



2022 March
NEWSLETTER:
THE CONNECTOR



LEADERSHIP & POLICY BRIEFING

ACEC ILLINOIS PRESIDENT & CEO - KEVIN ARTL

ACEC Illinois Goes to Washington

ACEC Illinois Board Members visited with Illinois' Congressional Delegation last week to discuss federal infrastructure issues, including:

- Passage of FY22 appropriations that includes full-funding of the recently enacted Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act
- Waiver from the FAR Credit Clause for PPP recipients
- An outline of the workforce challenges in the engineering sector.

During the visit, ACEC Illinois met with:

- Senator Dick Durbin
- Congressman Mike Bost
- Congressman Rodney Davis
- Congressman Bill Foster
- Congressman Darin LaHood
- Congresswoman Robin Kelly
- Congressman Raja Krishnamoorthi
- Congressman Mike Quigley
- Congressman Brad Schneider

IDOT Secretary Omer Osman and representatives from Governor Pritzker's administration also joined ACEC Illinois for meetings with members of the delegation



Governor's Office Names White House Liaison on Infrastructure

Following a request from White House Infrastructure Director Mitch Landrieu to have state's appoint an infrastructure liaison, Governor JB Pritzker's office announced on an ACEC Illinois webinar yesterday that IDOT Deputy Chief of Staff Becky Locker will serve in that capacity. In that role, Locker will review rulemaking for the IJA competitive grants and monitor overall implementation of IJA at a statewide level.

ACEC Illinois Outlines "2022 Prioritizing Our Infrastructure" Agenda in Springfield

WGEM: Calling all engineers: ACEC aims to prioritize state's infrastructure

The bipartisan package of bills will fund the modernization of infrastructure throughout the state and create jobs for Illinoisans. Artl said the legislation would provide stability in infrastructure projects, funding, and employment opportunities for the state.

"The future of engineering has never been brighter," said Steve Donahue, Chair of the ACEC Board of Directors.

WICS: Illinois Engineers Prioritize Infrastructure Statewide

The American Council of Engineering Companies of Illinois says that the legislation will make sure that Illinois' infrastructure projects will continue to be well-funded. While these investments are historic, some would describe them as once in a generation." Kevin Artl, president and CEO of the American Council of Engineering Companies of Illinois said. "We have important work to do here in Illinois to make sure projects like these get realized."

The Daily Line: Engineering Group Unveils "Prioritize Our Infrastructure" Agenda

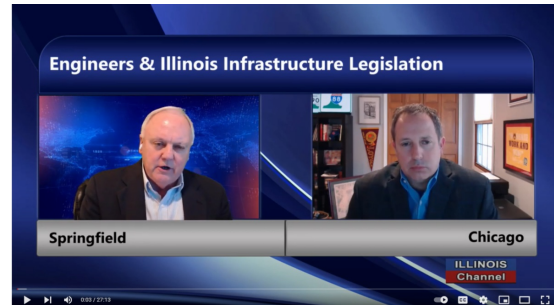
"ACEC Illinois is proud to work with students across the state to get them excited about careers in engineering. The bills the engineering industry leaders are pushing for will do more than just get students excited - these pieces of legislation will offer incentives for the best and brightest engineering professionals to stay and work in Illinois," said Tanya Adams, Vice President of WSP USA and Secretary of the ACEC Illinois Board of Directors

Daily Herald: Pritzker's gas tax relief plan faces opposition

But P.J. Fitzpatrick, with the firm HR Green Inc., said the inflationary increases in the motor fuel tax were an important element of the Rebuild Illinois program because without it, revenue from the tax could not keep up with the rising cost of construction projects

WMBD: Gas Tax Changes Raise Concern

One concern Kevin Artl with the American Council of Engineering Companies of Illinois raised deals with the governor's proposed freeze of the annual gas tax increase set for July 1. Artl said that could lead to funding gaps of half a billion dollars over five years.



ACEC Illinois Meets with Policy Makers During Springfield Lobby Day

ACEC Illinois members met with the state's top legislative leaders to discuss issues ranging from business climate concerns to Rebuild Illinois funding. Among some of the issues discussed was legislation ACEC Illinois has worked on with Sen. Ram Villivalam to provide student loan repayment assistance for Illinois engineering graduates who go to work with IDOT.

ACEC Illinois also outlined our concerns with procurement rules that limit knowledge transfer between consultants and agency staff and members discussed concerns related to the proposed suspension of the annual adjustment to the gas tax.

Overall, ACEC Illinois members met with the follow lawmakers during lobby day:

- Speaker of the House Chris Welch
- Senate President Don Harmon
- House Republican Leader Jim Durkin
- Senate Republican Leader Dan McConchie
- Senate Transportation Chair Ram Villivalam
- Senate Transportation Minority Spokesperson Don DeWitte
- House Transportation Chair Marty Moylan
- House Transportation Minority Spokesperson Mike Marron
- Assistant Majority Leader Jay Hoffman
- Assistant Republican Leader Ryan Spain
- Assistant Republican Leader Tim Butler
- Representative Amy Elik
- Representative Lance Yednock
- Representative Marty McLaughlin



Design Build Passes Senate, Heads to House

ACEC Illinois President and CEO Kevin Artl, along with Linda Moen (EFK Moen), Mike Mack (Burns & McDonnell), Luis Montgomery (Zim Group), Ray Kumapley (SE3) and Tricia Walsh (Parsons) provided testimony this week before the Senate

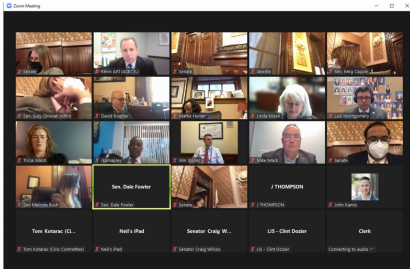
Transportation Committee on the pending Design Build bill.

The legislation, **SB 2981**, is a revamped design build bill that provides IDOT and Tollway design build authorization while providing enhanced protections for small and diverse engineering companies, including:

- Separate DBE goals for design and construction
- Bid-Shopping protections
- Required independent procurement of an Owner's Representative/Construction Manager for projects over \$30 million
- Limit of award authority to \$400 million over MYP.

The legislation received unanimous approval in the Senate and now heads to the House for consideration.

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





2022 EEA Magazine: Find all award winners below!



ENGINEERING
EXCELLENCE
AWARDS 2022

2022

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES
OF ILLINOIS

ENGINEERING
EXCELLENCE
AWARDS



RISING TO THE
CHALLENGE

ACEC

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES
of Illinois

MEMBER FIRM SPOTLIGHT



HOLMES
MURPHY®

Holmes Murphy

- How long have you been in the engineering industry?
 - 30 years !

- **What committees are you apart of?**
 - Risk Management. COVID Task Force
- **What has been the biggest benefit of joining ACEC-IL?**
 - Acquiring knowledge of issues related to my passion in serving the engineering design community. I've found the members to be generous with their time and skills to promote the engineering industry.
- **What do you enjoy most about working with the engineering industry?**
 - They are driven, optimistic and committed to professionalism. Ironically, engineers also have very witty-humor.
- **What has been your favorite event help by ACEC-IL?**
 - The annual winter conference. I look forward to returning to Board Meetings, Education Sessions & the Awards Gala combined into one event.
- **Why do you feel businesses such as yours should join ACEC-IL?**
 - ACEC-IL is working behind the scenes as the industry advocate. The engineering community may not even be aware of the benefits they are receiving on their behalf. As challenges present themselves, ACEC is working as an advocate at the State level to provide a fair playing field. ACEC generates networking opportunities with members and committees-allowing direct line access to government liaisons. They are a valuable source of information, training and tools Access to information, training, valuable resources to the member firms to promote engineering excellence.

UPCOMING EVENTS

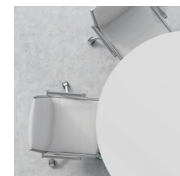
SAVE THE DATE



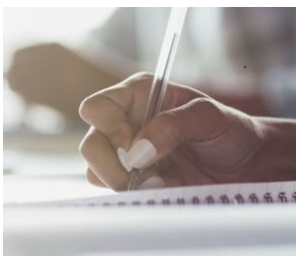
ADVOCACY



EDUCATIONAL



BUSINESS



Webinar Series: Professional Development

March 15, 2022 11am to May 3, 2022 12pm

Join ACEC Illinois for an 8 session webinar series on Professional Development.

What to expect:

8 - one-hour sessions

8 PDH's

All sessions recorded for later viewing

Fees:

\$50 Single Registration

\$250 Firm Registration

*Unlimited number of firm attendees

Register [Here](#)



Webinar: Proposal Writing - How To and Lessons Learned

March 16, 2022 12pm - 1pm

Host: Kyle Duffy, TranSystems

Proposal Writing - How To and Lessons Learned

Whether you've been writing proposals for years or your 2022 goal is to get involved with your first one, we'll have a panel discussion sharing their tips and advice. We'll touch on what makes a good proposal, how you can get involved, and best ways to add value. Come with questions in mind to ask our panel!

Register [Here](#)



Luncheon: Cook County Briefing with Cook County President Preckwinkle

March 22, 2022 11:30am - 1pm

Join ACEC Illinois for a Cook County Briefing with Cook County President Toni Preckwinkle. Toni Preckwinkle is the 35th president of the Cook County Board of Commissioners, an office she has held since 2010. She is the first Black woman to be elected to the office. A dedicated and effective public servant, President Preckwinkle has worked to transform County government through increased fiscal responsibility, transparency, and improved services.

11:30am-12:00pm NETWORKING

12:00pm LUNCH served

12:15pm-1:00pm Update from Cook County President

REGISTRATION FEES:

In Person Member \$85

In Person Non-Member \$160

SPONSORSHIP:

\$250 SILVER SPONSOR

1 Ticket

VIP Seating

Recognition at event and on social media

\$500 GOLD SPONSORS

2 Tickets

VIP Seating at Headtable

Recognition at event and on social media

*only 5 available

Register [Here](#)



Engineering with Land Acquisition in Mind

March 23, 2022 9am - 2:45pm

Price: \$150

PDH's: 5

Register [Here](#)



Webinar: Choose Your Own Adventure - Internal and External Entrepreneurship

April 13, 2022 12pm - 1pm

Host: Meghan Milewski, Farnsworth Group LLC
Choose Your Own Adventure - Internal and External
Entrepreneurship

Register [Here](#)

UPCOMING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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

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

NEW MEMBER



Engineering Resource Associates

3s701 West Avenue, Suite 150

Warrenville, IL 60555

630-393-3060

www.eraconsultants.com

MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

Clark Dietz, Inc. Announces Leadership Changes

CHAMPAIGN, IL, February 4, 2022 - Clark Dietz, Inc. has re-elected Charles Craddock, PE, FACEC, as Chairman, President and CEO. Jerry Payonk, PE and Wesley Christmas, PE were re-elected Executive Vice President. Mustafa Emir, PE, PhD was elected to the executive committee as Executive Vice President, and re-elected Secretary, and Sean Widener, PE was re-elected Treasurer.

A new addition to the Board includes Seth Swartz, CPA, Chief Financial Officer.

***Clark Dietz, Inc.** is a recognized leader in transportation, civil, environmental, mechanical, electrical, and structural engineering with over 125 professional staff in regional offices in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky and Wisconsin.*

###

Clark Dietz Announces New Shareholders

CHAMPAIGN, IL, February 4, 2022 - Clark Dietz, Inc., one of the Midwest's leading professional consulting engineering firms, has announced the election of eight new shareholders: Maria Behrens, PE, Mitchell Daharsh, Al Lapinskas, PE, Chai Mamidala, PE, Nicholas Rademacher, Keary Roberts, PE, Sam Robertson, PE, CRM, and George Sundy, PE. These additions reflect the firm's commitment to recognizing the contributions of staff who demonstrate a strong work ethic, a commitment to clients, and a dedication to the betterment of the firm.

“Every year, we are proud to welcome exceptional members of our staff to our shareholder group,” said Charles Craddock, Chairman of the Board. “These new shareholders exemplify the dedication, professionalism, and commitment to serving our clients that form the cornerstones of our business. It is a great privilege to have these new shareholders vested in the success of our firm.”

***Clark Dietz, Inc.** is a recognized leader in transportation, civil, environmental, mechanical, electrical, and structural engineering with over 125 professional staff in regional offices in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky and Wisconsin.*

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When Engineers Discover Contamination

Our friends in the engineering industry sometimes ask us; “What’s the worst kind of environmental contamination to find at a project site”?

There’s a lot of different types of contamination that can affect the soil, groundwater, and air. We come across petroleum, dry-cleaning, and heavy metals frequently in our line of work. But if I’m being honest, the worst contamination to find by an engineer is surprise contamination.

Full Article: [Here](#)

PART WITH

The DCE Career & Tech professionals, and local department has a variety of professionals & business room. Please consider the opportunities below. We hope to see you in the future.

Student Internship Program - Between students and local internship opportunities that are interested in bringing in some of their business to our students.

Career Mentors - Invite professionals to meet with the path they took to get to the Coordinator and can be co-

Mentor Student Enterprise - Invite students that have their own business professionals from research, develop a business

Hire Part-Time Employee Program (CWT) is designed to get a career opportunity to get a career

Contact
Ryan Altenburg
Internship Program Coordinator
raltenburg@dced.edu



IS YOUR BUSINESS LOOKING FOR YOUR NEXT GREAT INTERN?

PARTNER WITH STUDENTS FROM CSD 99'S

INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

BEGINNING AT THE START OF THE 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR!

College Bound Students

Interview Senior students from both North and South High School to find your top internship candidate. All students applying for your position have interest in pursuing college degree and a future career within your business's industry.

Flexible Work Schedule

Student must complete a minimum of Four hours/week but have the potential to put in more hours and design a flexible work schedule that benefits both the student and your business needs. Students receive academic credit for both their in-class learning activities and their on the job performance.

Mutually Beneficial

All students who apply for your internship position not only have an interest in your industry but plan to pursue a career within your field. These students are highly motivated and ready to learn career relevant concepts and skills that they will then use to make positive contributions to your business.

FOR MORE INFORMATION,
CONTACT AN INTERNSHIP
COORDINATOR AT DGS OR DGN

RYAN ALTENBURG
INTERNSHIP COORDINATOR - DGS
PHONE: (630) 759-8624
EMAIL: RALTENBURG@CSD99.ORG

LARRY BACA
INTERNSHIP COORDINATOR - DGN
PHONE: (630) 759-8018
EMAIL: LBACA@CSD99.ORG

**Benton & Associates, Inc. Announces the
Appointment of New Associates**



Adam L. Fox



Joshua A. Stewart, P.E.

Benton & Associates, Inc. is pleased to announce **Adam L. Fox and Joshua S. Stewart**, have attained the position of *Associate* of the firm in recognition of their years of service, contributions to our client's projects and commitment to the future of Benton & Associates, Inc.

Adam L. Fox has been employed with Benton & Associates for over 12 years and is a licensed Class A Water Operator. Mr. Fox works in the environmental department and his experience includes the design, permitting, and operation of water treatment plants and water systems, wastewater systems improvements, environmental permitting for a variety of infrastructure projects, and construction phase services.

Joshua A. Stewart, PE, is a licensed professional engineer, based in our Kirksville MO office, who provides planning, design and construction phase engineering services on a variety of infrastructure projects which include: water and wastewater treatment plant improvements, rural water systems, water distribution systems, wastewater collection systems, new residential and commercial land development and elevated water storage tanks. Josh has been with B&A since 2010.

Benton & Associates, Inc. provides engineering and surveying services for both public and private clients in Illinois and Missouri. www.bentonassociates.com



ILLINOIS TOLLWAY
2700 Ogden Avenue, Downers Grove, IL 60515
(630) 241-6800 • illinoistollway.com

Illinois Tollway DBE Construction and Professional Services Availability and Disparity Study Small Group Business Owner Interview Sessions Your Participation is Requested

The Illinois Tollway is conducting an Availability and Disparity Study examining its Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program (“DBE”) program for disadvantaged, minority- and woman-owned

business enterprises (“D/M/WBEs”). The Illinois Tollway is conducting this research to ensure that D/M/WBEs have equal access to contracting opportunities and that its current program remains legally defensible and administratively successful.

We invite you to participate in the study through an online small group interview of business owners. These important sessions will provide an opportunity to relate your experiences with doing business with the Illinois Tollway as a prime or subcontractor on Illinois Tollway contracts and projects, or your attempts to do so, and any barriers that you have encountered. Your insights and experiences will help identify potential improvements in our DBE program and encourage increased collaboration while promoting economic growth for all segments of our community.

Online meetings will be held: March 29 through March 30, 2022

Please **click here to register** for an online small group interview. You will be taken to a short two-question survey to allow us to direct you to the appropriate session.

All persons requiring special accommodations, including language assistance, should directly contact Colette Holt & Associates, the firm facilitating the sessions, no later than one week prior to the selected session.

QUESTIONS AND GENERAL INFORMATION

Study Website:

tollwaydbe.disparity-study.com

Consultant conducting the study:

Colette Holt & Associates, Inc

tollwaydbe-study@mwbela.com

(855) 692-3529

Illinois Tollway Contact:

Tavia N. Bowers

Consultant - Diversity

tbowers@getipass.com

(708) 712 - 7360

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FURRY FRIENDS

#ACECILPETS



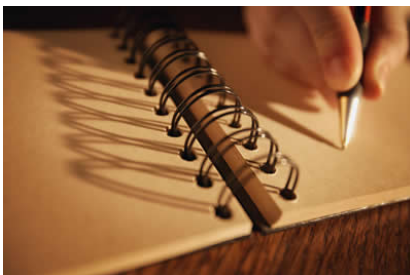
We would love to see your furry coworkers!

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

