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

- **Liaison Committee News** *(Missouri Department of Transportation (HQ) Liaison Committee Meeting)*
  
- **Industry News** *(Special Communication from MoDOT Director; Missouri Clean Water Commission Meetings; Benefits of R&D Tax Credits)*
  
- **Notable Events** *(Join us for a Key Contract Provisions Webinar; New Dates Set for ACEC/MO's 2020 Future Leaders Academy; ACEC Midwest States Conference Cancelled)*
  
- **Member Information & Calendar** *(Reminders; 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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### LIAISON COMMITTEE NEWS

#### Missouri Department of Transportation (HQ) Liaison Committee Meeting

The Missouri Department of Transportation (HQ) / ACECMO Liaison Committee met on April 29, 2020 by videoconference. ACEC/MO attendees included Buddy Desai, Kevin Eisenbeis, Howard Gotschall, David Maxwell, Dan Meckes, Linda Moen, Rod Sachtleben, Steve Wells, Todd Welz, and Bruce Wylie. They started the meeting off with introductions and MoDOT staff updates. Other items discussed included the following:

- COVID affect on work environment
- MoDOT budget projections
- ACEC member firms contacting elected officials on AASHTO position on stimulus for state DOT's
- MoDOT's centralized consultant negotiation pilot program
- MoDOT on-call process
- Various software updates
- Cancellation of conferences; multi-modal; and major design-build projects.

To see the complete minutes from this meeting, go to ACEC/MO's [website](https://www.acecmo.org). The next meeting will be held sometime in June, 2020.
MoDOT’s Director Patrick McKenna sent a special communication yesterday on the HEROES Act. Below is the communication he sent out. He also thanked us for our continued support of efforts at the state and national level to support the backstop for state transportation revenues that have been impacted by the pandemic. Here is a link to the HEROES Act: https://docs.house.gov/billsthisweek/20200511/BILLS-116hr6800ih.pdf.

Message from Director McKenna:
Starting on page 117 of the US House HEROES Act is almost verbatim what we have been pushing for the past month and a half along with AASHTO and state DOT counterparts around the country. This provides the first third of the revenue we need to backstop operations and capital programming. I know that there are many contentious and political issues with the broader bill, but I hope that you would agree that the surface transportation issues are vital to Missouri and would support these provisions – particularly if we can get them placed in an alternative maybe even bipartisan Senate bill. These are some of the requests for policy features for both the backstop money and the current FY 2020 FAST Act apportionments:

- Provides federal funding to state DOTs for operations, maintenance, construction and delivery of projects.
- Funds are apportioned based on each state’s share of federal formula funds under the FAST Act.
- Operating and maintenance expenses are eligible for reimbursement and these types of expenses do not need to be part of a TIP, STIP or long-range transportation plan.
- The federal share for costs of any project utilizing the appropriated funds and also FY2020 FAST Act apportioned funds may be up to 100%.
- Appropriated funds are available for obligation until September 30, 2021.
- Title 23 requirements shall apply to any appropriated funds used for construction purposes.
- The obligation limitation provided to a state under the FAST Act for FY2020 shall be available until September 30, 2021.

Here are the potential impact of state revenue reductions to our capital and operating activities absent action at the federal level or a quick return to normal economic and travel conditions:

For Missouri, we are currently estimating a 30 percent decline in state transportation revenues in the coming 18 months – a decline of approximately $925 million. It is estimated that the AASHTO $49.95 billion request would cover most of the Missouri transportation revenue loss. For the six months ending September 30, 2020 – and the $15 billion HEROES Act amount, Missouri would have an estimated $355 million apportioned – which would
reasonably cover that period of time and enable MoDOT to normalize activities. Absent Congressional action with this federal assistance there is deep and substantial impact to critical functions and transportation improvements in Missouri:

--State Impact to Transportation Expenditures, which include:

- Capital expenditures including capital projects and construction – Under the 30 percent revenue reduction scenario, approximately $2.1 billion in federal funds would go unmatched by the loss of $530 million in state funds for a total estimated construction awards reduction from an estimated $4.9 billion (SFY 2021-2025) to $2.3 billion. That is a reduction of approximately $2.6 billion in contractor awards including no new awards in 2021 – 2023. Under this scenario, no funds would be available for consultant design work or to purchase right of way. To put this into perspective, that would equate to approximately 400 bridges and 20,000 lane miles of Missouri roadways NOT being repaired that are in our current plan;

The remaining estimated revenue loss of approximately $395 million would have to come from the following areas:

- Operational expenditures - The majority of the department’s $614 million of annual operational expenditures (FY 2019) are for system operations, planning, safety, technology and innovation, information systems, traffic and congestion management, and fleet services. The level of service for activities like pavement repair, snow and ice removal and mowing would need to be reduced in order to redirect money to match federal funds. In addition, the department could be faced with difficult choices if an emergency arises such as flooding, due to not having sufficient resources to respond, and;

- Other state agencies – In Missouri, highway user fees of motor fuel tax and a portion of the motor vehicle and driver’s licensing fees, by constitutional provision fund not only transportation, but also two other state agencies, the Missouri State Highway Patrol and the Department of Revenue. The Missouri State Highway Patrol expenditures are limited by the appropriations made by the legislature. In fiscal year 2019, the Missouri State Highway Patrol expenditures totaled $239 million. The Department of Revenue expenditures are capped at 3 percent of the highway user fees collected and has been totaling approximately $21 million a year.

--Jobs impact both state and private sector – The impacts to jobs has not been quantified at this time, but it goes without saying that both state and private sector jobs could be impacted.

--Project impact in terms of delays and cancellations – Missouri has already acted to reduce the April and May lettings by approximately $60 million, and delayed construction agreements on the Governor’s General Revenue cost share program and the MHTC cost share program until FY 2021. Budget modifications in the General Assembly reduced the appropriation for the Governor’s cost share by $25 million and placed the remaining $25 million at risk for potential federal revenue stabilization funds should they become available. Additional consideration is being given to whether future lettings should be reduced or cancelled. Procurement review has been implemented to reduce or defer expenditures where possible without jeopardizing employee or public safety.

Finally, here is a link to an AASHTO Transportation Policy Forum held this week to discuss the HEROES Act and other updates on the pursuit of the transportation revenue backstop: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/recording/2048544501080377089.

Missouri Clean Water Commission Meetings

The Missouri Clean Water Commission recently posted the minutes from the January and February meetings. To see those approved meeting minutes, click the links below. Their next meetings are scheduled for July 8, 2020 at 10 a.m. and October 7, 2020 at 10 a.m. The department has posted past meeting minutes and information on upcoming on their website listed under the headings Meetings and Meeting Minutes.
Benefits of R&D Tax Credits

Corporate Tax Advisors put together a video on Research and Development (R&D) Tax Credits - What They Are and What They Mean to Your Business. Cameron Starnes, Director of Business Development, explains what the R&D tax credits are and who qualifies for them. If your firm hasn't taken advantage of the R&D Tax Credits, click [here](#) to watch the video.

### NOTABLE EVENTS

**Join us for a Key Contract Provisions Webinar**

The ACEC Business Insurance Trust and Greyling are hosting a free live webinar on "They Agreed (or did not Agree) to DO WHAT?" The webinar will be held on **Wednesday, June 17, 2020** from **4:00-5:00 PM EST**. Join Roseanne DeBellis, a Divisional Assistant Vice President at Great American Insurance Group, as she addresses the following contract concerns:

- Why is your contract important?
- Key Contract Provisions
- Claims Studies
- How can you protect yourself?

To register for this FREE webinar, click [HERE](#).

**New Dates Set for ACEC/MO's 2020 Future Leaders Academy**

We have set new dates for the final two sessions of ACEC/MO's 2020 Future Leaders Academy. They are scheduled for **August 17-18, 2020** in **St. Louis** and **September 1-2, 2020** in **Independence**. The revised program is posted on ACEC/MO's [website](#). Once these programs are completed, we will begin planning for the 2021 FLA program. Stay tuned for information on the 2021 program.

**ACEC Midwest States Conference Cancelled**

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, we made a decision last week 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 are also setting up a videoconference 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.
Reminders...

* 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**.

Calendar of Events

**August 17-18** -- ACEC/MO Future Leaders Academy, St. Louis  
**August 21** -- ACEC/MO Summer Meeting, Columbia  
**September 1-2** -- ACEC/MO Future Leaders Academy, Independence  
**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:** *We don't really manage time. We must manage ourselves.*  
TO DO: We all get the same 24 hours. It is what you manage to do with them that matters.