



Dear Colleagues –

Hope you had a great Memorial Day weekend. Last week's *New York Times* highlighted the Council's advocacy for the Section 179D energy-efficiency tax deduction. This is but the latest recognition for the Council on tax issues, following the *Washington Post*, *Wall Street Journal* and other major coverage of ACEC's "big win for engineers" in the tax reform law. ACEC's education programs are also firing on all cylinders; our new, online Project Management course is a big hit, with 24 attendees giving it thumbs-up reviews.

Dave

## **PRESIDENT'S MONTHLY UPDATE**

June 1, 2018

### **General**

- ACEC/PAC crossed the \$500,000 fundraising mark in May, the earliest we have reached that threshold; and we are running ahead of last year's record tally at this time.
- ACEC CFO Kim Pham will retire on June 8 after 40 years of exemplary financial leadership, and her able deputy Barry Doyle is stepping up to the plate.

### **Government Advocacy**

- The Senate Environment and Public Works Committee reported out the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) with ACEC's language to expand the application of QBS in federally-funded drinking water projects.
- Joined several other infrastructure groups in asking Treasury to issue guidance that will protect P3 projects from an unintended consequence of tax reform.
- Teamed with major business and labor organizations on ads and media events supporting infrastructure investment during Infrastructure Week 2018.
- ACEC's advocacy on the Section 179D energy-efficiency tax deduction was highlighted in a May 25th [New York Times article](#).

- Helped sponsor the U.S. Department of Commerce's *Discover Global Markets: Design + Construct* event in Kansas City, Missouri, which included ACEC Chairman Manish Kothari as a panelist on international opportunities.
- Submitted recommendations to the Department of Defense Section 809 Panel to improve DOD use of Qualifications-Based Selection (QBS).
- Joined in a coalition letter to Congress in support of sufficient funding for the 2020 Census, data from which is important for infrastructure investment planning.
- Joined AASHTO, Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) and other transportation groups in calling on U.S. DOT to update its Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.
- ACEC/PAC hosted fundraising events for Senators Deb Fischer (R-NE) and Tom Carper (D-DE) and U.S. Representatives Cathy McMorris-Rodgers (R-WA), James Sensenbrenner (R-WI), and Steve Womack (R-AR).
- ACEC/PAC supported two open seat candidates who won their congressional primaries: Russ Fulcher (R-ID) and Anthony Gonzales (R-OH).

## **Business Resources**

- 24 attendees participated in ACEC's new nine-week online course *Laying the Foundation for Superior Project Managers: Practices, Principles, and Fundamentals*, which used pre-recorded presentations, live discussions, and group case studies to develop skills for successful project management.
- With 40 registered sites, May's most popular online class, *Succession: Developing New Owners*, prepared member firms to start planning for smooth ownership transitions.
- ACEC's online continuing education management system [RCEP](#) added a new approved provider, the International Erosion Control Association (IECA), bringing the total to 162, with 106,222 subscribers.
- Coalitions' best sellers for May included CASE's *Milestone Checklist for Young Engineers* and COPS' *Job Descriptions for a Land Surveying Firm*, both available at [www.acec.org/bookstore](http://www.acec.org/bookstore).
- June webinars will include: *Meetings that Matter*; *The True Secrets of AEC High Growth Firms*; *Growing Profits Through Employee Retention*; *Taking your Board to the Next Level*; *Fast Future Rx: A Seven Step Prescription for Breakthrough 21st Century Business Success*; *Neuroselling: Engage the Brain to Trigger the Buy*; *How to Lead Without Authority (Even When You're Boss)*; *Identifying and Developing Your Future Business Development Leaders*; *"Spearin" and the Standard of Care: How Good Does a Design Have to Be?*; *Public Outreach and Communications – A True Value-Added Service For Your Clients*.

