



2020 September NEWSLETTER: **THE CONNECTOR**



LEADERSHIP & POLICY BRIEFING

ACEC Illinois President & CEO – Kevin Artl

August was a busy month at ACEC IL, here's a recap of some of the key news and events—

ACEC IL Testifies at Illinois State Senate Hearings on IDOT and Tollway

ACEC IL was invited to speak as subject matter experts during the Illinois Senate Transportation Committee's hearings on Tollway and IDOT practices surrounding transparency and equity. During both hearings, I asked lawmakers to extend the usage of electronic signature approval for contracts, invoicing, permitting and anything else that had previously required a wet signature. For the IDOT Hearing, ACEC IL also advocated for enhanced compensation for IDOT employees so that they can retain key staff and also begin filling vacant positions. The joint ACEC IL/IDOT working group on Local Roads was also mentioned as an example of the way industry and agency work together to find best practices.

As City of Chicago Considers Capital Plan, ACEC IL Provides Testimony and Support

Facing a \$2.7b shortage of funds to address a \$4.4b infrastructure backlog, ACEC IL urged the Chicago City Council Committee on Capital and Economic Development advance and approve a capital funding plan at their hearing in August. CDOT Commissioner Gia Biagi estimated that 18-20 percent of the city's residential streets are in need of repair and that the average age of the city's 40 bascule bridges is 83 years.

ACEC IL Meets with Senate President Don Harmon and Assistant House Majority Leader Jay Hoffman

From Oak Park to O'Fallon, ACEC IL is traveling the state to meet with Illinois' top policy makers. In meetings this month with Senate President Don Harmon and Assistant House Majority Leader Jay Hoffman, ACEC IL outlined goals and objectives for the Fall Veto Session, which included ensuring the Rebuild Illinois program continues on schedule, legislation to allow for electronic signatures and the rebuilding and re-staffing of IDOT.

PPP Conversations Ongoing

ACEC IL has been working with consultants Dan Purvine of A/E Clarity and Scott Sutton of Somerset CPA to find the best direction and approach to resolve the current confusion over PPP forgiveness. Last week, ACEC IL along with Scott Sutton participated in a conference call with House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Members staff to outline the problem in detail and seek

potential legislative solutions.

ACEC IL Participates in Midwest State "Virtual" Conference

ACEC IL joined with ACEC state organizations from Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, Missouri, Minnesota and Wisconsin. Representing Illinois at this conference was myself, Board Chair Orhan Ilgaz Ulger, Board Chair Elect Steve Donahue and National Director Mark Harms. Among the topic items were addressing the PPP loan forgiveness issues, improving diversity and inclusion and sharing current state issues with motor fuel tax funding challenges.

Quick Takes

- MFT receipts continue to increase. July MFT receipts increased by 8% over June. Overall, in July Illinois captured 86% of anticipated MFT receipts.
- Congrats to both IDOT and MoDot for earning the prestigious regional transportation award from Midwest states in the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials for their work on the replacement of the Champ Clark Bridge.
- US Senator Dick Durbin has just been added to our list of speakers for the Fall Conference, if you haven't registered yet, sign up today.

[Click here to register.](#) Sponsorships still available.

- Reminder, if you are preparing presentations regarding IDOT projects for outside associations, please remember to coordinate with IDOT.

Check Your Calendar

More details are included below, but here are some key upcoming events:

- **ACEC IL Fall Virtual Conference**—Over 18 pdhs available that include sessions with leadership from IDOT, Tollway and CDB along with State and Congressional Leaders.

[Register today.](#)

- **Sexual Harassment Training**-- Since Illinois made sexual harassment training mandatory for every Illinois employer beginning in 2020, Illinois employers are searching to find the minimum standards and content necessary to be in compliance. This seminar will provide attendees a thorough understanding of the new law, its legal requirements and will complete the mandatory training. [Register Today.](#)

Thanks and if you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact me.

Kevin Artl
President and CEO
ACEC Illinois

EEA ANNOUNCEMENT

Please be watching for our Engineering Excellence Awards Call for Entries date to be released the second week of September!

We are excited for another great year of submittals!



SUBMIT UPDATES & ARTICLES:

Please submit firm update & news articles by the 15th of each month to: 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

save the date

UPCOMING EVENTS



ADVOCACY



EDUCATIONAL



BUSINESS



Sexual Harassment Webinar

Wednesday, September 16, 2020

10:00 AM - 11:00AM CT

Register Here: <https://www.cvent.com/d/h7q14x>

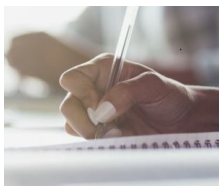


Virtual: IDOT Bridge Seminar

Dates: 9/29, 9/30, 10/1, 10/5, 10/7, 10/13, 10/15

Time 11:00am - 1:00pm

Registration: [HERE](#)



2021 Leadership Series

January 2021 - June 2021

One Session a Month

PDH's

Limited Availability

*more information coming soon!

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES *of Illinois*



2020 FALL CONFERENCE

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 21 – FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 25 · DAILY E-TRAINING

Please join us for the 2020 Virtual ACEC IL Fall Conference!

We are offering over 18 sessions with PDH's. All sessions will be recorded, live, and emailed to attendees!

Click below for
AGENDA, REGISTRATION, SPEAKERS & SPONSORSHIPS:
<https://cvent.me/xq93VX>

THANK YOU 2020 Virtual Fall Conference Sponsors:

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***VIRTUAL FALL CONFERENCE SPONSORSHIPS**

MEMBER UPDATES:

Jacobs is pleased to announce the newest addition to our Highway Engineering Team, Ken Eng!



Ken Eng, PE will serve as a Senior Manager in our Chicago, Illinois Highways group. Prior to Jacobs, Ken spent the first 30 years of his career rising in the ranks at the Illinois Department of Transportation's District One. Starting as a Civil Engineer in 1989, Ken progressed to the position of Bureau Chief of Design, a role he served in for the past 6 years. An expert in highway design, Ken is committed to providing high quality service to deliver world class infrastructure projects.

Principal Highways Engineer
Chicago, Illinois, USA

Jacobs Challenging today.
Reinventing tomorrow.

(Continue reading article [here](#))

WELCOME NEW MEMBER:

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WELCOME NEW AFFILIATE MEMBER:



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www.GoCGO.com

2020 ACEC-IL Fall ACEC/PAC Raffle

\$25.00/Ticket

Drawing to be held: Thursday, September 24, 2020.



1st Prize:
**\$250 Maui Jim Sunglasses
Gift Card**

Visit Maui Jim



2nd Prize:
**\$100 Cooper's Hawk
Gift Card**

Visit Cooper's Hawk



3rd Prize:
\$50 Amazon Gift Card

Visit Amazon

Contribute [HERE](#)
