



October 8, 2021

Items included in this ACEC Missouri Weekly Update are listed below.

- **ACEC/MO President's Report**
- **Upcoming Events** (*Registration is Now Open for ACEC/MO's Fall Meeting on November 11-12; ACEC/MO Cybersecurity Webinar on November 5; ACEC/MO Regional Area Meetings*)
- **Liaison Committee News** (*Missouri Department of Transportation (Southeast District) Liaison Committee; Missouri Department of Transportation (St. Louis District) Liaison Committee*)
- **Industry News** (*New RFPs/RFQs on ACEC/MO Website; ACEC Raises Industry Concerns over Federal Contractor Executive Order; ACEC Engineering Influence Podcast: Thornton Tomasetti's Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Program*)
- **Member Information & Calendar** (*Submit Your Project Entries NOW in ACEC/MO's EEA Project Competition; ACEC/MO Seeking Life Member Nominations; Member News; Calendar of Events*)

If there is something you would like us to include in the weekly updates, or if you need anything else, please contact the ACEC/MO staff: [Morgan Mundell](#) or [Dawn Hill](#). We would love to hear from you!

ACEC/MO President's Report

First off, I would like to thank everyone who attended the Summer Meeting in August and all our sponsors who made it happen. With that event being our first in-person event in over 18 months, everyone had a great time reuniting and catching up. I enjoyed the opportunity to meet many of you for the first time and if I didn't get to meet you, please attend our Fall Meeting! I would like to take moment and highlight several opportunities that are coming up for ACEC/MO members:



- On October 19th, ACEC/MO will be in Springfield for a regional roundtable during the lunch hour, which will include special guest Senator Lincoln Hough, Vice-Chair of the Appropriations Committee. Senator Hough will provide a brief perspective on what's going on in Jefferson City and the Capitol and answer questions. After that, ACEC Members will have the time to discuss issues and network. If you would like to submit an agenda item for discussion, please email me at morganmundell@acecmo.org. To RSVP for the lunch, please email Dawn at DawnHill@acecmo.org.
- On October 21st, I will be at EFK Moen from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. We will be holding another regional roundtable and will be joined for the first 15 minutes by Representative Aaron Griesheimer, Chair of the Emerging Issues Committee, and member of the House Transportation Committee. Rep. Griesheimer will be happy to answer any of your questions and then we will hold an open discussion about

engineering issues in the St. Louis area. Again, contact us if you would like to RSVP or submit items for discussion.

- Our Fall Meeting is approaching fast with the dates of November 11-12. The theme for this meeting is **"Getting the Job Done: Workforce Development, Recruitment and Retention."** We are excited to be joined by Lisa Elster of Morrissey Goodale, who is a specialist on employee engagement and retention in the A/E industry. We will also hear about the "future of the engineering pipeline" and current D&I efforts at the University of Missouri, School of Engineering. For more information and to register, please [click here](#).
- On November 5th, ACEC/MO will be hosting a webinar with Chris Walcutt, VP of Direct Defense. Mr. Walcutt recently spoke at the ACEC National Senior Executives Institute on cybersecurity and is considered one of the nation's top experts in the field. Join us from the comfort of your office or home for a presentation where you can learn what your company needs to do to protect itself from ransomware and cyber-attacks in this constantly changing field. [Click here to register](#).
- ICYMI – We have been having a number of discussions with key MoDOT personnel about the need for a regular solicitation schedule and a "consultant outlook." If you missed that email announcement, [click here](#) for an overview of where things are at and the progress that ACEC/MO has made.

We are roughly 35 days out from the opening of pre-filing of bills for the 2022 session of the Missouri General Assembly. Our lobbyist, Mark Rhoads, and I have already had several conversations with key legislators to work out a road map for legislation of interest to ACEC/MO members.

As a final safety reminder, please remember that October/November brings two key seasons to Missouri. Harvest and deer. Keep an eye out for slow moving farm equipment as our neighbors work to put food on our tables. And stay alert at night as deer begin to move. According to statistics supplied by the Missouri State Highway Patrol, a deer/car collision occurs every 2.1 hours in Missouri.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Registration is Now Open for ACEC/MO's Fall Meeting on November 11-12



Make plans now to attend ACEC/MO's Fall Meeting scheduled for **November 11-12, 2021**, at The Broadway Columbia - a DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel in Columbia, MO. The theme of this meeting is *"Getting the Job Done: Workforce Development, Recruitment and Retention."* Below is the schedule of events for the meeting. All the meeting details, including speaker information, are also posted on [ACEC/MO's website](#). Please put November 11-12, 2021, on your calendar and plan to join us in Columbia!!

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2021

5:00 PM – Networking Reception – Come join your fellow ACEC/MO Members for a networking reception and meet up to make dinner plans at one of Columbia's many downtown dining establishments. Dinner on your own.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2021

7:30 AM – Registration

8:00 AM – Breakfast Program / Speaker: "What Are Potential Employees Looking For" – In today's market, keeping your current employees is just as important as recruiting new ones. With the changing demographics of the workforce, the advancement of remote work and new employee demands on work/life balance, learn about some of the common issues that drive employees to look elsewhere. (*Speaker: Lisa Elster, Executive Search Director, Morrissey Goodale LLC*)

9:15 AM – Committee Meetings: Environmental; and Governmental Affairs / Transportation Joint Meeting, *Senate Majority Floor Leader, Senator Caleb Rowden (invited)*

10:20 AM – “The Future of the Engineering Pipeline Seminar” (2.0 PDHs) - With recent changes in infrastructure funding at both the state and federal levels, the demand for engineers has never been greater. Hear a forecast of what is coming down the pipeline from some of Missouri’s top engineering programs and what they are doing to recruit students into the profession of engineering. *(Speakers from University of Missouri: Roger Fales, Associate Professor, Associate Dean of Student Services and Academic Programs; Praveen Edara, Professor and Chair, P.E., Civil & Environmental Engineering; and Kathleen Trauth, Associate Professor, IDE Faculty Fellow, P.E.)*

12:10 PM – Luncheon

1:00 PM – Board of Directors / Membership Meeting

[Click Here for Full Schedule of Events](#)

[Click Here to Register](#)

ACEC/MO Cybersecurity Webinar on November 5

In today’s digital age, the number of security incidents is increasing every year, highlighting the importance of cyber security. One report suggests that the cost of cyber security threats will rise to \$6 trillion annually by 2021, encompassing everything from damage and destruction of sensitive data, stolen money, lost productivity, theft of intellectual property, theft of personal and financial data, embezzlement, fraud, post-attack disruption to businesses, forensic investigation, restoration and deleted hacked data and systems, to name a few.

ACEC/MO has scheduled a Cybersecurity Webinar for **Friday, November 5, 2021**, at **9:00 AM** to address this topic. Join Christopher Walcutt, VP of Strategy for Direct Defense, for the webinar to learn what your company should be doing to protect its IT systems. To register for the webinar, click [here](#).



ACEC/MO Regional Area Meetings

ACEC/MO recently held a regional coffee meeting in St. Louis on September 2nd and a regional lunch meeting in Kansas City on September 17th. We have scheduled another regional coffee meeting in St. Louis on **October 21, 2021**, at EFK Moen, LLC and Representative Aaron Griesheimer will join us for the first part of that meeting. We also have a regional lunch meeting in Springfield scheduled for **October 19, 2021**. Senator Lincoln Hough will be joining us for a short time during the meeting. If you would like to attend the St. Louis coffee on October 19th or the lunch meeting in Springfield on October 19th, send an email to [Dawn Hill](#). If you have any items you would like to discuss during the upcoming area meetings, please email them to [Morgan Mundell](#).



LIAISON COMMITTEE NEWS

Missouri Department of Transportation (Southeast District) Liaison Committee



The Missouri Department of Transportation (Southeast) District / ACEC/MO Liaison Committee met on September 17, 2021. ACEC/MO committee members at this meeting included: Billy Cobb, Jason Dohrmann, Bruce Schopp, Bob Summers, Ryan Thomas, Frank Weatherford, and Don Wichern. In addition to the committee members, ACEC/MO had 38 other members attend the meeting. Items discussed during this meeting included:

- MoDOT SE District Updates

- Missouri Legislative Agenda for this Session
- Consultant Deliverables
- Other Topics.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 11, 2022. To see the complete minutes from this meeting, [click here](#). Go to [ACEC/MO's website](#) to see these meeting minutes as well as most recent meeting minutes.

Missouri Department of Transportation (St. Louis District) Liaison Committee



The Missouri Department of Transportation (St. Louis) District / ACEC/MO Liaison Committee met on October 4, 2021. ACEC/MO attendees at this meeting included: Dan DeArmond, Buddy Desai, Mike Erdtmann, Howard Gotschall, Lisa Kramer, Tom Lohman, Linda Moen, J.C. Murray, and Don Wichern. Items discussed during this meeting included:

- MoDOT Staff Changes since last meeting
- Tom Blair Update
- Tom Evers Update
- Consultant Update
- Consultant Scoring
- SL Upcoming Consultant Opportunities
- Major Project Update.

The next meeting will be scheduled for some time in January-February, 2022. To see the complete minutes from this meeting, [click here](#). Go to [ACEC/MO's website](#) to see these meeting minutes as well as most recent meeting minutes.

INDUSTRY NEWS

New RFPs/RFQs Posted on ACEC/MO Website

The ACEC/MO website has been updated to include new RFPs/RFQs we recently received from the City of Dardenne Prairie; the City of Kidder; and MoDOT. To see the new RFPs/RFQs recently posted, click on the links below or go to our [website](#). We update the website as soon as we get new postings in, so please check it often.



- [City Solicitations](#)
- [Missouri Department of Transportation \(MoDOT\)](#)

ACEC Raises Industry Concerns over Federal Contractor Executive Order

by Dan Hilton, American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC)

In comments submitted to the FAR Council and the Safer Federal Workforce Task Force, ACEC raised numerous issues the A/E industry has related to Executive Order 14042. "Ensuring Adequate COVID Safety Protocols for Federal Contractors." The executive order, released on September 9th, will require that firms provide adequate COVID-19 safeguards for their workers performing on or in connection with a federal government contract.

As outlined in initial guidance to federal contractors on September 24th, the guidance and EO appear extremely broad, requiring safeguard for those working not just directly on a federal contract, but also those performing

support functions, such as HR and IT. ACEC's letter makes clear that many firms work on teams, both within their company as well as with other firms, serving as either a prime contractor or a subcontractor.

The documentation, transmission, and ultimate safekeeping of this personal information is a concern to many businesses, large and small. For very large companies with locations throughout the United States, verifying vaccination status presents challenges unforeseen or not easily resolved, including what form(s) of documentation is acceptable and how long it must be maintained. Additional areas of concern include the treatment of ID/IQ and other multi-year contracts within the acquisition threshold of \$250,000, as well as how federal and nonfederal contractors will be successfully segregated in order to comply with the executive order.

The FAR Council is expected to release a contract clause on October 8th. ACEC will be hosting a webinar for members on **Monday, October 11th** at **12:30 PM** with attorneys from Covington and Burling's Government Contract Practice Group. Click [here](#) to register for the webinar. Click [here](#) to read ACEC's comments to the FAR Council and the Safer Federal Workforce Task Force.

ACEC Engineering Influence Podcast: Thornton Tomasetti's Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Program



Diversity and Inclusion is an important pursuit across U.S. industries and within engineering firms. It's the right thing to do, but it is also a critical component in solving our STEM talent shortage and studies have found that diverse and inclusive companies perform better in the market. Many engineering firms have established D&I programs, and in this *Engineering Influence* episode, ACEC talked with Thornton Tomasetti President Wayne Stocks and Senior Principal Peggy Van Eepoel about their firm's efforts. Thornton Tomasetti, which is #62 on the 2021 ENR 500 and has 1,500 employees worldwide, launched its formal D&I program in 2016 and has continued to build and augment it ever since.

Click [here](#) to listen to the episode.

MEMBER INFORMATION & CALENDAR

Submit Your Project Entries NOW in ACEC/MO's EEA Project Competition

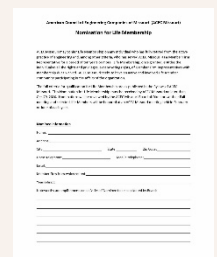


Now is the time to submit your project entries in ACEC/MO's 2022 Engineering Excellence Awards (EEA) Competition. The deadline to submit project entries is **Monday, October 25, 2021**. All project entries must be submitted through ACEC/MO's online [EEA portal](#). The only items you must submit to the ACEC/MO office is a USB flash drive with all the materials you submitted online and your entry fee.

If you wish to print out the Call for Entries that includes the rules, please go to ACEC/MO's [website](#). You can also click on a link from that same page to submit your project entries or click on the link above.

ACEC/MO Seeking Life Member Nominations

ACEC/MO seeks to recognize past member firm representatives who have given extraordinary service to ACEC/MO and have retired from active practice. Your help as a current member firm representative is needed to identify former members of your firm who may meet the criteria for Life Membership.



Nominations are due by **October 29, 2021**. They can be mailed or emailed to ACEC/MO as indicated on the form. A listing of current life members is listed on our [website](#) along with a link to the nomination form. If you have any questions, please contact the ACEC/MO office.

Member News

[Cook, Flatt & Strobel Engineers, P.A.](#) is pleased to announce that **Andrew Robertson, PE, PTOE, PTP**, has passed his Professional Transportation Certification. This certification is a rarity within the transportation industry (as of 2020, there are only 593 total in the world). This achievement denotes an individual with a significant background in mobility, accessibility, and public policy who has passed an extensive exam administered by the Transportation Professional Certification Board. Andrew will apply his knowledge to update community comprehensive plans and work with planning departments in an advisory role to promote a streamlined relationship between travel modes and land use.



Calendar of Events

October 19, 2021 -- ACEC/MO Springfield Area Lunch
October 21, 2021 -- ACEC/MO St. Louis Area Coffee
October 25, 2021 -- ACEC/MO EEA Project Entry Deadline
October 27-30, 2021 -- ACEC Fall Conference, Marco Island, FL
November 5, 2021 -- ACEC/MO Cybersecurity Webinar
November 11-12, 2021 -- ACEC/MO Fall Meeting, Columbia
November 17, 2021 -- ACEC/MO EEA Project Entry Judging
February 25-26, 2022 -- ACEC/MO Winter Meeting & Awards Banquet, Kansas City
May 2, 2022 - ACEC/MO 1st Annual PAC Golf Tournament, Porta Cima
June 8-13, 2022 - ACEC Midwest States Conference, St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands



Newly added events are italicized. To see a complete calendar of events, go to ACEC/MO's [website](#).