



ACEC

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES
of Illinois

2021 November NEWSLETTER: **THE CONNECTOR**



LEADERSHIP & POLICY BRIEFING

ACEC Illinois President & CEO – Kevin Artl

Federal Update

Infrastructure Week...maybe?

House Democrats indicate they are prepared to move forward this week on both infrastructure and reconciliation amidst Senator Manchin's announcement he was still opposed to the \$1.75 trillion social spending package in the reconciliation bill.

[NBC: House Democrats eye Tuesday vote on infrastructure and safety net bills](#)
[Newsweek: Manchin Doesn't Back Spending Bill](#)

What Infrastructure is in the Reconciliation Bill?

The majority of infrastructure spend being considered exists inside the Senate Bi-Partisan Bill ([Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act](#)) however the [current House version](#) of the \$1.75 trillion reconciliation bill contains nearly \$40 billion in additional spend on infrastructure, including:

- \$10 billion for a new program to improve transit access in low-income communities
- \$10 billion for high-speed-rail planning; and,
- Funding for carbon emissions reduction program and a national clearinghouse for fair and equitable traffic safety enforcement programs.

Federal Vaccine Mandate Update—New Guidance

Yesterday, the Safer Federal Workforce Taskforce released new guidance for federal contractors. Included are new guidance and steps that employers should take in the event of an employee's refusal to receive a vaccination, what workplace safety protocols need to be followed for those that have received an accommodation, and how corporate affiliates are treated with respect to being a covered contractor.

The new guidance can be found [here](#).

ACEC [has written](#) the Biden Administration with the support of other associations in the built environment, requesting more flexibility for federal contractors.

Some additional links of interest can be found below:

[Are Federal Contractors Immunized From Vaccination Litigation?](#)

[Five Key Takeaways For Colleges and Universities From the New Federal Vaccination Mandate](#)

[White House Signals Flexibility Over Dec. 8 Vaccine Deadline.](#)



Illinois Update

REBUILD ILLINOIS Revenue Updates

MFT Revenue Dips in October, Vehicle Registration Revenue Continues to Lag

The October combined revenue (both Motor Fuel Tax Fund and Transportation Renewal Fund) was \$193.7 million. On a dollar basis, this represents a \$86.1 million dollar increase over the pre-Rebuild Illinois average (FY 16 – FY 19). However, it represents a 11.9% reduction in consumption when compared to the same pre-Rebuild Illinois period. This is a decline from September consumption which was only 0.4% short of pre-Rebuild Illinois levels.

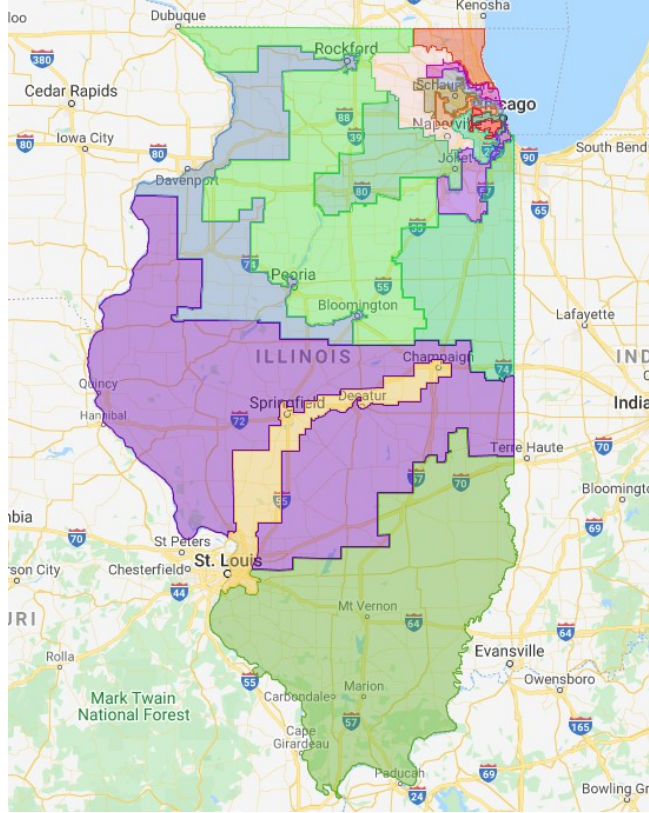
The October revenue for motor vehicle registrations was \$80.4 million. This represents a \$5.9 million or 7% decrease under pre-Rebuild Illinois October revenue (FY 19) and a \$49 million or 38% decrease under expectation.

General Assembly Approves Congressional Redistricting

Last week, the General Assembly approved new congressional district maps that should solidify the Democrat majority in the Illinois delegation. [You can view the new maps here.](#)

Following the release of the new maps, Cong. Adam Kinzinger—who was drawn into the same district as Cong. Darrin LaHood announced he would not seek re-election. Other pairings created by the map include Cong. Marie Newman and Cong. Chuy Garcia were drawn into the new 4th District—although Cong. Newman has indicated she will run against Cong. Sean Casten in the 6th District. Also, Cong. Mike Bost and Cong. Mary Miller were drawn into the new 12th District, Cong. Miller has not indicated yet if she will seek re-election.

The new map does create a new district that runs from West Chicago to Logan Square, no incumbent is currently in the district, but media reports have indicated that current Chicago Alderman Gil Villegas is considering running in that seat.



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

A video thumbnail featuring a white flag with a play button icon in the center. The background is a dark, textured surface. On the right side, there is a white-bordered box containing text about legislation.

LEGISLATION

16,914 bills introduced in the 101st and 102nd General Assembly Sessions

ACEC Illinois tracked 183 bills that impacted our member firms

ACEC Illinois testified in 5 legislative hearings



BOARD MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Greg Cook
Principal
Farnsworth Group

How long have you been in the Engineering industry?

- 27 years

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

- Director and a member of several committees (Engineering Excellence Awards; Financial Management; Illinois Tollway; Regional Informational Luncheons; IDOT Liaison)

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

- Partnerships. ACEC-IL provides numerous opportunities for firms to network and build strong relationships to better navigate the various challenges presented to our industry.

What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?

- Family time with my daughter; Golf; Fishing; Exercise; Card/Board Games; Travel; Attending sporting events

Tell us one fun fact about yourself.

- I was a volunteer at the “2020” Ryder Cup (held in 2021 due to COVID) hosted at Whistling Straights Golf Club near Sheboygan, WI and operated the scoreboards.



Congratulations to
William Klingner of
Klingner & Associates, P.C.
for receiving the
ACEC National
Young Professional
of the Year Award!

save the date

UPCOMING EVENTS



ADVOCACY



EDUCATIONAL



BUSINESS



Complimentary Webinar: Marketing Yourself Internally November 10, 2021 12:00pm-1:00pm

Complimentary Webinar: Marketing Yourself Internally We all know it's a tight job market out there in our industry, and the opportunity to move companies is omnipresent. But what if you like the company you are at? What can one do to market yourself to those you are already working with so that they know you either want to make a change to a different group or that you are looking for that next step to a promotion? ...Then register for this webinar!

Details and Registration [Here](#)



Top Golf - Social Event for Emerging Professionals November 18, 2021 5:30pm-7:30pm

Emerging Professionals, this is your Networking Opportunity! Come play Topgolf, laugh, eat, drink and get to know your professional peers. WHAT TO EXPECT: 5:30-7:30pm Golf Bays open for play *1 drink ticket provided *appetizers provided Charge: \$75 - 2 hours play, drink, appetizers Does your firm want to sponsor? \$200 - 2 attendees, 2 hours of play, drink tickets, appetizers and your firm logo displayed on food table and within our social posts and emails.

Details and Registration [Here](#)



Save the Date: City Agency Regional Luncheon December 7, 2021 11am-1:30pm

SAVE THE DATE: City Agency Regional Luncheon Details coming soon!

Save the Date: Membership Reception with IDOT Secretary Osman-



Springfield, IL

December 13, 2021 6pm-9pm

Join ACEC Illinois at the **Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum** for a Membership Reception with IDOT Secretary Omer Osman. 6:00-9:00pm Museum Tours 7:00pm Remarks Come networking and enjoy appetizers and open bar all evening!



Save the Date: Membership Reception with IDOT Secretary Osman- Chicago, IL

December 15, 2021 5:30pm-7:30pm

Join ACEC Illinois at the **Union League Club of Chicago** for a Membership Reception with IDOT Secretary Omer Osman. 5:30-7:30pm Come networking and enjoy appetizers and open bar all evening!



Save the Date:

Regional Luncheon with Illinois Tollway Executive Director Jose Alvarez

January 25, 2022 11am-1:30pm

SAVE THE DATE: Regional Luncheon with IL Tollway Executive Director José Alvarez Details coming soon!



SAVE THE DATE: 2022 Engineering Excellence Awards Gala

February 17, 2021 6pm - 11:45pm

Additional Details Coming Soon!

UPCOMING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Click Here: [Committee Meeting Schedule \(acecil.org\)](https://www.acecil.org/committee-meeting-schedule)

Please contact Emily Martinez, Director of Membership, for committee meeting details: emily@acecil.org

WELCOME NEW MEMBER:



100 South Wacker Drive, Suite 920
Chicago, IL 60606
www.cotterconsulting.com



Surveying and Mapping, LLC
890 Cambridge Dr.
Elk Grove, IL 60007
www.sam.biz

Fall Card PAC Raffle
RAFFLE TICKET: \$50
PURCHASE YOUR TICKET BY NOVEMBER 30TH.

1ST PRIZE
\$500 AMAZON GIFT CARD

2ND PRIZE
\$200 AMAZON GIFT CARD

3RD PRIZE
\$100 AMAZON GIFT CARD

ACEC
AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES
of Illinois

ACEC/PAC
AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES
POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

Enter PAC Raffle [Here](#)



An Inside Job: Combating Employee Crime

Lately, a lot of attention has been given to the rise in criminal activities targeting manufacturing and service companies both large and small. Criminals worldwide are attacking businesses with highly sophisticated computer techniques such as ransomware, phishing, and other electronic

"weapons." Meanwhile, companies are also being targeted by intruders with acts of vandalism, arson, and other destructive actions during sparks of civil unrest. The headlines and news flashes paint a disheartening picture for business owners just trying to make a living by offering needed products and services.

[Full Article Here](#)



ESOPs as an Exit Strategy for Owners of Engineering Firms

By: Scott Sutton, CPA, CDA, MSA

Running a profitable business is a daily challenge for most business owners. Finding an exit strategy is a challenge that every business owner will eventually face. It is especially true for many in the engineering industry. If you want to sell to management, how often do they have the funds to buyout the owner? If you want to arrange bank financing for a transaction, what impact will this have on your financials? If you want your children to remain in the business, how willing is a buyer to honor that request? If you consider selling to a competitor, what is the risk of sharing proprietary information with your competition? What if the deal doesn't go through? How often do Private Equity firms even look at engineering companies for their portfolio of acquisitions?

[Full Article Here](#)



Engineers do things differently.

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[Start your quote >](#)

ACEC
LIFE/HEALTH TRUST

The advertisement features a blue background with a white diagonal stripe. On the left, there is a photo of a man in a grey sweater looking thoughtful. In the center, there is a gear icon. On the right, there is the ACEC Life/Health Trust logo and a yellow button with the text "Start your quote >".

Does your retirement plan suffer from faulty construction?

FIND OUT

ACEC **RT**

A RETIREMENT PLAN FOR ENGINEERS. BY ENGINEERS

Contact Lydia Zabrycki at (559) 284.0370 lydia.zabrycki@captrust.com www.acecrt.com



FURRY FRIENDS

#ACECILPETS



We would love to see your furry coworkers!

Tag us in your posts:

#ACECILPETS

CHECK OUT OUR NEW MEDIA PAGE
Follow the link: [Videos | ACEC-IL](#)



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