scholarship program and has the following research list of priorities: Owner Transition & Management Succession (available on-line now); Firm Roundtables looking to the Future; State of our Markets; QBS; Design-Build; and Economic Impact of Engineering. Click here to visit the Institute website and view a short video.

ACEC/MO was recognized for achieving our 2019 calendar year PAC goal for ACEC. This is the third year in a row we have achieved our goal.

Also, ACEC/MO is proud to note that Edmond D. Alizadeh, P.E., (right) of Geotechnology, Inc., was installed as Vice Chairman to ACEC's Executive Committee during the virtual meeting. Please thank Ed for serving on ExCom and making that commitment to ACEC.
ACEC Launches Virtual Advocacy Campaign

ACEC National has launched a sustained virtual advocacy campaign focused on an infrastructure-first recovery agenda. Under the banner of “Rescue, Recover, Rebuild,” we are calling on Congress to:

- Pass a multi-year reauthorization of the FAST Act with increased funding to support highway and transit projects and regulatory reforms for efficient project delivery;
- Increase investment in critical water and wastewater infrastructure;
- Bolster energy self-sufficiency and make our system more resilient and sustainable; and
- Promote building design and construction, rural broadband, and other essential components of a growing and vibrant economy.

The campaign’s success depends on the grassroots advocacy of our membership. That means you. Over the coming weeks, we will send tools and resources to help you contact your Member of Congress. Be on the lookout for action alerts with pre-loaded letters to Congress, requests for social media advocacy, and information to help you schedule a virtual meeting with your elected representative. Click HERE to see the ACEC Action Alert sent earlier this week.

Just as ACEC transformed their annual legislative fly-in into a virtual event, they held their first-ever virtual Board of Directors meeting last Saturday. We hope you were among the more than 300 ACEC members who participated as they updated the Board on their COVID-19 response and their priorities for the year ahead and welcomed their new volunteer leaders, including our Board Chair and several members of the Executive Committee. If you weren’t able to attend the meeting, we encourage you to read the President’s Report, as well as the remarks of outgoing Board Chair Mitch Simpler and new Board Chair Charles Gozdziewski here.

NOTABLE EVENTS

ACEC/MO Future Leaders Academy Update

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, we have made a decision to move the dates of the final two sessions of ACEC/MO’s Future Leaders Academy scheduled for May and June. We are working with the hotels and speakers to set up new dates in July/August or August/September. As soon as we have details finalized on the program, we will let the participants know and will post the update on our website and in our Weekly Update.

Important Update for ACEC Midwest States Conference

We have also made the difficult decision to cancel the ACEC Midwest State Conference, which was scheduled for June 7-9, 2020 in Branson. We are however working on setting up some virtual sessions that members can attend to attain PDHs. Stay tuned to ACEC/MO for more information as we make those preparations. We will also be setting up a virtual meeting for the Board of Directors so we can complete the items required by our bylaws. More details will be sent soon on that as well. If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact the ACEC/MO staff.
ACEC Midwest Regional Leadership Meeting Zoom Call

ACEC/MO members (Buddy Desai, Mike DeBacker, Linda Moen, Tim Ross and Steve Wells) and Bruce Wylie, ACEC/MO President, attended an ACEC Midwest Regional Leadership Meeting zoom call this week.

MEMBER INFORMATION & CALENDAR

Reminders...

* ACEC/MO Committee Assignment Preference forms were recently emailed out and are due by **May 7, 2020** to be considered for an ACEC/MO committee in 2020-21. If you want to serve on a committee and didn't receive the committee assignment preference form, click **HERE** to download the form.

* ACEC/MO Board of Directors Ballot was also recently emailed to voting member representatives. The deadline to vote for those nominated for the 2020-21 Board of Directors is **May 20, 2020**.

Member News

**Allgeier, Martin & Associates, Inc. (AMA)** announced they acquired White River Engineering, a Springfield, MO based firm. Since 2004, White River Engineering has been providing civil engineering services for public and private infrastructure projects including sidewalks, streets, site civil, stormwater management, wastewater collection and treatment, and potable water supply storage and distribution. The two firms discovered a mutual interest in joining forces. AMA had been serving the Springfield area from a branch office since 2017 and desired to grow within the Springfield market. White River had established sixteen years of exceptional service in Springfield and desired to offer a more robust range of services for large, complex projects. The addition of the White River staff brings AMA a well-rounded Springfield staff with established clientele and provides White River with a support team of additional strength to secure additional projects.

Calendar of Events

- **August 21** -- ACEC/MO Summer Meeting, Columbia
- **October 14** -- ACEC/MO EEA Project Entry Deadline
- **October 19** -- ACEC/MO 4th Annual ACEC/PAC Golf Tournament, Columbia
- **October 28-31** -- ACEC Fall Conference, San Diego, CA
- **November 4** -- ACEC/MO EEA Judging
- **November 13** -- ACEC/MO Fall Meeting, Columbia

Newly added events are italicized. To see a complete calendar of events, go to ACEC/MO's [website](#).
Tip of the Week

*TIP: Nothing is as easy as it looks. Everything takes longer than you expect, and if anything can go wrong it will . . . (at the worst possible moment.) - Murphy’s Law

TO DO: Always plan for "Murphy time." When deciding how long something will take, add fifteen minutes - just in case.