



## 2022 August NEWSLETTER: **THE CONNECTOR**



# LEADERSHIP & POLICY BRIEFING

ACEC ILLINOIS PRESIDENT & CEO - KEVIN ARTL



### State Update

The FY2023-2028 MYP is expected to be released later this week. Once details are known and available, we will distribute.

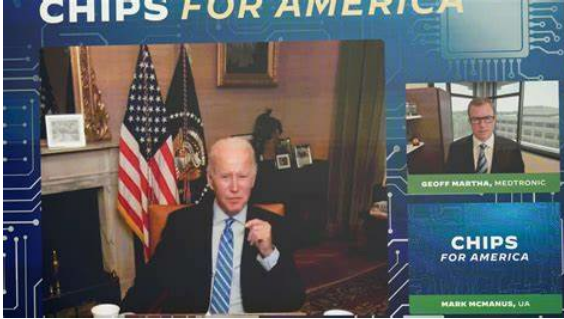
### Rebuild Illinois Revenues Meeting and Exceeding Projections

Transportation for Illinois Coalition monitoring of Rebuild Illinois revenue outlines that revenues continue to be very close to projections. July's revenues were within the margin of projections, which is promising given the record high price of gas and the impact that is having on personal and commercial travel decisions.

Under Rebuild Illinois, 20% of the State's share of the sales tax on motor fuel is transferred to the Road Fund. Prior to the passage of Rebuild Illinois all tax revenues derived from motor fuel sales went only to the *General Revenue Fund*. Given record high fuel prices at point of sale, the amount of sales tax revenues going to the Road Fund—as well as the state's General Revenue Fund has far exceeded projections. The Illinois Department of Revenue estimated the 1st Quarter of FY 22 receipts at \$7,517,299 a month, 2nd Quarter to \$9,997,707, and 3rd Quarter receipts at \$11.3 million. April began the 4th Quarter and the transfer for this Quarter has been increased to \$15.3 million per month. Following reconciliation of FY 22 sales tax revenues, the transfer into the *Road Fund* for July is expected to be \$32.4 million. [View the TFIC July Revenue Tracker.](#)

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### Federal Update



## CHIPS Legislation to Help Fund Stem and Create Tech and Innovation Hubs

President Biden will soon sign into law the Creating Helpful Incentives to Produce Semiconductors (CHIPS) and Science Act of 2022 ([section-by-section summary](#)). This new law provides tax incentives for domestic semiconductor manufacturing and authorizes funding for a wide range of related programs.

During the ACEC annual convention we advocated for the STEM education programs in the House and Senate versions of the bill as part of our workforce agenda. The law has an important emphasis on STEM education through the National Science Foundation (NSF) including the following programs:

- National Academies study on barriers to the widespread implementation of STEM education innovations in preK-12 education.
- Supports research and development to improve the alignment of undergraduate STEM education and training with workforce needs.
- Supports activities to facilitate career exploration for graduate students.
- Requires an assessment of incorporating new questions to existing NSF surveys on a range of topics related to the nature of the STEM workforce and the workforce environment.
- Supports research and development activities to increase the participation of women and underrepresented minorities in STEM studies and careers.

The CHIPS and Science Act also authorizes \$10 billion for the creation of 20 geographically distributed "regional technology and innovation hubs" to focus on technology development, job creation, and expanding U.S. innovation capacity. These research hubs are expected to spur commercial real estate development and the design work associated with it.

## Senate Passes Sweeping Tax, Climate and Health Care Bill Adds Over \$4 billion in Infrastructure Spending

Senate Democrats on Sunday passed their sweeping, \$740 billion tax, climate and health care reconciliation package after an all-night session, with Vice President Kamala Harris casting the tie-breaking vote. The House is expected to return in mid-August if the Senate can pass the bill next week.

Here is a [one-page summary](#) of the agreement. In addition to IRS funding to close the tax gap, the agreement includes a 15% minimum tax on publicly-traded corporations with over \$1 billion in profits. That provision is summarized as follows:

*15% CORPORATE MINIMUM TAX The current statutory corporate tax rate is 21%. However, some 200 or more large corporations use tax loopholes to avoid paying that rate and actually pay below 15%. The corporate alternative minimum tax (AMT) proposal would impose a 15 percent minimum tax on adjusted financial statement income for corporations with profits in excess of \$1 billion. Corporations would generally be eligible to claim net operating losses and tax credits against the AMT, and would be eligible to claim a tax credit against the regular corporate tax for AMT paid in prior years, to the extent the regular tax liability in any year exceeds 15 percent of the corporation's adjusted financial statement income. This provision would be effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2022.*

The [energy and climate change title](#) of the agreement includes the following provisions:

- \$60 billion for clean energy manufacturing, including production tax credits to accelerate U.S. manufacturing of solar panels, wind turbines, batteries, and critical minerals processing that are estimated to invest \$30 billion. Existing nuclear power plants receive a production tax credit.
- \$10 billion investment tax credit to build clean technology manufacturing facilities, like facilities that make electric vehicles, wind turbines and solar panels.

- Tax credits for clean sources of electricity and energy storage and roughly \$30 billion in targeted grant and loan programs for states and electric utilities to accelerate the transition to clean electricity.
- A mandate for offshore oil and gas lease sales in Gulf of Mexico and coast of Alaska.

With respect to infrastructure permitting, the bill provides funding for hiring new staff, support for environmental studies, technical assistance, and promoting community engagement. There are no provisions to streamline the environmental review or permitting process, although the deal announced yesterday includes a commitment from Democratic leadership to advance legislation on permitting reform later this year.

The agreement also includes the following spending provisions of interest to A/E firms:

#### Transportation

\$3 billion is provided for competitive grants – including \$1.11 billion specifically directed to economically disadvantaged or underserved communities – to improve walkability, safety, and affordable transportation access. Eligible projects include the removal, remediation, or replacement of a surface transportation facility for which high speeds, grade separation, or other design factors create an obstacle to connectivity within a community, or which is source of air pollution, noise, stormwater, or other burden; and, to build or improve complete streets, multiuse trails, regional greenways, or active transportation networks.

#### Federal Buildings

\$250 million for the General Services Administration to convert federal facilities to high-performance green buildings, and \$975 million to GSA for emerging technologies and related sustainability and environmental programs.



**U.S. Department  
of Transportation**

### DOT Proposes New DBE Rules

The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) has released a [proposed rule](#) to update the disadvantaged business enterprise (DBE) program and a [summary](#) of the proposed changes to the program. ACEC would appreciate feedback on these proposed changes by **August 19, 2022** so that we can draft and submit our comment letter by the September 19, 2022 comment deadline. ACEC members are welcome to submit their own comments directly to DOT, as well, which can be filed [here](#).

A few highlights of the proposed rule include:

- Raises the Personal Net Worth cap from \$1.32 million to \$1.6 million and excludes retirement assets from the calculation. Future adjustments would be made more regularly without a formal rulemaking.
- Aligns the rule for gross receipts calculations with the recent law that makes permanent the 5-year average calculation of gross receipts to determine business size for individual NAICS codes.
- Amends "ownership" requirements by replacing the "real, substantial, and continuing" capital contribution standard with a less-rigid standard of "reasonable economic sense" for transactions, along with several other changes.
- Amends "control" requirements for certification of eligibility, such that the disadvantaged owner must be the ultimate decision maker, have present control of the board of directors, have an overall understanding of the firm's operations to the extent necessary to make managerial decisions, and demonstrate revocable delegation of decision making.
- Expedites interstate certification: a firm would no longer have to provide another state a copy of the entire application package it submitted to the home state; it must only request certification in writing, provide evidence of home state certification, and submit a declaration of eligibility. Upon verification, the state must certify the firm within 10 business days.
- Adds a DBE performance plan requirement on Design-Build projects: requires a D-B responding to a Request for Proposal to submit an open-ended DBE Performance Plan

with the proposal to detail the types of work the prime will solicit DBEs to perform and a projected timeframe for actual subcontracts.

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## ACEC Launches Engineering and Public Works Roadshow to Highlight Engineering Accomplishments

ACEC is leading a partnership with the American Public Works Association (APWA) and the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) on a public awareness effort to highlight the meaningful, transformational work of engineers and public works professionals. The [Infrastructure Works: Engineering and Public Works Roadshow](#) will focus the public's attention on industry projects that improve climate resiliency, ensure the delivery of clean air and water, promote energy efficiency, and open access to mobility.

Learn more about the effort [here](#).

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### Upcoming Industry Events

#### [IDOT Fall Planning Conference - Save the Date - Sep. 21-23](#)

Illinois Department of Transportation will hold their Fall Planning Conference September 21-23, at the [Embassy Suites - Rockford](#). Network with program administrators, transportation engineers, and planning professionals. The agenda and conference registration link will be coming soon - [visit the conference page for more information](#).

#### [SOS Children's Villages--Save the Date -August 25, 2022](#)

[SOS Children's Villages Illinois](#) invites you to join fellow ACEC IL members and friends to support [Evening of Hope 2022](#) on Thursday, August 25, 2022, at the IBEW Local 134 Union Hall, 2722 S. Martin Luther King Drive, Chicago, IL 60616. The VIP reception begins at 5:00 PM and the main event is from 6:00-10:00 PM. Proceeds will support the youth in foster care at SOS Illinois to ensure that they have the best chance for a bright future. [Download Evening of Hope 2022 sponsorship package](#). [Visit the event website](#) for more information and registration.

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Thanks,  
*Kevin Artl*  
President and CEO  
American Council of Engineering Companies of Illinois

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# 2021-2022 ANNUAL REPORT

More than...

# 200

Consulting  
Engineering  
Firms

Representing...

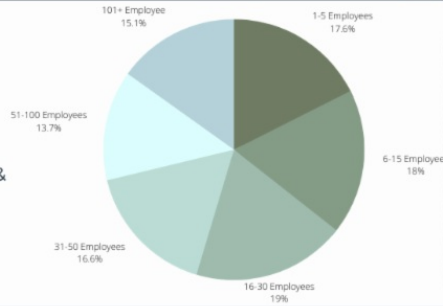
# 11,700+

EMPLOYEES



## TOP AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Civil
- Environmental
- Geotechnical
- Mechanical, Electrical & Plumbing
- Surveying & Mapping
- Structural
- Transportation
- Water Resources



## NETWORKING

10,000+ Event Attendees

Webinars 60+

28 Committees

## STATE PAC

180 FIRMS CONTRIBUTED  
\$35,657 RAISED

## social media

1041 FOLLOWERS

1591 FOLLOWERS

269 FOLLOWERS

33 Projects Submitted



ENGINEERING  
EXCELLENCE  
AWARDS 2022

## NATIONAL PAC

#4 IN NATION  
312 DONORS  
\$65,100+ RAISED

39

Affiliate  
Member  
FIRMS

## LEGISLATION

12,030 Bills introduced in the 102nd General Assembly Session

137 ACEC Illinois tracked bills that impact our industry

7 ACEC Illinois was invited to testify at legislative hearings

## key highlights

Led efforts to oppose legislative attempts to freeze or rollback Rebuild Illinois funding - protecting over \$500 million in road funds

Negotiated Illinois' first Design-Build legislation for transportation infrastructure

Introduce HR 682 codifying QBS as a superior procurement process and law of the land

## advocacy

29

Media placements across the state highlighting ACEC Illinois' advocacy efforts, including passage of IJJA, need for more engineers and protecting the Road Fund

LEARN MORE AT [WWW.ACECIL.ORG](http://WWW.ACECIL.ORG)

# BOARD MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

**John Clark, P.E., ENV SP**  
Executive Vice President



**How long have you been in the Engineering industry?**

25 Years

**What position(s) have you held within the ACEC-IL organization?**

IDOT Central Office Committee Chair, IDOT Central Office Education Subcommittee Chair, Innovation 3D Modeling Subcommittee Chair

**What's the number one reason firms should become an ACEC-IL member?**

ACEC-IL offers opportunities for networking, professional development, and allows member firms to be directly involved and engaged in advocating to improve the engineering consulting business environment in our state. Our firm also takes advantage of the ACEC Health Insurance and Retirement plans. These plans allow our firm to benefit from group coverage rates that would not normally be available to a smaller firm.

**What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?**

Playing electric guitar with my ACEC-IL buddies in the civil engineering industry band, cycling, outdoor activities and spending quality time with my wife and 3 kids!

**Tell us one fun fact about yourself.**

I have ridden my bike across the State of Iowa several times in RAGBRAI, the largest bike-touring event in the world.

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## AFFILIATE MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



**Wyatt Quigley**

Account Executive  
847.818.7524  
WQuigley@jkrug.com

J. Krug | 1 Pierce Place Suite 1250W Itasca, IL 60143 | www.JKrug.com



**What does your business do?**

Founded in 1982, J. Krug has grown to become one of Illinois' top independent insurance brokerages and risk management firms. Offering a variety of services from Business Insurance Solutions, Group Health & Employee Benefits, to 401k Advisory & Wealth Management Services.

**What is the benefit of doing business with you?**

When you need us, we're here. When you work with J. Krug, you can be sure that you will

receive the highest level of service every day. We provide answers and solutions when you need them and sound expert advice based on our knowledge and experience. J. Krug works only with premier insurance carriers and elite service providers. Our team is dedicated, skilled and professional.

### Why are you a part of ACEC-IL?

J. Krug has specialties in niche industries, one of them being Engineering Services. We take a hands-on approach when it comes to educating our clients of what risks they face and the coverages they are purchasing. Our goal is to help design the program that best fits your specific needs and protect the assets you work hard to earn.

### What is your business's motto?

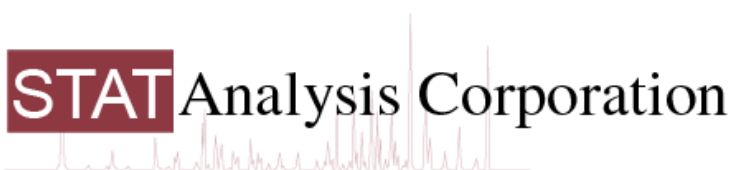
Relax You're Covered

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# NEW AFFILIATE MEMBER

## STAT Analysis

2242 West Harrison Street, Suite 200  
Chicago, IL 60612  
312-773-0551  
[www.statanalysis.com](http://www.statanalysis.com)



## Lindsay Corporation

18135 Burke Street, Suite 100  
Omaha, NE 68022  
402-829-6800  
[www.lindsay.com](http://www.lindsay.com)



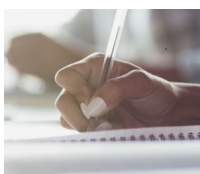
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# UPCOMING EVENTS

SAVE THE DATE



ADVOCACY



EDUCATIONAL



BUSINESS



## Regional Luncheon: CMAP Overview

August 16, 2022 | 11:30am - 1:30pm

Join us for a Regional Luncheon for an overview of CMAP. This will cover where we are now and where we might be headed with these new funding sources becoming available as well as all of the regional transportation needs.

### AGENDA:

11:30am Networking

12pm Lunch

12:45pm Speaker

1:30pm Conclusion

Register [Here](#)

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**Phase 2 Environmental Coordination and Survey  
Request Educational Seminar**

August 31, 2022 | 7:30am - 12pm

**REGISTRATION FEES:**

Member \$150

Non-Member \$300

**SPONSORSHIP:**

Platinum: \$500 2 Tickets Recognition at event and on social media

\*3 PDH's for all attendees

Register [Here](#)

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**SAVE THE DATE: 2022 IDOT Bridge Seminar (Springfield)**

September 7, 2022 at 8am to September 8, 2022 at 4:30pm

**Location:**

Crowne Plaza

3000 S. Dirksen Parkway

Springfield, IL 62703

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**SAVE THE DATE: 2022 IDOT Bridge Seminar (Naperville)**

September 28, 2022 at 8am to September 29, 2022 at 4:30pm

**Location:**

Embassy Suites

1823 Abriter Court

Naperville, IL 60563

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**SAVE THE DATE: Fall Conference**

October 5-6, 2022

**Location:** Peoria Marriott Pere Marquette

501 Main Street, Peoria, IL 61602

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## UPCOMING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Click Here: [Committee Meeting Schedule \(acecil.org\)](#)

Please contact Emily Martinez, Director of Membership, for committee meeting details: [emily@acecil.org](mailto:emily@acecil.org)

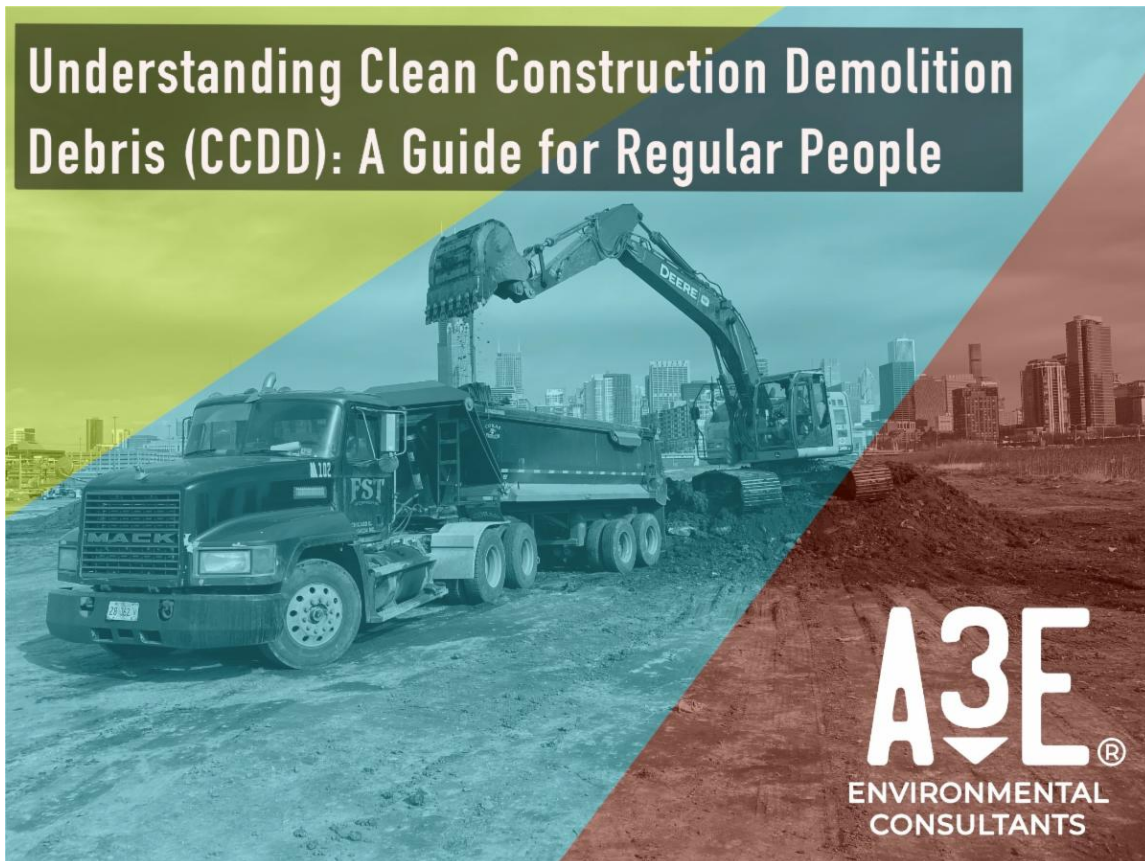


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# MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

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## Understanding Clean Construction Demolition Debris (CCDD): A Guide for Regular People



The following is a guide for regular people regarding CCDD – which stands for Clean Construction Demolition Debris. In this primer, we’re going to take a beat to cover background information you’ll need to keep in mind while reading. I’m making the assumption that you, the reader, is not an engineer or environmental consultant but is in an industry that is touched by these regulations. This will be written to keep the technical jargon to a minimum and explain things thoroughly.

[Full Article Here](#)

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**Ciorba Welcomes  
Adam Hacker, P.E. as  
Water Resources  
Project Manager**



Ciorba Group is pleased to welcome Adam Hacker to our team as a Water Resources Project Manager with over 15 years of experience in roadway drainage and water resources design. His project experience includes preliminary and final design engineering for transportation drainage design; hydrologic and hydraulic modeling; water quality BMP design; floodplain mapping and damage analysis; and floodplain and stormwater permitting.

Adam earned his Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology. We are thrilled to have Adam on our team!

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ACEC is leading a partnership with the American Public Works Association (APWA) and the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) on a public awareness effort to highlight the meaningful, transformational work of engineers and public works professionals. The **Infrastructure Works: Engineering and Public Works Roadshow** will focus the public’s attention on industry projects that improve climate resiliency, ensure the delivery of clean air and water, promote energy efficiency, and open access to mobility.

The partnership comes at a critical time. According to the ACEC Research Institute, the bipartisan infrastructure bill Congress passed earlier this year is expected to add more than 82,000 full-and part-time jobs in engineering, public works, and design services over the next five years. Finding the professionals to fill these roles is critical now at a time when workforce shortages are already threatening the timely and successful completion of essential construction and design projects across the nation.

The importance of filling the talent pipeline for engineering and public works jobs has been underscored by the Biden Administration’s announced summer-long “Talent Pipeline Challenge.” The campaign will help amplify this effort with students and future employees by showcasing the dynamic projects engineering and public works professionals design across the country.

“This partnership brings together three leading organizations representing the engineering and

design community and the clients they serve,” said ACEC President and CEO Linda Bauer Darr. “This campaign will focus public attention on the fact that engineering is essential to our modern society and demonstrate why policymakers and clients should continue to invest in engineering solutions and students should plan to join the ranks of the nation’s best problem solvers...because they are needed now more than ever.”

Learn more about the effort [here](#).

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## **A Closer Look at the Red Rate Hike with Economist Ken McGill**



[LISTEN HERE](#)

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## **A Closer Look at QBS**



[LISTEN HERE](#)

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## **"Hazel" Arrives in Alexandria as the RiverRenew Program Reaches Major Milestone**



A new 380-ton, 14 feet 8 inches tall tunnel boring machine (TBM) named Hazel has been unveiled by AlexRenew, Alexandria's wastewater authority, marking a significant milestone in its RiverRenew program to improve local waterways.

Making its way from Schwanau, Germany, to Alexandria, a welcome reception was held on July 14 to celebrate Hazel's arrival, with over 100 attendees including City of Alexandria Mayor Justin Wilson.

“Today is a monumental day for Alexandria and our waterways,” said AlexRenew General Manager Karen Pallansch. “It’s a huge step forward in our commitment to deliver healthier waterways by 2025.”

Typically, a TBM is named prior to launch per 14th-century mining traditions. TBMs have historically carried a feminine name, as underground workers looked to Saint Barbara for protection. Keeping with this long-standing custom, AlexRenew nominated the names of six women whose outstanding contributions to Alexandria, the environment, or the engineering and construction fields, have paved the way for countless others.

As voted by Alexandrians via an online poll, the TBM was unveiled at the ceremony as “Hazel,” in recognition of Hazel Johnson, one of America’s leading women pioneers for environmental justice who dedicated her life to fixing ecological issues.

The arrival and dedication of the TBM is a major milestone for RiverRenew, the largest infrastructure project in Alexandria’s history, and a critical part of meeting a state-mandated deadline to remediate combined sewer overflows by July 1, 2025. Once lowered more than 100 feet below ground, Hazel will build the new two-mile Waterfront Tunnel with little service interruption on a journey estimated to take just over a year to complete.

After completion, the RiverRenew tunnel system will prevent over 120 million gallons of combined sewage from polluting the Potomac River, Hunting Creek, and Hooffs Run each year.

Leading environmental engineering and construction services firm Brown and Caldwell serves as the Owner’s Advisor on the RiverRenew program.

“It really is a generational project – for us as engineers and planners – but also for Alexandria and future generations who will benefit from healthier waterways,” said Brown and Caldwell Project Manager Justin Carl.

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Check our more events, like the **Spring Golf Outing and Meeting :**

[Photo Gallery](#)



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## FURRY FRIENDS

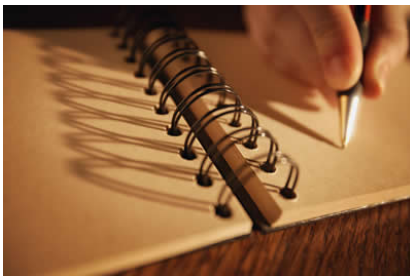
#ACECILPETS



We would love to see your furry coworkers!

Tag us in your posts:

**#ACECILPETS**



## SUBMIT UPDATES & ARTICLES:

Please submit firm update & news articles by the 15th of each month to: [bethany@acecil.org](mailto:bethany@acecil.org)

Articles and updates will be included in the membership newsletter, posted on our website, and shared through our social media feeds.

Website: [www.acecil.org](http://www.acecil.org)

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