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


- **Notable Events** (Upcoming ACEC Diversity & Inclusion Webinars; FYI...More Free Webinars; ACEC to Host Finance, Human Resources & Information Technology Forums; ACEC Coalitions Announce Online Education Series; Register NOW for ACEC/MO’s 4th Annual ACEC/PAC Golf Tournament)

- **Member Information & Calendar** (Need Input on ACEC/MO Summer Meeting & Working Committee Session on August 21st; World’s Largest Golf Tournament to Benefit ACEC/PAC; Member News; Calendar of Events; Quote 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: Bruce Wylie (BruceWylie@acecmo.org) or Dawn Hill (DawnHill@acecmo.org). We would love to hear from you!

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**INDUSTRY NEWS**

**ACEC Action Alert: Urgent Senate Action Needed on Infrastructure**

Now that the House has approved a comprehensive infrastructure funding package, ACEC and other industry stakeholders are launching a joint effort to push the Senate to act on companion legislation. The centerpiece of the agenda in the Senate is bipartisan legislation to reauthorize and expand the nation’s surface transportation programs, with the FAST Act set to expire in September. Other infrastructure initiatives on water, broadband, and additional sectors may be included as well.

ACEC is also seeking fiscal relief for state and local governments hard hit by pandemic response actions. This includes immediate funding to state departments of transportation and transit agencies whose revenues have declined precipitously. This funding backstop will preserve critical services and keep projects from being cancelled or delayed. This one-two punch will kickstart a long-term economic recovery, but time is of the essence.

Please urge your Senators to act on major infrastructure legislation in July to support the nation’s economic recovery. Click [here](#) to contact your Senators.
TRIP Report on U.S. Interstate Highway System

A report released by TRIP confirms what American businesses experience every day—our interstate highway system, which was once the envy of the world, is in serious need of modernization. The U.S. interstate system faces $123 billion backlog in needed repairs and improvements. To see the full report by TRIP on restoring the interstate highway system, click here. The time for federal action is NOW!

Trump Administration Issues Final NEPA Rule

The final National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) rule issued by the Trump Administration on Wednesday is designed to streamline project delivery, cut red tape, and modernize the regulatory review process. Key components of the rule:

- Establishes presumptive time limits of two years for the preparation of environmental impact statements (EISs) and one year for the preparation of environmental assessments (EAs).
- Specifies presumptive page limits for EISs and EAs.
- Requires joint schedules, a single EIS, and a single record of decision (ROD), where appropriate, for EISs involving multiple Federal agencies.
- Strengthens the role of the lead agency and requires senior agency officials to oversee NEPA compliance, including timely resolution of disputes to avoid delays.
- Allows applicants/contractors to assume a greater role in preparing EISs with appropriate disclosure of financial or other interests and with supervision and independent evaluation by the agency.

Click here to view a fact sheet on the final rule. Click here to view the final rule. Click here to view the regulatory impact analysis.

House Committee Approves New WRDA Bill

The House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee has cleared a new water resources bill that would authorize an estimated $8.6 billion in federal funds to help finance 34 new Army Corps of Engineers construction projects. All of that funding is subject to annual congressional appropriations, however. To view the text of bill, click here. (Excludes committee-approved amendments.)

The new Water Resources Development Act, or WRDA, which the House committee approved on July 15 by an apparently unanimous voice vote, has the endorsement of top lawmakers on the committee from both parties—a rare occurrence in the current Congress, but par for the course with WRDA bills in recent years. The next step for the legislation is a floor vote, where the measure's strong vote in committee bodes well for passage. [...]

Click here to read the full article from Engineering News-Record.

MDNR Rural Sewer Grant - Limited Funding Available

The Missouri Department of Natural Resources offers Rural Sewer Grants to small communities in rural areas for the cost to construct a collection system for unsewered areas or to construct improvements to meet more stringent permit limits. Limited funding for Rural Sewer Grants is now available.

**Who is eligible?** Eligible applicants are public sewer districts, public water districts, and municipalities operating a wastewater treatment plant. Eligible applicants must have a population of less than 10,000 and not located, in whole or in part, in an area of St. Louis County or City encircled by Interstate Route 270, or in an
area of Jackson, Clay, or Platte counties encircled by State Routes 150 and 291 and Interstate Routes 29 and 635 are eligible to apply.

**What is eligible?** Eligible projects include construction of a wastewater collection system for an unsewered area or construction of wastewater improvements to meet more stringent permit limits.

**How much is eligible?** A Rural Sewer Grant may provide up to 50 percent of the total eligible costs of a project or $3,000 per the number of service connections, whichever is less, up to a maximum of $500,000. The balance of the eligible costs and all the ineligible costs must come from another funding source, of which the primary source of funding must be in place at the time of application, and documentation submitted with the application.

**How to apply** - The Department will accept applications on a first come, first served basis. If you are not certain about the eligibility of a project, please contact the Department’s Financial Assistance Center at 573-751-1192 or fac@dnr.mo.gov. Application information is available on their website.

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**Engineering Tech: What's Real and What's to Come?**
*by Medium.com*

With all of the technology buzzwords in the engineering industry today, it can be difficult to differentiate between what’s hype and what’s real. To clear up some of the confusion, the ACEC Research Institute brought together four experts for a roundtable in mid-June to discuss which cutting-edge technologies will likely have the biggest impact on the industry.

In “The Impact of Technology on Engineering” roundtable, McKinsey Partner Jose Luis Blanco, Autodesk VP of Research Mike Haley, ETH Zurich Director of Strategic Foresight Chris Luebkeman, and Jacobs SVP Technology and Innovation Heather Wishart-Smith recommended three technologies to track. [...] To read the full article on Medium.com, click here. To listed to the roundtable session that was held on June 18, click here.

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**One Digital World E-Book**

Black & Veatch understands digital innovation because they have been at the forefront of these advances from the early days of 1G, through today's push for 5G. Their newest One Digital World eBook dives into expert perspectives on how leaders are using advanced communications to fast-track their connected future and capture the value of 5G & IoT innovation in our communities, across highways and mobility systems, in our workforces, and on our electric grid.

To download a copy of Black & Veatch's One Digital World eBook, click here.

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**ACEC Life/Health Trust Loyalty Credit**

The ACEC Life/Health Trust (Trust) is crediting back over $10 million nationwide to firms in a Trust medical plan. To support member firms during these tough times, the Trust is giving back a percentage of each firm’s premium – automatically credited to their August 2020 invoice. Also, any firm that joins on or before August 1st, will receive 20% off their first month’s medical premium as part of the ACEC Life/Health Trust Loyalty Credit.
For 55 years, it's been their mission to support the physical and financial health of member firms. As firms focus on business objectives throughout the pandemic and resulting lockdowns, the Trust is grateful to be able to partner with firms in any way they can. To learn more, go to ACECLifeHealthTrust.com/Loyalty.

**NOTABLE EVENTS**

**Upcoming ACEC Diversity & Inclusion Webinars**

Diversity and Inclusion has been in our hearts and minds for many years. As company owners we are looking for ideas to be better champions for inclusion within our industry and within our offices; and to build relationships with and provide opportunities for people who are outside our social, educational or industry “network”. ACEC National recently announced a series of webinars to keep the conversation going. Please join us as we challenge each other to reach out and do more to promote diversity and inclusion in our regions. Also, ACEC will be announcing soon a new Diversity & Inclusion website. Be looking for information coming out soon on that website.

**July 29 @12:30 CDT**
Diversity & Inclusion: Lessons Learned and Program Examples
https://education.acec.org/diweb/catalog/item?id=5796897
Speakers: Panel of HR engineering firm professionals

**August 12 @12:30 CDT**
Diversity & Inclusion Keys to Success: DPCs Playbook on ACEC Firm's Best Practices
https://education.acec.org/diweb/catalog/item?id=5280274
Speakers: Doug McKeown, CEO, Chair, Woodard & Curran; Lisa Robert, Exec VP, R&SH; and Mike Carragher, CEO, VHB

**August 25 @12:30 CDT**
Unconscious Bias: Best Practices for Managing and Hiring
https://education.acec.org/diweb/catalog/item?id=5796913
Speaker: Chandra Storrusten, CEO & Chief Value Creation Officer, Visible Value

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**FYI...More Free Webinars**

Below is a list of upcoming FREE webinars provided by other companies. Click on the links below for more information and to register for the webinars.

**Porous Asphalt Pavement for Stormwater Management**
**Date/Time:** July 20, 2020 at 3:00 pm EST
This 1-hour presentation discusses the need for porous pavement, the design of the storm water management system, the system components and materials, and the construction of porous asphalt pavement to maximize the benefits. Based on the best management practices promulgated by the Departments of Environmental Protection, specifications for open-graded asphalt pavement, and lessons learned from actual construction projects across the United States, the presentation illustrates the best practices to ensure a long-lasting, effective storm water management system.
**ENR Leveraging Drone Technology Throughout the Construction Lifecycle**

Date/Time: July 22, 2020 at 2:00 pm EST

Join ENR 400 top contractor, Brasfield & Gorrie, to discover how the company is leveraging drone data at all stages of the construction lifecycle ranging from project pursuit, bid process, survey, progress documentation, QA/QC workflows, to client turnover. During this webinar, attendees will learn how to: 1) Cultivate innovation and establish trust within your organization; 2) Apply drone data at the job site level and beyond; 3) Streamline operations, workflows, and efficiency with drone data; and 4) Scale a drone program successfully and responsibly.

**A Dive into Commissioning of Desalination Plants**

Date/Time: July 23, 2020 at 9:00 am CST

Most often the commissioning of desalination plants is recognized as a custom-made recipe, however, it is typically comprised of two major stages: pre-commissioning and commissioning. The pre-commissioning phase is normally divided into static or no-load tests. Commissioning is determined by functional tests to verify the functional operation of the systems using water as well as interlocks and logic checks. Commissioning demands a comprehensive operational discipline, which should be communicated and coordinated based on the risk at each of the stages, the workplace, and the planned task. Safety and health always come first for every member of the work team.

**Weekly Negotiation Tribe Q&A**

Date/Time: Every Friday at 1:00 pm CST

The Negotiation Tribe is a community of diverse professionals. What do we have in common? We negotiate. We think a peaceful settlement with mutual consent is just what everyone needs! We value negotiation, not as a gimmick or tactic, but as a craft. Join Dan Oblinger and Allan Tsang for a live Zoom-delivered Negotiator Q&A.

**LinkedIn Offers Free Courses in Diversity and Inclusion**

Learn about the challenges and opportunities inherent in working in diverse organizations. This transformative learning path reviews current thinking and best practices on essential topics such as bias in all of its forms, cultural competence, communication, allyship, and accountability.

**ACEC to Host Finance, Human Resources & Information Technology Forums**

ACEC is hosting multiple forums scheduled for September 14-15, 2020 at The Westin Riverwalk, San Antonio, Texas. The Finance, Human Resources, and Information Technology Forums are all two-day workshops and each forum carries 10 PDHs. The programs go from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm on September 14 and from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm on September 15. Click on the links below for more details on each forum and to register.

**ACEC Finance Forum**: Register now for the ACEC Finance Forum - Two days of peer-to-peer learning, open discussion, problem-solving, and networking with your fellow finance professionals. Act fast - Early bird registration ends 7/31: [REGISTER](#).

**ACEC Human Resources Forum**: Register now for the ACEC HR Forum - Two days of open discussion, problem-solving, and networking with your fellow HR professionals. Act fast - Early bird registration ends 7/31: [REGISTER](#).
ACEC Information Technology Forum: Register now for the ACEC IT Forum - Two days of peer-to-peer information sharing, open discussion, problem-solving, and networking with your fellow IT professionals. Act fast - Early bird registration ends 7/31: REGISTER.

ACEC Coalitions Announce Online Education Summer Series

The ACEC Coalitions will host a series of online sessions of a variety of top-of-mind issues on August 6-7, 2020. ACEC’s advocacy team will provide a Capitol Hill update. Virtual roundtables will address project delivery, digital signature, 3D design, and more. Industry experts will lead breakout session on risk management, BIM 360 usage, and contract language. The sessions will run from 1:00 to 3:30 pm ET on August 6 and from 11:00 am to 2:15 pm ET on August 7. For more information, contact Heather Talbert at 202.682.4377 or htalbert@acec.org.

Register NOW for ACEC/MO’s 4th Annual ACEC/PAC Golf Tournament

Register now for ACEC/MO's 4th Annual ACEC/PAC Golf Tournament to be held on Monday, October 19, 2020 at the Columbia Country Club, 2210 N Country Club Drive, Columbia, MO 65201. Registration will begin at 10:00 a.m.; lunch will begin at 11:00 a.m.; and a shotgun start will be at 12:00 p.m. There will be a small reception and awards to conclude the day. The cost is $200 per person and includes green fees, cart, golf balls, prizes, refreshments, luncheon, and a reception. Only credit card payments or personal checks payable to ACEC/PAC are accepted for golf. To register for the golf tournament, click on the Register Now for ACEC/MO Golf Tournament for ACEC/PAC link below and information is also available on our website.

Corporate sponsors are needed to help cover the costs for golf, lunch, prizes, and other miscellaneous expenses. The sponsorship levels include: Platinum - $1,000; Gold - $750; Silver - $500; and Beverage Cart - $250. We will list all the sponsors on our website, in social media, and in our Weekly Updates. For more information on being a sponsor, please click on the Download Sponsor Info for ACEC/PAC Golf Tournament link below or go to our website.

MEMBER INFORMATION & CALENDAR

Need Input on ACEC/MO Summer Meeting & Working Committee Session on August 21st

The ACEC/MO Summer Meeting & Working Committee Session is scheduled for Friday, August 21, 2020. It is currently scheduled to occur at the Courtyard by Marriott Hotel in Columbia. With the impact of COVID-19, we are trying to make a decision on whether or not to have the meeting in-person or as a virtual meeting.
We sent out an survey link to members earlier this week to get your input. To help us make the best decision for the attendees, please take the brief 2-question survey by July 21st. We'll then notify members with our decision on the meeting. Click here to take the survey.

**World's Largest Golf Tournament to Benefit ACEC/PAC**

Join in--no matter where you are! How? It's simple! Grab a few colleagues and head out to your favorite course! Make a donation to the PAC and send in your scores. We'll host an awards night in September to give out prizes! *(All ACEC/PAC contributions will go towards meeting our goal for the national PAC.)*

**Sign up here to host a team!**

**See all of the details here!**

Federal election law requires political committees to use best efforts to report the name, mailing address, occupation, and name of employer of individuals whose contributions exceed $200 during an election cycle. An individual may not contribute more than a total of $5000 per election to the committee. Federal law prohibits contributions to the committee from the general treasury funds of a corporation, labor organizations or national banks (including corporate or other business entity credit cards), from any person contributing another’s funds, from a Federal government contractor, or from a foreign national who lacks permanent resident status. Contributions are not deductible for Federal income tax purposes.

**Member News**

**ABNA Engineering, Inc.** is elated to announce new additions to their transportation team: Jeanne Olubogun, P.E., as the new Transportation Department Manager; and Hamid Hadjri, P.E., PTOE, as Transportation Project Manager.

**Burns & McDonnell** announced that Jonathan Kadishson, Construction/Design-Build section manager, was selected as one of the inaugural Future 50 list by Project Management Institute - recognizing next generation leaders creating, building and transforming the world through notable projects.

**GBA, Inc.** is among the *Kansas City Business Journal*'s Top Architecture Firms. Their architects provide services in the corporate office, industrial, mission critical and life sciences industries.

**IMEG Corp** has been named an Outstanding Supplier for supporting Northrop Grumman's OmegA launch system. IMEG provided structural engineering design and services for the modification of the Mobile Launcher Platform-3 (MLP-3) at NASA’s Kennedy Space Center in Merritt Island, FL. The Omega rocket, used for national security missions, is on track for its first launch in spring 2021.

**Jacobs** announced that they were recognized as a Best Place to Work for Disability Inclusion. Their 90% score on the 2020 Disability Equality Index (DEI) by Disability:IN, the leading nonprofit resource for business disability inclusion worldwide, is a testament to the focus they've put on developing a culture where you can bring your whole self to work. In addition, they were also ranked on Forbes Best Employers for Diversity 2020 list for the first time, and for the second year in a row, they received a score of 100% on the Human Rights Campaign Foundation's 2020 Corporate Equality Index (CEI).

**Modjeski and Masters, Inc.** is excited to announce their Portageville Bridge replacement received a merit award from American Institute of Steel Construction in the Major Span project category and was featured on the cover of their most recent magazine. Check out the full edition to see who else received awards this year.
Prairie Engineers, P.C. welcomed the following staff members to their team in early 2020: Scott Perkins, as business development director; Caitlin Sands, as administrative professional; and Judy Stratton, as administrative professional.

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.

Quote of the Week

"Change Your Thoughts and You Change Your World." -- Norman Vincent Peale