



KEVIN ARTL
PRESIDENT & CEO

LEADERSHIP & POLICY BRIEFING

ACEC: Leading the Way in Springfield

Components of ACEC Illinois' legislative agenda are now advancing through the legislature as the General Assembly closes in on its final month and a half of scheduled session days before May adjournment.

ACEC legislation to streamline the land acquisition process for IDOT and Tollway received unanimous support in the Illinois Senate and now heads to the House for approval.

[Senate Bill 2424](#), sponsored by Senator Villivalam and Senator DeWitte, would require that land acquisition services be procured via qualification based selection (QBS). QBS has proven to deliver best value to agencies and also taxpayers. The legislation would allow for experienced firms to develop scope and work in more fluid consultation with both IDOT and Tollway to expedite land acquisition for pending projects. The legislation is now in the House and is being sponsored by Representative Rashid.

The Illinois Senate Revenue Committee held hearings on SB 2084, the **State Innovation Tax Credit**.

[SB 2084](#), developed by ACEC Illinois, creates a State of Illinois innovation tax credit that would be administered by the Department of Revenue, rather than the IRS, aiding in the state's goal of attracting more research and development programs to Illinois. This legislation is sponsored by **Senator DeWitte**. ACEC Illinois President Kevin Artl testified before the committee on how the legislation would assist firms in expanding investment in R&D while providing options for firms who find the federal R&D tax credit process too burdensome or risky.

The Illinois House Revenue Committee is held a hearing on ACEC legislation aimed at helping Illinois engineering firms recruit and retain recent Illinois college graduates. The **Retain Illinois Students of Engineering (RISE) Tax Credit ([HB 2425](#))**. The legislation is focused on helping attract and retain engineers as the industry faces a shortage of educated talent, this legislation provides for a tax credit of 10% of the salary paid to recent graduates of Illinois' engineering schools and 5% of the salary paid to recent graduates of engineering schools outside of Illinois. This legislation is sponsored by **Rep. Marty Moylan**.

The legislative items and more will be a focal point during our scheduled lobby day on April 19th. If you have an interest in joining us at the Capitol for a day of advocacy, [click here for more information or to register](#).

Congressional Update: Fixing R&D Takes Center Stage

Senators Maggie Hassan (D-NH) and Todd Young (R-IN) introduced S. 866, legislation that would repeal the R&D amortization requirement. Here is the current list of [cosponsors](#).

During the ACEC Illinois Board of Directors trip to DC, fixing R&D was a top point of discussion with Cong. LaHood, Cong. Krishnamoorthi, Cong. Budzinski and the offices of Senator Durbin and Senator Duckworth.

Scott Sutton of CBIZ Somerset CPA has prepared a briefing and guidance document for firms to consider until a solution is reached. View the document [here](#).



Illinois Department
of Transportation

IDOT Updates

ACEC Illinois has created a "lump sum" task force to work with IDOT on developing a pilot program for lump sum contracting. Meetings are ongoing as Task Force members share best practices and implementation processes with IDOT leadership.

ACEC Illinois' Financial Management Committee has been meeting with IDOT Audit to discuss ways to streamline and expedite the SEFC process.

ACEC Illinois was provided a debrief from IDOT and CTA leadership on their Mega-Project grant application for the I-290/Blue Line Modernization Project. ACEC IL has

recommended a larger state commitment to fund much of the initial mainline work to allow for greater flexibility on future grant applications.



Illinois Tollway Updates

Last month, the Illinois Tollway held its *Move Illinois* Quarterly meeting. The Tollway provided information on the capital program, diversity initiatives and upcoming PSBs. [Click here to view the entire presentation.](#)

The Tollway also invited ACEC Illinois DBE and DEI Committee Chairs **Raymond Kumapley** and **Duana Love** along with additional committee members to participate in roundtable discussion on Tollway DBE efforts.

Design Build Updates

ACEC Illinois' Design Build committee is working with both Tollway and IDOT officials and processes begin to take. The Tollway has hosted two meetings, the presentations are below.

[Tollway Design Build Meeting #1](#)

[Tollway Design Build Meeting #2](#)

The Design Build Committee is developing a one-day seminar with agency leadership that will be held on May 15th. Registration to be released soon.

Welcome Back!

Governor JB Pritzker announced that **Bria Scudder** will serve as Deputy Governor for Public Safety, Infrastructure, Environment, and Energy.

Scudder previously worked in the Governor's Office as First Assistant to Christian Mitchell, the former Deputy Governor. Mitchell stepped down from his role earlier this month.

As First Assistant, Bria Scudder was actively engaged with ACEC Illinois members, participating in briefings and attending ACEC events, including EEA and our awards lunch with Governor Pritzker. We are excited that she has returned to state government.

In the News

State Update

Governor Pritzker was in Decatur last week to announce \$200 million in grants supporting 22 freight mobility projects. The \$200 million comes from federal funds. [More](#) CMAP has begun the process of putting together recommendations for Chicago's transit

agencies, as directed by legislation passed last year by Rep. Eva Dina Delgado. The legislation tasked CMAP with recommendations for addressing regional transit problems in the Chicago area, including the funding challenges brought on by COVID. [More](#)

Federal Update

The House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee held a hearing this week on the implementation of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)/Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). Representatives from the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, the National Stone, Sand, and Gravel Association, the Associated Builders and Contractors, and the American Road and Transportation Builders Association testified.

Key points from testimony were (1) the BIL/IIJA is already making a difference in improving the nation's infrastructure (34,700 new projects through Jan. 30, 2023), (2) inflation has a significant impact on infrastructure projects, and (3) the FHWA guidance that states need to determine their own infrastructure priorities, which rescinded the "fix it first" memo from December 2021. [More](#)

Congressman Mike Bost (IL) and Congresswoman Angie Craig (MN) introduced legislation to increase available truck parking around the country through \$755 million in competitive grants. [More](#)

President Biden's choice to lead the Federal Aviation Administration withdrew over the weekend in the face of Republican opposition to his nomination. The FAA has not had a confirmed Administrator since March 2022. [More](#)

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



MEMBER FIRM SPOTLIGHT



How long have you been in the engineering industry?

- V3 is celebrating our 40th Anniversary in the engineering industry this year! We were founded in 1983.

What projects are you currently working on?

- V3 does an equal share of business for private sector development clients and for government clients. One exciting private sector development project is the new Bally's Casino in Chicago, where V3 is the lead civil engineer. In the public Sector, we are the Corridor Managers for the Illinois Tollway on the \$3.5B Elgin O'Hare Western Access project.

What project are you most proud of?

- One of the projects we are most proud of is finding water for the people of Haiti. Our team of hydrogeologists found an underground aquifer on the island that had escaped other engineers and geologists searching for water there since the 1940's. The new aquifer is producing water for a desperately poor population in need of a plentiful and clean source of water.

What has been the biggest benefit of you joining ACEC-IL?

- The biggest benefit of V3 joining ACEC-IL has been the relationships and camaraderie that is developed with our industry colleagues through work on the many productive committees we are a part of.

Why do you feel firms should join ACEC-IL?

- Firms should join ACEC-IL because, together, we make a huge impact on the engineering industry; advancing important industry-wide initiatives, and protecting QBS, fair contract practices and other policies that are critical to our businesses.

AFFILIATE MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



What does your business do?

- Please see one pager attached.

What is a benefit of doing business with you?

- Weaving industry insight into all we do, Wynndalco also is: Steadfast in maintaining ingenuity, accountability, and distinction in all aspects of our professional services and conduct, Relentless in our pursuit of strong and lasting client relationships built on mutual respect, trust, loyalty, and transparency, and Responsible for all actions and decisions, and fully accountable for establishing and achieving goals.

Why are you a part of ACEC-IL?

- Wynndalco is part of ACEC-IL because ACEC-IL is a collaborative space made up of like minded industry leaders who play a key role in implementing and providing world class infrastructure within the State of Illinois.

What is your business's motto?

- For years, Wynndalco Enterprises, LLC, has filled an elemental role on our clients' teams—helping realize lofty ideas and leading with best practices toward laying a solid footing of sustainable, lasting, IT success.

One Pager

COMMITTEE CHAIR SPOTLIGHT



Financial Management Committee Chair:

**Geri Boyer, P.E.
Kaskaskia Engineering**

How long have you been a part of ACEC IL?

- Over 25 years.

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

- ACEC-IL Board of Directors, Vice President of Business Affairs, Chair of Statewide Membership Committee, Chair of DBE Committee, Chair of Financial Management Committee, member of the IDOT Committee, member of PPP loan subcommittee, and member of IDOT CECS subcommittee. ACEC-National Transportation Committee.

Tell us a little bit about the committee you chair.

- The financial management committee assist members and clients/owners in achieving higher professional standards in financial management. The committee works closely with Kevin Artl and other ACEC-IL committees in finding solutions to problems affecting the financial side of engineering. We worked on the PPP/FAR credit clause with ACEC-IL and ACEC National.

What's the number one reason people should join your committee?

- If you are tired of just hanging out with engineers, this is the committee for you. Our most active members are accountants and financial management professionals who have chosen to work in our industry. These folks bring a different perspective to the committee which is invaluable to all our engineer members.

What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?

- Since COVID, I have been spending most weekends at my lake house in southern Missouri where I grew up. I'm teaching my three grandsons how to be country boys and future engineers. I love sitting on the porch doing nothing, hiking with the dogs in the woods, and relaxing in the water with a cold one!

Tell us one fun fact about yourself.

- When I was 43, I backpacked 500 miles across Spain on the Camino de Santiago. It's an ancient pilgrimage route. It took me 28 days to complete the journey, and it set the course for the rest of my life.

ACEC Illinois Engineers at the Capitol



NEW MEMBER



Short, Elliott & Hendrickson
6808 Odana Road, Suite 200
Madison, WI 53719
Phone: (800) 325-2055
Website: www.sehinc.com



ECS Midwest
1575 Barclay Boulevard
Buffalo Grove, IL 60089
Phone: (847) 279-0365
Website: www.ecslimited.com

Larson Engineering, Inc.

UPCOMING EVENTS

SAVE THE DATE



ADVOCACY



EDUCATIONAL



BUSINESS



IDOT District One Construction Seminar

April 6, 2023 | 8:00a.m. - 12:00p.m.

Location: Harry Caray's, Lombard
70 Yorktown Center
Lombard, Illinois

Register [Here](#)



Topgolf Networking Event

Hosted by: Emerging Professionals Committee

April 11, 2023 | 5:30p.m.-7:30p.m.

Location: Topgolf Naperville
3211 Odyssey Court
Naperville, IL 60563



Webinar: An Introduction to Project Management in Consulting

April 12, 2023 | 12p.m.

Host: Mohamad Alsharbini of Benesch

Register [Here](#)

*Complimentary for all ACEC Illinois Members



Regional Luncheon with IDOT Region 1 & 2

April 17, 2023 | 11:30a.m. - 1:30p.m.

Featuring presentations from IDOT Region 1 Engineer Jose Rios and IDOT Region 2 Engineer Masood Ahmad.

Register [Here](#)



Transportation for Illinois Coalition Lobby Day

April 19, 2023 | 9:00a.m.

Legislative Lobby Day gives our legislators face time with our ACEC Illinois members to help them understand the human impact of engineering in our state.

Register [Here](#)



CTA Vision for the Future

April 19, 2023 | 11:30a.m. - 1:30p.m.

Please join ACEC Illinois and CMAA for a joint luncheon hosting CTA's Bill mooney, Chief Infrastructure Officer for an update.

Register [Here](#)



Regional Luncheon with IDOT Region 3 & 4

April 20, 2023 | 11:30a.m. - 1:30p.m.

Featuring presentations from IDOT Region 3 Engineer Kensil Garnett and IDOT Region 4 Engineer Jeffrey Myers.

Register [Here](#)



Save the Date: IL Tollway Design & Construction Practices Workshop

April 26, 2023 | 9:00a.m. - 12:00p.m.

Location: Renaissance Schaumburg Convention Center Hotel
1551 North Thoreau Drive
Schaumburg, IL 60173

Registration to come

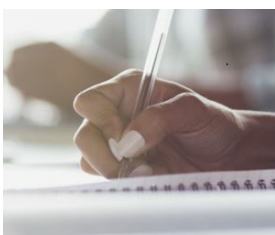


Save the Date: Design Build Workshop

May 15, 2023 | 9:00a.m. - 5:30p.m.

Location: Harry Caray's, Lombard
70 Yorktown Center
Lombard, Illinois

Registration to come



Two-Dimensional Hydraulic Modeling of Rivers Course

May 16, 2023 | 8:00a.m. - May 18, 2023 | 4:30p.m.

Location: Northern Illinois University
1120 E. Diehl Road
Naperville, IL 60563

Registration [Here](#)



Save the Date: ACEC Illinois Golf Outing

May 22, 2023 | 12:00p.m.

Harry Caray's, Lombard

Registration to come



Save the Date: Spring Board Meeting & Luncheon

June 6, 2023 | 9:00a.m. - 2:00p.m.

Location: Harry Caray's, Lombard
70 Yorktown Center
Lombard, Illinois

Registration to come



Save the Date: ACEC Illinois Fall Conference

November 1, 2023 | 9:00a.m. - November 2, 2023 | 9:00a.m.

Registration to come

save the date



JUNE 6, 2023
Harry Carays Ballroom
70 YORKTOWN SHOPPING CENTER
LOMBARD, IL

VIRTUAL: BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN TRAINING

HOSTED BY:



PRESENTED BY:



Illinois Department of Transportation

PRESENTER:



Carlos A. Feliciano, P.E.

In-House Studies Unit Head / ADA & Bicycle Coordinator

This presentation includes a summary of IDOT's Bicycle and Pedestrian Accommodations policy. The training will go into detail on policies, warrants, design considerations and proper documentation practices for inclusion of active transportation facilities in State led roadway improvements in compliance with IDOT's Complete Streets policy.

To request a recording of:

1. Email bethany@acecil.org
2. Be emailed an invoice for \$45.
3. Then, you will be emailed a video recording and PDH.

RECORDING OF: ENGINEERING WITH LAND ACQUISITION IN MIND

About:

This virtual seminar not a webinar to teach someone how to do land acquisition, but rather a tool for engineers that might have land acquisition on their projects.

PRESENTERS:

- Jeni Lyon, President/CEO, HLR Inc.
- Carlos Feliciano, IDOT Programming, In-House Studies Unit Head
- Kari Smith, IDOT Design, Economic Analysis Coordinator
- Brian Bottomley, Owner/Senior Engineering, Way Maker Transportation, Planning and Engineering
- Chris Maloney, IDOT Land Aquisition, Area Relocation and Property Management Supervisor
- Reid Magner, Vice President, Bravo Company Engineer

Agenda:

- Guidelines
- Overview of Process
- Acquisition Timeline
- Phase 1 - ROW Determination & Consideration
- Phase II - Land Acquisition Process
- Examples

1. Email bethany@acecil.org
2. Be emailed an invoice for \$150.
3. Be emailed a 3 hour video and PDH's



Illinois Department of Transportation



AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES of Illinois

RECORDING OF: EMPLOYEE RETENTION - STAY INTERVIEWS GREAT RESIGNATION TO THE GREAT RETENTION

INTERACTIVE - INFORMATIVE - INSPIRING

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN:

- Stay Interview - vs - Exit Interview
- The Power of a Stay Interview
- How to do a Stay Interview
- What to Ask
- Dry Run

PRESENTER:



JEFF GROSS
FOUNDER, CHIEF EMPOWERMENT OFFICER
AND LEADERSHIP CONSULTANT



HOSTED BY:



TO REQUEST A RECORDING OF:

- EMAIL BETHANY@ACECIL.ORG
- BE EMAILED AN INVOICE FOR \$75.
- THEN, YOU WILL BE EMAILED A VIDEO RECORDING AND PDH

MISSING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT HOURS FROM CLASSES YOU ALREADY TOOK?

- EMAIL BETHANY@ACECIL.ORG
- INCLUDE: CLASS NAME, DATE OF CLASS, ATTENDEE EMAIL ADDRESS



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

MEMBERSHIP UPDATES



Strategies for Preventing Emotional Exhaustion and Burnout

In the post-pandemic world, regular news reports highlight how more Americans are experiencing stress and anxiety from the pressures of daily life. The American Institute of Stress defines stress as “physical, mental, or emotional strain or tension.” Stress affects how we think, act, and feel. Stress affects individuals differently. Stress causes chemical changes that affect our major physical, mental/cognitive, and emotional systems and social responses.

Burnout can result from chronic unresolved stress and can cause or contribute to distress leading to an emotional “overload.” In March 2020, Gallup reported on the [Causes and Cures of Employee Burnout](#). [This\[CB1\]](#) report focused on burnout as “a symptom of modern workplaces that are increasingly fast-paced, complex, and demanding.” This aspect of burnout has been frequently written about in terms of workers achieving necessary balance between work-life and home-life responsibilities.

The traditional view of burnout in the workplace assesses factors like role clarity, workload, number of hours worked, flexibility, and autonomy in one’s work, and relationships between workers and managers. The hallmark signs of burnout are pessimism and cynicism expressed as self-doubt, a sense of failure, and feelings of decreasing effectiveness at work combined with decreasing satisfaction and sense of

accomplishment at work.

[CB1]<https://www.gallup.com/workplace/282659/employee-burnout-perspective-paper.aspx>

[Full Article Here](#)



Milhouse Safety Blog: Roadwork Safety

As drivers, we encounter road construction on a regular basis. While we may find the delays and detours frustrating, it is important to remember that road construction is necessary to maintain and improve our infrastructure. However, it is also important to be aware of the potential hazards associated with roadwork and to take appropriate precautions to ensure our safety.

[Full Article Here](#)



ENGINEERING ENTERPRISES, INC. WELCOMES BARRETT, ISHAM AND PARKINSON TO THE TEAM

Cassandra Barrett, EI has joined our Environmental Group as a Project Engineer. She holds her BS in Environmental Engineering Pre-Architecture Track from University of Iowa. Her previous internships and work experience will be a good addition to her duties she will have at EEI. She will primarily be working out of our Sugar Grove office.

Hayden Isham is our newest addition to the Municipal Group as a Project Technician. His academic credentials include a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science, specializing in Environmental Management from Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville. He will primarily be operating out of the Sugar Grove office.

Tom Parkinson, EI has joined our Environmental Group as a Project Engineer. He holds his MS in Environmental Engineering in Civil Engineering with a specialization in Water Resources Engineering and Science and a BS in Chemical Engineering with a minor in Mathematics from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. In addition, he brings over two years of experience in various facets of water and wastewater engineering design and construction projects. He will primarily be working out of our Sugar Grove office.

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(800) 247.7756



CONSTRUCTION
BUILD MOMENTUM

Private Market Update: A Closer Look at the Ports and Intermodal Markets



ENGINEERING INFLUENCE

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES

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WINTER 2022

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Building a Better America

White House Advisor Mitch Landrieu on the
Historic Infrastructure Investment

The Brooks Act Turns 50

The Post-COVID Office

Africa: Opportunities
and Challenges

Kennedy Jenks Gives Back

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ACEC RT. [SEE WHY](#)



Build a bright financial future for your team

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

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

ACEC-Illinois | 5221 S 6th Street Road, Suite 120, Springfield, IL 62703

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