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

- **COVID-19 News** *(ACEC Legislative Alert: Immediate Action Needed! COVID Economic Relief Package - Fall 2020; Covering Coronavirus: Risk Management & Employee Benefits Considerations; State of the Cloud: Data Center Global Cloud Report)*

- **Liaison Committee News** *(Missouri Department of Natural Resources Liaison Committee Meeting)*

- **Industry News** *(Recap of AASHTO Audit Committee Meeting and Discussions on Firm Overhead, PPP Loan Forgiveness; Changes in Obtaining PE Licensure; Clean Water State Revolving Fund Regionalization Incentive Grant Guidance Update; Engineering Influence Podcast: Mick Morrissey Offers Insights into the M&A Market)*

- **Notable Events** *(Highlights from ACEC/MO's 2020 Future Leaders Academy; ACEC/MO's Fall Meeting on November 13 Going Virtual; Confident Presence for Networking - Virtual or In-Person Webinar; FYI...More Free Webinars; 2021 EEA Project Competition - Entries Due October 19th; ACEC/MO's 4th Annual ACEC/PAC Golf Tournament)*

- **Member Information & Calendar** *(Member Renewals for 2020-21 Continue; State and National PAC Contributions Exceed Continue to Exceed Expectations; Member News; Calendar of Events)*

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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**COVID-19 NEWS**

**ACEC Legislative Alert: Immediate Action Needed! COVID Economic Relief Package - Fall 2020**

ACEC member action is requested to urge the House and Senate to include engineering industry priorities in the next round of COVID-19 relief. ACEC strongly supports addressing documented needs from major client organizations. Some of these items have been included to some extent in the House-passed HEROES Act and the recently released HEALS Act in the Senate.

As congressional leaders work with the Administration to develop a final bipartisan package, ACEC is seeking:

- **$37 billion in federal-aid highway funding for State DOTs** to backstop projected revenue losses over the next 5 years;
• $32 billion in assistance to transit agencies, to address serious revenue shortfalls resulting from the pandemic;
• Assistance to drinking water and wastewater systems, as utilities are anticipating an estimated $30 billion shortfall in revenues due to COVID-19;
• $10 billion for the Airport Improvement Program (AIP) to assist the nation’s airports;
• A correction of IRS guidance to clarify that expenses covered by PPP loan forgiveness are also tax deductible, which will provide needed tax relief for small and mid-sized engineering firms across the country;
• Liability safe harbor for employers that take reasonable efforts to comply with mandatory coronavirus standards and regulations.

Log in here to open a sample email. Click on the lawmaker’s name to edit the message. You are encouraged to personalize the email with firm-specific information and details about program cuts in your state. You can also send the sample letter without changes.

Covering Coronavirus: Risk Management & Employee Benefits Considerations

The global COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic remains both dynamic and fluid. We continue to see unprecedented disruptions at home and abroad. In this issue, we take a focused look at the below topics. To see the complete issue, click here.

1. FMCSA Extends Emergency Declaration
2. Business Interruption Update
3. PPP Loans: What's Next?
4. Contact Tracing Considerations for Employers
5. Remote Workplace Investigations
6. Temporary Cal/OSHA Change: CA Mask Shortage
7. Benefit Program Renewals
8. Presumptive Compensability Legislation Update

EPIC Market Pulse Survey
Creating Work/Life Balance During a Pandemic
Take Survey!

Upcoming Workers' Compensation Webinar
Save the Date | October 1
9:30 AM to 10:30 AM PT

Visit epicbrokers.com/coronavirus to catch up on all our coverage.

State of the Cloud: Data Center Global Cloud Report
by Cushman & Wakefield

The recent pandemic has accelerated the move of companies large and small to the major cloud services. They are drawn by the scalability and accessibility of these platforms that are in place to assist with the complexities of a fully distributed workforce. Whether hosting previously in-house applications or utilizing full Infrastructure-as-a-Service models, many of these key providers have risen to the forefront of importance to global business.

The three major services have each enjoyed strong growth in 2020, and plan to expand to additional regions and availability zones across developed and emerging markets. As the first in a regular series of updates on the data center cloud industry, the Cushman & Wakefield State of the Cloud report outlines recent wins, market share, and growth potential for major services and other providers. Click here to download the report to learn more.
Missouri Department of Natural Resources Liaison Committee Meeting

The Missouri Department of Natural Resources / ACECMO Liaison Committee held a Zoom meeting on August 5, 2020. Members in attendance were Chris Bergmann, Mark Bross, Chris Burns, Tom Gredell, Steve Hicks, Vicki LaRose, Rob Morrison, Brian Porter, and Dennis Stith. Items discussed at the meeting are listed below.

- MDNR Staff Changes, Numbers by Program and Overall Funding Outlook.
- How MDNR has been Impacted by COVID-19; State or MDNR COVID-19 Procedures; and Number or Percent of Staff Working Remotely.
- How to Make Submittals and Pay Fees.
- Meetings with Staff: is there a Meeting Preference (audio/video); Is there a Preferred Video Conference Platform?
- Status of MDNR Program Fee Increases.
- PSTIF/LUST/VCP/Superfund MRBCA Program and Regulations Update.
- SRF Updates / Status.
- Status of 2019 / Early 2020 Rule Revision Initiatives.
- Update on WOTUS.
- Update on Status of Water Program Fees and Timeline for Implementation.
- Update on Wet Weather Management Rule or "Blending."

To see the complete minutes from the meeting, click here or you can also download them from our website along with minutes from the most recent meetings. The next meeting is scheduled for December 8, 2020 at 10 am.

Recap of AASHTO Audit Committee Meeting and Discussions on Firm Overhead, PPP Loan Forgiveness

On Friday, August 28, Matt Reiffer and ACEC's FAR consultant Dan Purvine led a meeting between ACEC member firm representatives, CPA firms, and State DOT auditors at the virtual AASHTO Audit Committee conference. There were approximately 170 participants in the liaison meeting, the vast majority of whom were DOT representatives.
Matt and Dan reviewed the questions and concerns they are hearing from ACEC member firms about the impact of the pandemic and resulting changes in business practices on their overhead rates. While the specific circumstances vary for each firm, in general, many firms anticipate a lower overhead rate for 2020 because of decreased indirect costs (less travel, conferences, marketing activities, etc.) and increased direct costs from higher-than-expected staff utilization. Some firm indirect cost rates will go up because of work stoppages and a significant amount of unproductive labor, and/or because of increased IT equipment purchases to accommodate remote work.

Matt and Dan also noted the uncertainty about the FAR treatment and potential of a credit to indirect costs from forgiven PPP loans. They summarized the current federal guidance and ACEC engagement seeking correction and clarification on this issue, including the impact on firms performing primarily state and local agency work, not direct federal contracting.

One State DOT representative said that there have been some basic conversations among the state DOT auditors about the impact of the pandemic on firm rates. There seems to be an understanding among the DOTs that 2020 is an anomalous year and rates will fluctuate much more widely than under normal circumstances. They are also aware of the PPP questions and concerns. The topics will be on the agenda for an October meeting of the DOT auditors. None of the states have developed any specific guidance or response yet, as the year is not over and the specific impacts are not completely known. They also noted that they’d rely on FHWA guidance, especially on the FAR treatment of forgiven PPP loans.

ACEC and AASHTO representatives agreed to establish a small working group of members to continue talking through these issues and try to identify some consistent and reasonable options for accommodating industry concerns. No timeline was set, but there is an awareness of the urgency to provide as much certainty to firms as possible. FHWA officials will be included in those discussions. We’ll continue to keep you updated on this and other developments.

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**Changes to Obtaining PE Licensure**

DID YOU KNOW? Obtaining PE licensure (how and when) has changed in Missouri. Beginning with the April 2020 PE exam administration, instead of applying with the Missouri Registration Board, candidates wanting to sit for the Principles and Practice of Engineering (PE) Exam will register directly with NCEES by creating a MyNCEES account on NCEES's website at [https://account.ncees.org/login](https://account.ncees.org/login).

Also, in Missouri, individuals who hold a Bachelor of Science degree in engineering accredited by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology, Inc. (ABET) and who have already taken and passed the NCEES Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) Exam may take the PE Exam PRIOR to obtaining the requisite of 4 years of satisfactory engineering experience. For more info: [https://pr.mo.gov/professionalengineers-application-forms.asp](https://pr.mo.gov/professionalengineers-application-forms.asp).

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**Clean Water State Revolving Fund Regionalization Incentive Grant Guidance Update**

The Missouri Department of Natural Resources is placing on public notice for comment its updated Clean Water State Revolving Fund Regionalization Incentive Grant Guidance. This revision refines and clarifies grant eligibility and procedures. The Department will accept public comments until 5:00 p.m., September 28, 2020, from interested persons by the following means:

- Email fac@dnr.mo.gov with the subject line “CWSRF RIG Comments” (preferred); or
- Mail to the Department’s Water Protection Program, Attention: Financial Assistance Center, CWSRF RIG, P.O. Box 176, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0176.
Engineering Influence Podcast: Mick Morrissey Offers Insights into the M&A Market

On the latest ACEC Engineering Influence podcast, Morrissey Goodale Managing Partner Mick Morrissey discussed the current state of the M&A market in the engineering industry and offers insights and advice for potential sellers. "We anticipate that we're going to see lots more M&A activity and an uptick in M&A activity as we head into the back end of the year here in Q3 and Q4," Morrissey said. "I wouldn't be surprised if we end up the year very similar to where we were in 2019, which was a record year for deals, or maybe 5 percent or so beneath that level."

Morrissey said the market is strong for well-positioned firms. "Buyers are looking for quality," he said, "Firms that have got really strong backlog, that have got something special about them, that serve attractive clientele, that are located in a great part of the world in terms of the outlook for engineering services, or that have proprietary offerings that they have developed and where there is demand, they will continue to see strong demand and command high multiples." For owners looking to sell their firms, Morrissey recommends beginning the process long before it goes on the market.

"The best time to sell is when the economy is doing well, when your market is doing well, when your firm is doing well from a financial perspective, and before you're 60, because then typically a buyer is going to lock you up for three years," he said. "Most owners don't figure that out and they end up looking to sell when the economy is not good, when their markets are not good, when their firm's financial performance is weak, and when they're 65-plus. They lose all of the leverage that they could have had in any negotiations."

Click here to listen to the podcast.

NOTABLE EVENTS

Highlights from ACEC/MO's 2020 Future Leaders Academy

After moving the last 2 sessions of ACEC/MO's 2020 Future Leaders Academy due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, we finally completed them virtually. They were held on August 17-18 and September 1-2. Below are photos highlighting the speakers for each session as well as the participants attending the program. We are working with hotels to set dates for program in 2021 and will send out the meeting invite as soon as all the details are finalized.

ACEC/MO members and speakers attending virtual FLA program held on August 17-18, 2020.
ACEC/MO members and speakers attending virtual FLA program held on September 1-2, 2020.

Beth Quindry, Shockey Consulting, gave a presentation on Standing Out from the Crowd...In a Good Way on Aug. 17, 2020.


Kristen Leathers-Gratton, Affinis Corp, was a panelist for the Senior Leaders Roundtable on Sept. 2, 2020.

Linda Moen, EFK Moen, LLC, was a panelist for the Senior Leaders Roundtable on Sept. 2, 2020.
ACEC/MO's Fall Meeting on November 13
Going Virtual

After careful consideration, we made the decision to have the ACEC/MO Fall Meeting on **Friday, November 13th** as a virtual meeting. Below is a tentative schedule of events for the meeting. Once we have the details finalized, we'll send out registration information. Please put November 13th on your calendar and plan to join us virtually!!

**TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:**
8:00 AM - Environmental Committee Meeting  
9:05 AM - Governmental Affairs / Transportation Joint Committee Meeting  
10:10 AM - Business Practice Seminar on PPP Issues, Loan Forgiveness, Revenue Recognition Aspects and FAR/OH Rate Concerns  
12:15 PM - Virtual Lunch Speaker: Steve Hall, ACEC (will give perspective on election results and impact of the results on our legislative priorities going forward)  
1:15 PM - Board of Directors / Membership Meeting  
3:00 PM - Networking Happy Hour  

Confident Presence for Networking – Virtual or In-Person Webinar

Confident Presence for Networking is a fun and interactive presentation that will be held on **Wednesday, September 23, 2020** from **9:00-11:00 am**. The registration fee to attend is Member: $20 / Non-Member: $30 / CPSM: $15. ACEC/MO members will receive $10 off the registration fee. To get the code for the $10 off, contact Dawn Hill. The deadline to register is **Friday, September 18, 2020**. Click [HERE](#) to register for the webinar.

From start to finish, this is a session designed to help us get clear on what we want when we network and what gets in our way of experiencing that, and then quickly and efficiently takes care of those barriers, replacing awkwardness with ease, uncertainty with clarity, and anxiety with excitement.

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.

**Timely Claim Reporting and Why it Matters**  
**Wednesday, September 16, 2020 at 3:00 PM**

We do our best to avoid it, but accidents happen. Join us as we discuss the importance of timely claim reporting and how it may affect the overall spend and resolution of claims.

- How a small delay in workers’ compensation claims may increase both medical and indemnity dollars.
- Understanding the risk of paying out of pocket for initial treatment for work-related claims.
- Discuss how late reporting may increase chances of a 3rd party claim becoming litigated.
- How a delay in reporting an auto claim can lead to additional cost and delays to your business - regardless who is at fault.
- Understanding the hidden exposures when paying for auto accidents outside of insurance.
Unearthing Information: Creating Value Through Site Due Diligence
Thursday, September 17, 2020 at 11:00 AM

Development projects are all about “location, location, location.” Therefore, due diligence is critical to evaluating the advantages and barriers of locations before the investment is made. Key topics include: The questions to ask to get a valuable due diligence report; Examples of successes and pitfalls to avoid; and Discussion of additional funding considerations and add-on services.

Solving Infrastructure Challenges Through GIS and Civil BIM
Thursday, September 17, 2020 at 12:00 PM

AEC firms are tasked with the engineering, construction, and management of our critical infrastructure. They have historically been challenged to bring CAD, BIM, and GIS together to improve the waterways, roadways, and infrastructure we require to live our lives. These data, applications and professional expertise have been siloed, limiting the productivity, accuracy, and collaboration of project teams. Radical transformation of the working environment is changing the way AEC firms deliver work to their clients and to their community. Work processes are becoming more digital with growing demands for productivity and a distributed workforce. AEC firms that are able to adopt digital workflows to plan, design, build and operate will thrive. Others will fail! With the ArcGIS platform AEC firms are able to easily obtain, share, and analyze data, saving time and resources. ArcGIS improves coordination and efficiency, brings AEC projects to life through geographic context, and enables teams to engage and collaborate. In this webcast you will see these topics applied and learn about:

- A real-world infrastructure project illustrating a number of GIS in AEC workflows
- Civil engineering workflows combining Autodesk Civil3D and Esri ArcGIS
- Esri's AEC Project Delivery Subscription, a solution for digital delivery and collaboration.

Building for Performance - Building for People
Thursday, September 24, 2020 at 1:00 PM

Building and public space design is not just about improving the aesthetics of infrastructure, it's extremely important to consider the usability of the building for the inhabitants. The true success of designing a new or retrofit space lies in meeting the users’ needs, considering the health and safety of the people, and providing them an enjoyable experience. During this webinar, we'll discuss: Space Planning for Safe Social Distancing - Employees, Customers, and the General Public; Queuing and Crowd Management Simulations Respecting Social Distancing; Building Performance Analysis and Simulation to Support New Guidelines; Leveraging IOT Data and Digital Twins Project - Microsoft Asia-Pacific Headquarters Building; and Improving Facility Design and Performance with Pedestrian Simulation – AREP Projects.

Transforming Drone Programs from Cost Centers to Profit Centers
Tuesday, September 29, 2020 at 1:00 PM

Join ENR 400 top contractor, Layton Construction, to hear how to get the most value out of your corporate-wide drone program. Learn how to build and scale your operation that meets your operational needs and maximizes your investment return in a short amount of time. Corporate Manager, Jon Ferguson, and Visualization Coordinator, Austin Lay, will discuss how their team developed their drone program and share key insights, learnings, and best practices. Register for this webinar to learn how to: Invest in the right technologies and resources; Keep overhead costs down and deliver ROI within your first project; Drive the most value and build trust with key stakeholders, including project managers, executives, and clients; Streamline operations and workflows with drone data.
2021 EEA Project Competition - Entries Due October 19th

It's time again for our annual project competition! You can begin planning to submit your project entry for the ACEC/MO 2021 Engineering Excellence Awards (EEA) Competition. The deadline is **Monday, October 19, 2020** for the project entries to be submitted. All project entries must be submitted through ACEC/MO's online **EEA portal**. Check it out!! You will submit your project entry online. The only items you must submit to the ACEC/MO office is a USB flash drive with all the materials you submitted online and your entry fee.

If you wish to print out the Call for Entries that includes the rules, please go to our [website](#). You can also click on a link from that same page to submit your project entries or click on the link above.

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ACEC/MO’s 4th Annual ACEC/PAC Golf Tournament

ACEC/MO’s 4th Annual ACEC/PAC Golf Tournament is scheduled for **Monday, October 19, 2020**. It will be held at the Columbia Country Club, 2210 N. Country Club Drive, Columbia, MO 65201. Registration begins at 10 am. The cost is **$200** per person and includes green fees, cart, golf balls, prizes, refreshments, and lunch. The deadline to register is September 28, 2020. We will have the necessary safety measures in place so everyone can enjoy a beautiful day of golf with your peers. To register for the golf tournament, click [here](#) 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 levels of sponsorship include: Platinum - $1,000; Gold - $750; Silver - $500; and Beverage Cart - $250. For more information on being a sponsor, click [here](#) or go to our [website](#). We want to thank the below list of sponsors we have so far.

**Golf Tournament Sponsors:**
- Gold Sponsors: [Crawford, Murphy & Tilly, Inc.](#); Hg Consult, Inc.
- Silver Sponsors: [Oates Associates, Inc.](#)
- Beverage Cart Sponsors: [GBA, Inc.](#)

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**MEMBER INFORMATION & CALENDAR**

**Member Renewals for 2020-21 Continue**

Thank you to the following member firms and associate members that have renewed since posted our report last week. Thank you for your recent membership renewal and your investment in ACEC/MO for the 2020-21 year!

**MEMBER FIRMS:**
- Civil Design, Inc.
- Olsson Associates
- Structural Engineering Associates, Inc.

**ASSOCIATE MEMBERS:**
- Hinkle Law Firm, LLC
State and National PAC Contributions Continue to Exceed Expectations

As we continue to receive PAC contributions from members for the state and national PAC's, we are amazed by the support of our member firms, associate members and member representatives. A huge THANK YOU goes to the following member firms, associate members, and member representatives who have already contributed since our report last week. To help us reach our state and national goals, please go to our [website](#) for contribution information as well as a current list of state and national PAC contributions.

**STATE PAC CONTRIBUTIONS (goal: $25,000 / current: $19,734)**

**Member Representatives:**
Billy Cobb ● Jason Davis ● Stephen D. Hicks ● Jeannie Hoff ● Mike McKenna ● John Neyens ● Gregory O'Connor ● Paul H. Reitz ● Bill Robison ● Linda Rottinghaus ● Brad Schleeter

**Member Firms / Associate Members:**
Affinis Corp ● CDG Engineers ● Howe Company, LLC ● Lamp Rynearson ● Reitz & Jens, Inc. ● S.H. Smith & Company, Inc.

**NATIONAL PAC CONTRIBUTIONS (goal: $23,763 / current: $9,691)**

**Member Representatives:**
Robert A. Gilbert

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**Member News**

**Burns & McDonnell** announced they promoted the following 6 employees to principals: **Shawn Briggs**, project director for the Transmission & Distribution Group; **William Garcia**, construction manager in the Construction / Design-Build Group; **John Hesemann**, remediation department manager in the Environmental Services Group; **Danny Kaminsky**, project director for the Transmission & Distribution Group; **Kyle Roberts**, civil department manager in the Aviation & Federal Group; and **Eric Walters**, cybersecurity and IT department manager.

**Klingner & Associates, P.C.** announced that **Mike Klingner** has officially become an ACEC Fellow. This national program recognizes engineering leaders both within ACEC and their communities for their service, leadership, and personal commitment to the consulting engineering profession. Mike will be recognized at the 2020 ACEC Virtual Fall Conference on October 28-30.

**McClure Engineering Company** is excited to announce that the firm is Great Place to Work-Certified™ for the fourth consecutive time! Validated employee feedback gathered with Great Place to Work’s rigorous, data-driven methodology shows that 98% of team members have a consistently positive experience at McClure. Great Place to Work is the global authority on workplace culture, employee experience, and the leadership behaviors proven to deliver market-leading revenue and increased innovation.

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**Calendar of Events**

- **October 19** -- ACEC/MO EEA Project Entry Deadline
- **October 19** -- ACEC/MO 4th Annual ACEC/PAC Golf Tournament, Columbia
- **October 28-30** -- ACEC Fall Conference - virtual
- **November 10** -- ACEC/MO EEA Judging
- **November 13** -- ACEC/MO Fall Meeting - virtual

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