

News

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President's Message by Joe Makar, P.E.



The year as President has flown by with many successful events, including a dry and sunny day at the 44th Annual "Afternoon at the Club" golf outing, the key to a successful presidency. Throughout the year we have worked closely with the various Maryland Department of Transportation modes, the Army Corps of Engineers and local governments to discuss business and technical matters.

I would like to thank all the executive committee members and committee chairs for their hard work throughout the year. This team effort, along with the phenomenal support of Jim and Barb, is what makes this the lead business organization

for engineering firms in our region.

We have a tough year ahead in obtaining much needed funding to maintain and expand our transportation infrastructure. I am sure with the leadership of our new President Jeff McBride we will move in the right direction.

My presidency ended at the 23rd Annual ACEC/MD Conference, which was held at the Greenbrier Resort from June 15 through June 17. In addition to networking opportunities, attendees found the Building Information Modeling (BIM) presentation, given by David Lee Fagerman, extremely valuable. It helped our firms' leaders better understand the benefits of BIM. BIM creates a realistic 3-D representation of buildings and infrastructure, improves coordination between disciplines, and improves coordination for construction documents.

Steve Hall, ACEC's Vice-President of Government Affairs, discussed federal issues relevant to our member firms and provided an update on the reauthorization bills. In the last Congress, the House passed legislation authorizing over \$30 billion for water and wastewater projects. Transportation funding still remains the biggest challenge with an additional \$75 billion needed over the next six years to maintain current spending.

Our highlight of the conference was Congressman Nick Rahall, representing the 3rd District of West Virginia, speaking at our General Membership Meeting luncheon. During a time when Congressional representatives have many demands from their constituents and Washington, it was very special for him to carve time out of his busy day to update us on the current environment in

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT / UPCOMING EVENTS

July 20 & 21 The Maryland Administrative Assistants Conference

Baltimore and Annapolis, MD. Presented by SkillPath Seminars. For more information or to enroll call 1.800.873.7545 or go to www.skillpath.com.

July 25-27

2011 Transportation Research Board: Waste Management and Resource Efficiency Workshop "Sustainability and Liability in Transportation" Portland OR.

For more information, go to www.oregon.gov.

August 9 – 12 14th Annual Transportation & Infrastructure Summit featuring the 4th Annual Global High-Speed Rail Forum. Irving, TX.

For more information or to register go to

www.transportationsummit.co

Washington focusing on transportation funding. He offered unique insight into the inner workings of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.

It is critical that everyone gears up for transportation funding Initiatives in the state. The General Assembly's Special Session could be held as early as the third week of October. It is crucial that we take action and participate in public forums, such as speaking at local rotaries, etc. Encourage your employees to speak up because without funding, jobs could be lost. Now is the time to follow up with more letters to your elected officials. A sample letter is still available on our web site.

2011 General Assembly Fails To Deliver Meaningful Results

Still burdened by an estimated \$1.6B structural deficit during the 2011 session, the Maryland General Assembly was unwilling to address the severe deficit in infrastructure funding that is plaguing the state. While bills were introduced to both restore funding to the Transportation Trust Fund (TTF) and to require barriers for further transfers from the TTF to the General Fund, the legislature only managed to restore some funding to the counties in the budget bill.

In spite of recommendations from the Blue Ribbon Commission on Maryland Transportation Funding that an influx of \$800M per year is necessary, the General Assembly chose to not act this year in a meaningful way reportedly due to high gas prices.

Other legislative actions included a one-year suspension of the sub goals for the state MBE program, passage of compromise legislation that adds a new member to the PE board, a watered-down restriction on checking the financial records of job applicants, and assistance to unemployed workers. On a positive note, the Garrett Jacobs Mansion did receive \$25,000 toward Ballroom Renovations that was accomplished through passage of the budget bill.

Of the approximately 2,300 pieces of legislation that were introduced this year, your Legislative Committee, chaired by McCormick Taylor's Dana Knight, reviewed almost 230 pieces of legislation in detail.

For more information on the following legislation reviewed by the committee, please go to ACEC/MD's website; go to the Legislative Action Center and click on the link to the Maryland General Assembly then access bill information and status. ACEC/MD's position and the General Assembly's action are included in this report.

(CF - cross filed)

TRANSPORTATION

SB 30 / CF=HB 904 - Vehicle Laws - Use of Work Zone Speed Control Systems - Presence of Workers Required OPPOSE

DIED IN COMMITTEE

SB 145/CF=HB 253 - Motor Fuel Tax - Personal Liability - Corporations, Limited Liability Companies, and Limited Liability Partnerships MONITOR RETURNED PASSED

SB 215/CF = HB 1349 - Maryland Community Enhancement Transit-Oriented

Development Fund

MONITOR

DIED IN HOUSE COMMITTEE

SB393 - Calvert County - Regulation of Roads

MONITOR

PASSED ENROLLED

SB 399/CF=HB 844 - Maryland Green Fuel Initiative - Motor Fuel Taxes -

Biodiesel

MONITOR

WITHDRAWN

SB 424/CF=HB 196 - Motor Vehicles - Use of Text Messaging Device While

Driving - Prohibited Acts

MONITOR

RETURNED PASSED

SB 451 - Transportation - Sales and Use Tax - Funding for Mass Transit Projects

MONITOR

DIED IN COMMITTEE

SB 458 - Maryland Department of Transportation - Enhanced Inspection of

Bridges - Adoption of Regulations

OPPOSE

UNFAVORABLE HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

SB 520 - Transportation - Chesapeake Bay Bridge Crossing - Environmental

Impact Study for a Third Span

MONITOR

DIED IN COMMITTEE

SB 543 - Maryland Transportation Authority - Supplemental Tolls - Highway User

Revenues for Municipalities

MONITOR

DIED IN COMMITTEE

SB 623 - Maryland Department of Transportation - Transit Review and

Evaluation

MONITOR

DIED IN HOUSE COMMITTEE

SB 677 - Transportation Trust Fund - Dedicated Highway Funds

MONITOR

DIED IN COMMITTEE

SB 706/CF = HB 488 - Video Lottery Terminals - Baltimore-Washington

International Thurgood Marshall Airport

SUPPORT

DIED IN COMMITTEE

SB 707/CF = HB 495 - Video Lottery Terminals - Expansion to Baltimore-

Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport

SUPPORT

SB 714/CF= HB 1001 - Transportation Trust Fund - Financing - Use of Funds SUPPORT

DIED IN COMMITTEE

SB 729 - Transportation - Transit Authorities - Red Line and Purple Line MONITOR

DIED IN COMMITTEE

SB 766 - Snowstorm and Related Climate Change Preparation Act MONITOR

DIED IN COMMITTEE

SB 796 / CF= HB 1139 - Transportation - Highway Construction Training and Supportive Services

MONITOR

DIED IN COMMITTEE

SB 812 - Blue Ribbon Commission on Maryland Transportation Funding - Uniform Process for Local Priorities

MONITOR

UNFAVORABLE REPORT

HB 74 - Transportation Authority - Chesapeake Bay Bridge - Electronic Toll Collection

MONITOR

DIED IN COMMITTEE

HB 196 / CF=SB 424 - Motor Vehicles - Use of Text Messaging Device While Driving - Prohibited Acts

MONITOR

RETURNED PASSED

HB 221 - Motor Vehicles - Use of Text Messaging Device While Driving MONITOR

UNFAVORABLE SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT

HB 222 - Motor Vehicles - Use of Wireless Communication Device - Prohibited Acts and Enforcement

MONITOR

UNFAVORABLE SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT

HB 253 / CF=SB 145 - Motor Fuel Tax - Personal Liability - Corporations, Limited Liability Companies, and Limited Liability Partnerships

SUPPORT

RETURNED PASSED

HB 373 / Vehicle Laws - Wireless Communication Devices - Enforcement of Prohibitions on Use While Driving

MONITOR

WITHDRAWN

HB 488 / CF= SB 706 - Video Lottery Terminals - Baltimore-Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport SUPPORT

UNFAVORABLE REPORT

HB 495 / CF= SB 707 - Video Lottery Terminals - Expansion to Baltimore-

Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport

SUPPORT

UNFAVORABLE REPORT

HB 514 - Vehicle Laws - Work Zone Speed Control Systems - Signage

MONITOR

UNFAVORABLE REPORT

HB 518 - Transportation Trust Fund Protection Act

MONITOR

DIED IN COMMITTEE

HB 591 - Transportation Trust Fund - Transfer or Diversion of Funds - Voter

Approval

MONITOR

DIED IN COMMITTEE

HB 796 - Maryland Transit Administration - MARC Penn Line Extension

MONITOR

WITHDRAWN

HB 844 / CF=SB 399 - Maryland Green Fuel Initiative - Motor Fuel Taxes -

Biodiesel

MONITOR

WITHDRAWN

HB 904 / CF=SB 30 - Vehicle Laws - Use of Work Zone Speed Control Systems -

Presence of Workers Required

OPPOSE

UNFAVORABLE REPORT

HB 906 - Marilyn J. Praisner Safe and Earth-Friendly Roadway Act

MONITOR

UNFAVORABLE REPORT

HB 948 - Land Use - State Rail Station Overlay Districts

MONITOR

UNFAVORABLE REPORT

HB 985 - Maryland Transit Administration - Recovery of Fares and Free Ridership

for State Employees

MONITOR

UNFAVORABLE SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT

HB 992 - Calvert County - Regulation of Roads

MONITOR

RETURNED PASSED

HB 1001 / CF = SB 714 - Transportation Trust Fund - Financing - Use of Funds

SUPPORT

DIED IN COMMITTEE

HB 1059 - Motor Fuel Tax - Rate Increase and Distribution of Revenues

OPPOSE

HB 1137 - Vehicle Laws - Speed Monitoring Systems - Uniform Warning Signs MONITOR

DIED IN SENATE COMMITTEE

HB 1139 / CF = SB 796 - Transportation - Highway Construction Training and Supportive Services

MONITOR

DIED IN SENATE COMMITTEE

HB 1176 - Study of the Privatization of the Intercounty Connector or Segments of the Intercounty Connector

MONITOR

DIED IN COMMITTEE

HB 1186 - Transportation - State Highway Administration - Sale or Lease of Highway Naming Rights

MONITOR

DIED IN COMMITTEE

HB 1294 - Deficit Reduction Financing Act of 2011

OPPOSE

UNFAVORABLE REPORT

HB 1349 / CF = SB 215 - Maryland Community Enhancement Transit-Oriented Development Fund MONITOR

DIED IN COMMITTEE

ENVIRONMENTAL

SB 153 - Reorganization of State Government - Consolidating the Department of the Environment into the Department of Natural Resources

MONITOR

UNFAVORABLE REPORT

SB 160 / CF=HB 177 - Environment - On-Site Sewage Disposal Systems - Nitrogen Removal

MONITOR

DIED IN COMMITTEE

SB 422 / CF=HB 411 - Natural Gas Exploration and Production - Marcellus Shale Formation

SUPPORT

UNFAVORABLE REPORT

SB 539 / CF=HB 57 - Environment - Bay Restoration Fund - Authorized Uses SUPPORT

RETURNED PASSED

SB 634 / CF = HB 852 - Marcellus Shale Safe Drilling Act of 2011

MONITOR

DIED IN COMMITTEE

SB 752 - Environment - Permitting Process - Environmental Justice Review MONITOR

SB 827 / CF = HB 415 - Environment - Severn River Watershed - Silt and Erosion

Control - Certification

SUPPORT

UNFAVORABLE HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

SB 846 / CF= HB 1107 - Sustainable Growth and Agricultural Preservation $\mathop{\rm Act}\nolimits$ of

2011 OPPOSE

DIED IN COMMITTEE

SB 861 / CF= HB 1054 - Maryland Offshore Wind Energy Act

MONITOR

DIED IN COMMITTEE

SB 916 / CF= HB 1164 - Bay Restoration Fund - Talbot County Demonstration

Projects

MONITOR

UNFAVORABLE REPORT

SB 958 - Maryland Clean Energy Incentive Act - Qualified Energy Resources

MONITOR

RETURNED PASSED

HB 57 / CF=SB 539 - Environment - Bay Restoration Fund - Authorized Uses

SUPPORT

RETURNED PASSED

HB 177 / CF=SB 160 - Environment - On-Site Sewage Disposal Systems - Nitrogen

Removal

MONITOR

DIED IN COMMITTEE

HB 278 - Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays Critical Area - Prospective Land

Purchases - Inspections

SUPPORT

UNFAVORABLE REPORT

HB 370 - Stormwater Management - Watershed Management Plans - Technical

Assistance

MONITOR

UNFAVORABLE REPORT

HB 371 - Department of the Environment - Stormwater Management Ordinance

- Cost Study

MONITOR

UNFAVORABLE REPORT

HB 411 / CF=SB 422 - Natural Gas Exploration and Production - Marcellus Shale

Formation

SUPPORT

UNFAVORABLE REPORT

HB 415 / CF=SB 827 - Environment - Severn River Watershed - Silt and Erosion

Control - Certification

SUPPORT

WITHDRAWN

HB 474 - Construction and Development Projects - Expedited Approval of State

Permits

SUPPORT

RE-COMMIT TO COMMITTEE

HB 524 - Task Force to Review State Regulations

SUPPORT

UNFAVORABLE REPORT

HB 608 - Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission - Pipeline Construction -

Contracts MC/PG 104-11

MONITOR

DIED IN SENATE COMMITTEE

HB 847 - Environment - Permitting Process - Environmental Justice Review

MONITOR

WITHDRAWN

HB 852 / CF = SB 634 - The Marcellus Shale Safe Drilling Act of 2011

MONITOR

DIED IN SENATE COMMITTEE

HB 989 - State Board of Environmental Health Specialists - Transfer of

Responsibilities

MONITOR

WITHDRAWN

HB 1054 / CF = SB 861 - Maryland Offshore Wind Energy Act

MONITOR

DIED IN COMMITTEE

HB 1064 - Watershed Protection and Restoration Act

SUPPORT

DIED IN COMMITTEE

HB 1107 / CF = SB 846 - Sustainable Growth and Agricultural Preservation Act of

2011

OPPOSE

DIED IN COMMITTEE

HB 1164 / CF = SB 916 - Bay Restoration Fund - Talbot County Demonstration

Projects

MONITOR

DIED IN COMMITTEE

HB 1310 - Tax Supported Debt - Energy Performance Contracts

MONITOR

RETURNED PASSED

GENERAL BUSINESS

SB 85 / CF = HB 70 - Budget Bill Fiscal Year 2012

MONITOR

SB 86 / CF = HB 71 - Creation of State Debt - Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loan of 2011, and the Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loans of 1996, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, and 2010 SUPPORT

DIED IN COMMITTEE

SB 87 / CF = HB 72 - Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act of 2011 OPPOSE

DIED IN COMMITTEE

SB 91 / CF = HB 67 - State Board of Architects - Sunset Extension and Program Evaluation

MONITOR

RETURNED PASSED

SB 94 / CF = HB 69 - State Board for Professional Engineers - Sunset Extension and Program Evaluation

MONITOR

RETURNED PASSED

SB 120 / CF= HB 456 - Procurement - Minority Business Participation MONITOR

RETURNED PASSED

SB 127 / CF=HB 352 - Creation of a State Debt - Baltimore City - Garrett-Jacobs Mansion Ballroom

SUPPORT

DIED IN COMMITTEE

SB 132 / CF=HB 87 - Job Applicant Fairness Act

OPPOSE

PASSED ENROLLED

SB 187 - Procurement - Prevailing Wage - School Construction

MONITOR

DIED IN COMMITTEE

SB 191 / CF=HB 117 - Real Property - Interference With Property Markers -

Penalty Increase

SUPPORT

RETURNED PASSED

SB 209 / CF=HB 552 - Corporations and Associations - Low-Profit Limited Liability

Companies

MONITOR

UNFAVORABLE REPORT

SB 241 / CF=HB 628 - Commission to Study Streamlining and Increasing the

Efficiency of the Procurement Process

MONITOR

DIED IN COMMITTEE

SB 268 - Business Occupations and Professions - Qualified Industrial Hygienists and Industrial Hygiene Technologists

HOLD

WITHDRAWN

SB 290 - State Board for Professional Engineers - Examinations

SUPPORT

RETURNED PASSED

SB 293 - State Board of Examiners of Landscape Architects - Applicants for

Licensure - Educational and Experience Requirements

SUPPORT

RETURNED PASSED

SB 305 / CF=HB 731 - Corporate Income Tax - Combined Reporting

OPPOSE

DIED IN COMMITTEE

SB 339 - Campaign Finance - Affiliated Business Entities - Attribution of

Contributions

MONITOR

DIED IN COMMITTEE

SB 364 / CF-HB 295 - Corporations - Maryland General Corporation Law -

Miscellaneous Provisions

MONITOR

DIED IN COMMITTEE

SB 444 / CF=HB 693 - Labor and Employment - Employment Standards and

Conditions - Definition of Employer

MONITOR

REFERRED TO INTERIM STUDY BY SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

SB 551 / CF = HB 1130 - Maryland Wage and Hour Law - Prohibited Acts of

Employers - Adverse Action

OPPOSE

RETURNED PASSED

SB 555 - Minority Business Enterprise Participation - Disclosure and Termination

Extension

MONITOR

DIED IN COMMITTEE

SB 558 - Minority Business Enterprise Program - Amendments to MBE

Participation Schedule and Termination Extension

MONITOR

PASSED ENROLLED

SB 600 - Labor and Employment - Abusive Work Environments - Employee

Remedies

OPPOSE

DIED IN COMMITTEE

SB 611 / CF=HB 194 - Minority Business Enterprise Participation - Contracts,

Debarment, and Termination Extension

OPPOSE

WITHDRAWN

SB 612 / CF=HB 143 - Minority Business Participation - The Ray Haysbert Waiver

Disclosure and Termination Extension Act

MONITOR

WITHDRAWN

SB 616 - Equal Opportunities Employment Act

OPPOSE

DIED IN COMMITTEE

SB 646 / CF= HB 795 - Economic Development - Green Business Incentive Zones MONITOR

DIED IN COMMITTEE

SB 656 / CF= HB 982 - Property and Casualty Insurance - Certificates of Insurance and Certificate of Insurance Forms

MONITOR

RETURNED PASSED

SB 659 - Procurement - Prevailing Wage Rate Law - Repeal

MONITOR

DIED IN COMMITTEE

SB 727 - Small Business Growth Initiative

SUPPORT

UNFAVORABLE REPORT

SB 728 / CF= HB 1135 - State Board for Professional Engineers - Increase in Membership and Practice Specialties

MONITOR

PASSED ENROLLED

SB 732 - Maryland Taxpayer Protection Act

MONITOR

DIED IN COMMITTEE

SB 733 / CF= HB 880 - Health Care Freedom Act of 2011

MONITOR

DIED IN COMMITTEE

SB 750 / CF= HB 1002 - Religious Observance Accommodations Act

OPPOSE

DIED IN COMMITTEE

SB 779 / CF= HB 814 - Creation of a State Debt - Baltimore City - Museum of Industry Visitor Services Improvements

SUPPORT

DIED IN COMMITTEE

SB 807 - State Procurement - Employment of Unauthorized Aliens and the Federal E-Verify Program

MONITOR

UNFAVORABLE REPORT

SB 827 / CF=HB 415 - Environment - Severn River Watershed - Silt and Erosion

Control - Certification

SUPPORT

UNFAVORABLE HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

SB 873 - Private Property Rights - Regulatory Infringement - Compensation

MONITOR

SB 944 / CF= HB 641 - Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission -

Procurement and Minority Business Enterprises - WSSC Procurement Oversight Committee MC/PG 113-11

MONITOR

DIED IN COMMITTEE

SB 969 - Labor and Employment - Administrative Leave - Parent-Teacher

Conferences

MONITOR

DIED IN COMMITTEE

 ${\bf SB~971-Labor~and~Employment-User~Name~and~Password~Privacy~Protection}\\$

MONITOR

DIED IN COMMITTEE

HB 67 / CF = SB 91 - State Board of Architects - Sunset Extension and Program

Evaluation

MONITOR

RETURNED PASSED

HB 69 / CF = SB 94 - State Board for Professional Engineers - Sunset Extension and Program Evaluation

MONITOR

RETURNED PASSED

HB 70 / CF = SB 85 - Budget Bill Fiscal Year 2012

MONITOR

PASSED ENROLLED

HB 71 / CF = SB 86 - Creation of State Debt - Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loan of 2011, and the Maryland Consolidated Capital Bond Loans of 1996, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, and 2010

SUPPORT

PASSED ENROLLED

HB 72 / CF = SB 87 - Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act of 2011

OPPOSE

PASSED ENROLLED

HB 87 / CF=SB 132 - Job Applicant Fairness Act

OPPOSE

RETURNED PASSED

HB 117 / CF = SB 191 - Real Property - Obliterating, Damaging, or Removing

Property Markers - Penalty Increase

SUPPORT

RETURNED PASSED

HB 143 / CF=SB 612 - Minority Business Participation - The Ray Haysbert Waiver

Disclosure and Termination Extension Act

MONITOR

WITHDRAWN

HB 194 / CF=SB 611 - Minority Business Enterprise Participation - Contracts,

Debarment, and Termination Extension

OPPOSE

WITHDRAWN

HB 295 / CF=SB 364 - Corporations - Maryland General Corporation Law -

Miscellaneous Provisions

MONITOR

DIED IN SENATE COMMITTEE

HB 322 - Campaign Finance - Affiliated Business Entities - Attribution of

Contributions

MONITOR

DIED IN COMMITTEE

HB 352 / CF=SB 127 - Creation of a State Debt - Baltimore City - Garrett-Jacobs

Mansion Ballroom

SUPPORT

UNFAVORABLE REPORT

HB 415 / CF=SB 827 - Environment - Severn River Watershed - Silt and Erosion

Control - Certification

SUPPORT

WITHDRAWN

HB 434 - District Court - Small Claim Actions

SUPPORT

UNFAVORABLE REPORT

HB 449 - State Government - Regulations Affecting Small Businesses and

Economic Impact Analysis

SUPPORT

UNFAVORABLE REPORT

HB 451 - State Government - Council on Efficient Government

MONITOR

UNFAVORABLE REPORT

HB 456 / CF = SB 120 - Procurement - Minority Business Participation

MONITOR

RETURNED PASSED

HB 463 - Property Tax - Semiannual Payment Schedule - Business Property

SUPPORT

PASSED ENROLLED

HB 552 / CF = SB 209 - Corporations and Associations - Low-Profit Limited

Liability Companies

MONITOR

WITHDRAWN

HB 628 / CF=SB 241 - Commission to Study Streamlining and Increasing the

Efficiency of the Procurement Process

MONITOR

WITHDRAWN

HB 641 / CF = SB 944 - Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission -

Procurement and Minority Business Enterprises - WSSC Procurement Oversight

Committee MC/PG 113-11

MONITOR

HB 693 / CF=SB 444 - Labor and Employment - Employment Standards and

Conditions - Definition of Employer

MONITOR

DIED IN COMMITTEE

HB 731 / CF=SB 305 - Corporate Income Tax - Combined Reporting

OPPOSE

DIED IN COMMITTEE

HB 748 - Academic Facilities Bonding Authority

MONITOR

RETURNED PASSED

HB 753 - Procurement - Use of Federal Work Authorization Programs

MONITOR

UNFAVORABLE REPORT

HB 795 / CF = SB 646 - Economic Development - Green Business Incentive Zones

MONITOR

DIED IN COMMITTEE

HB 814 / CF = SB 779 - Creation of a State Debt - Baltimore City - Museum of

Industry Visitor Services Improvements

SUPPORT

UNFAVORABLE REPORT

HB 855 - Corporate Income Tax - Rate Reduction

MONITOR

WITHDRAWN

HB 880 / CF = SB 733 - Health Care Freedom Act of 2011

MONITOR

UNFAVORABLE REPORT

HB 926 - Dedicated State Funds Protection Act

MONITOR

UNFAVORABLE REPORT

HB 934 - Labor and Employment - Credit Reports and Credit Histories of

Applicants and Employees - Limitations on Use by Employers

OPPOSE

UNFAVORABLE REPORT

HB 982 / CF = SB 656 - Property and Casualty Insurance - Certificates of

Insurance and Certificate of Insurance Forms

MONITOR

RETURNED PASSED

HB 1002 / CF = SB 750 - The Religious Observance Accommodation Act

OPPOSE

UNFAVORABLE REPORT

HB 1050 - Construction Permits - Expiration Dates

MONITOR

DIED IN SENATE COMMITTEE

HB 1129 - Maryland Contributory Negligence Act

SUPPORT

HB 1130 / CF = SB 551 - Maryland Wage and Hour Law - Prohibited Acts of

Employers - Adverse Action

OPPOSE

RETURNED PASSED

HB 1133 - Procurement - Prevailing Wage - Rates

MONITOR

UNFAVORABLE REPORT

HB 1135 / CF = SB 728 - State Board for Professional Engineers - Increase in

Membership and Practice Specialties

MONITOR

RETURNED PASSED

HB 1136 - Courts - Jury Service - Employer Compensation

MONITOR

UNFAVORABLE REPORT

HB 1303 - Occupational Safety - Manholes and Confined Spaces - Training in

First Aid and Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation

MONITOR

WITHDRAWN

HB 1330 - Construction Safety and Health Training - Public Work Contracts

MONITOR

REFERRED TO INTERIM STUDY BY HOUSE ECONOMIC MATTERS COMMITTEE

WORKPLACE / HEALTH

SB 58 - Unemployment Insurance - Judicial Review of Board of Appeals Decision

- Passage of Order

MONITOR

RETURNED PASSED

SB 183 / CF=HB 170 - Health Insurance - Conformity with Federal Law

MONITOR

RETURNED PASSED

SB 388 - Maryland Health Security Act of 2011

OPPOSE

UNFAVORABLE REPORT

SB 413 / CF= HB 889 - Workers' Compensation - Temporary Total Disability

Benefits - Termination

MONITOR

DIED IN COMMITTEE

SB 537 / CF= HB 1003 - Unemployment Insurance Benefits - Disqualification

SUPPORT

DIED IN COMMITTEE

SB 882 / CF= HB 1228 - Unemployment Insurance - Federal Extended Benefits

for the Long-Term Unemployed

MONITOR

RETURNED PASSED

HB 170 / CF=SB 183 - Health Insurance - Conformity with Federal Law

MONITOR

RETURNED PASSED

HB 197 - Unemployment Insurance Benefits Claims - Appeals - Finality of Order MONITOR

RETURNED PASSED

HB 889 / CF = SB 413 - Workers' Compensation - Temporary Total Disability Benefits - Termination

MONITOR

DIED IN COMMITTEE

HB 1003 / CF = SB 537 - Unemployment Insurance Benefits - Disqualification SUPPORT

DIED IN COMMITTEE

HB 1228 / CF = SB 882 - Unemployment Insurance - Federal Extended Benefits for the Long-Term Unemployed

MONITOR

RETURNED PASSED

MECHANICAL / ELECTRICAL

SB 189 / CF=HB 636 - Public Schools - State Aid for School Construction -

Planning and Design Costs

MONITOR

DIED IN COMMITTEE

SB 283 - State Board of Architects - Retired Status Licenses

SUPPORT

RETURNED PASSED

SB 387 / CF=HB 910 - High Performance Buildings Act - Applicability to

Recipients of State Aid

MONITOR

UNFAVORABLE REPORT

SB 626 - Public School Construction Funding Reform Act of 2011

MONITOR

WITHDRAWN

SB 643 / CF= HB 902 - Human Relations - Housing Discrimination - Source of

Income

MONITOR

DIED IN COMMITTEE

SB 948 - Harford County - One or Two Family Dwellings Constructed as

Industrialized Buildings - Sprinkler System Requirement

MONITOR

RETURNED PASSED

HB 636 / CF = SB 189 - Public Schools - State Aid for School Construction -

Planning and Design Costs

MONITOR

DIED IN COMMITTEE

HB 902 / CF = SB 643 - Human Relations - Housing Discrimination - Source of

Income

MONITOR

UNFAVORABLE REPORT

HB 910 / CF=SB 387 - High Performance Buildings Act - Applicability to Recipients of State Aid MONITOR WITHDRAWN

HB 969 - Building Codes - Department of Housing and Community Development - Plumbing and Heating, Ventilation, Air-Conditioning, and Refrigeration MONITOR UNFAVORBLE REPORT

HB 972 - Building Codes - International Green Construction Code HOLD PASSED ENROLLED

HB 981 - Housing - Maryland Building Performance Standards - Accessibility Standards
OPPOSE
WITHDRAWN

Call to Action for Transportation Funding

The 2011 General Assembly session concluded without a meaningful enhancement to the state's beleaguered Transportation Trust Fund (TTF). By many accounts, including from both Senate President Mike Miller and House Speaker Mike Busch, there was momentum for a revenue increase at the beginning of the 2011 General Assembly session that fell victim to high fuel prices that eclipsed \$4.00 per gallon.

At the beginning of the session the American Council of Engineering Companies/Maryland (ACEC/MD) joined forces with the GBC, AAA , MTBMA, the Maryland Chamber of Commerce, the Greater Washington Board of Trade and approximately 50 other organizations and companies to form the START Coalition. The mission of this coalition is to return the trust to the Transportation Trust Fund (TTF), secure at least \$500 M per year in additional transportation funding, and restore highway user revenue to local jurisdictions.

Coalition member, AAA, has come out in support of a revenue increase in spite of their members' opposition to a fuel tax increase. Not surprisingly, their members also expressed support for transportation improvements.

Working with the coalition, ACEC/MD representatives testified before both the Senate Budget & Taxation (B&T) Committee and House Ways & Means (W&M) Committee in favor of SB 714 and HB 1001, legislation that would have provided for both a significant revenue increase and TTF protection. In addition, targeted visitations with members of the committees and a special dinner for the W&M Committee helped to strengthen the possibility that this important legislation would be passed out of committee. Unfortunately, neither committee was willing to take the lead on this initiative without assurance that the Administration or the entire body would act favorably.

Members of the START Coalition counted votes on the floor and it became apparent that our elected officials could either not support a meaningful increase in the fuel tax or registration fees, would only support an increase if the integrity of the TTF is strengthened, or would only support protecting the TTF.

At a recent presentation to Governor O'Malley by the Blue Ribbon Commission on Transportation Funding, commission members highlighted the need for an additional \$800 M per year infusion into the TTF. While publicly acknowledging the need for an increase in funding, the Governor commented that the public would not support an increase in the fuel tax. His comments at the forum differed sharply from W&M Chair Sheila Hixson, who stated that the tax increase is an easy sell since it is in essence a user's fee.

Since both the Governor and the leadership in both houses of the General Assembly have at times indicated a willingness to revisit transportation funding during a special session in the Fall or in the 2012 session, now is the time to contact your elected officials including the Governor. They need to hear from their constituents that there is real concern over a lack of meaningful action in the just concluded General Assembly session, and to reassure them that a vote for a fuel tax increase does not mean the end of their political careers.

While fuel prices have retreated in recent weeks, there is still a stiff headwind against additional funding associated with the announced planned increase in tolls and the general public distrust of our elected officials' ability to maintain the integrity of the TTF. It is imperative that today's anti-tax rhetoric is countered with a reasonable discussion of the fact that our transportation system is in serious jeopardy of not only diminishing the quality of life enjoyed by all Marylanders, but also is in danger of putting our state at a huge competitive disadvantage.

It is extremely unlikely that the General Assembly would address the transportation funding issue after the second year of their four-year term, so please make your voice heard this year. Don't wait until it's too late!

SHA Administrator Neil Pedersen Retires

After a long and distinguished career in state service that spanned three decades, State Highway Administrator Neil J. Pedersen has announced his retirement, effective June 30, 2011. SHA Administrator for over eight years, Mr. Pedersen directed the largest capital building program in the history of the organization, including the Intercounty Connector(ICC) and the Woodrow Wilson Bridge construction projects. He is also credited with improving highway safety, while leading a cultural shift at SHA toward sustainability and environmental stewardship.

Recognizing his accomplishments in the state of Maryland, Mr. Pedersen received national attention serving in leadership positions on numerous boards and commissions, including Chair of the Executive Committee of the National Academy of Sciences Transportation Research Board (TRB). He is also a past recipient of the Thomas McDonald Award from AASHTO, the organization's highest honor bestowed for service, leadership and vision, and the George S. Bartlett Award from AASHTO, TRB, and ARTBA for his outstanding contributions

to highway progress.

A strong supporter of open dialogue with ACEC/MD and its member firms, Mr. Pedersen will continue on as an advisor for the ICC project. Former Pennoni Associates principal Deputy Transportation Secretary Darrell B. Mobley will serve as interim Administrator until a new Administrator is appointed.

Mr. Pedersen asked the ACEC/MD office to share the following comments with our membership:

"I have informed Secretary of Transportation Beverley-Swaim Staley of my intention to retire as Maryland State Highway Administrator, effective June 30, 2011. It has been a privilege and an honor to serve as State Highway Administrator for the past eight and a half years, and to have worked for the agency for almost 29 years.

I have made this decision after considerable deliberation and thought and believe that it is the right decision for both professional and personal reasons. This year I have had the honor to serve as Chair of the Executive Committee of the Transportation Research Board. I have also had the good fortune to be able to serve in leadership positions on a number of TRB and AASHTO committees and task forces over the past several years. While my participation in these committees has helped me to bring many ideas and best practices back to SHA, it has also exposed me to other interesting areas in transportation. This change will allow me more time to explore new interests that I was unable to while fulfilling the demands of being SHA Administrator.

I have also concluded that ending my term as Administrator is the right thing to do for personal reasons. I have always maintained that family must be the first priority for each of us, and I have realized that I need to genuinely practice what I preach. My wife and I have a number of things that we would like to do but have not been able to while I have been SHA Administrator. We also realize the importance of spending time with our families while we are able to do so.

I am grateful to each of you for our being able to work together in partnership. I have only been able to accomplish what I have because of the tremendous support I have received from individuals like you and because of the awesome team that I have had supporting me at the Maryland State Highway Administration. What SHA has accomplished as an agency while I have been Administrator is due to the outstanding work and professionalism of employees across the agency.

SHA will always be part of my heart and soul, and I have assured Secretary Swaim-Staley that I will do everything I can to help ensure as smooth a transition in leadership as possible and to ensure the future success of SHA and the entire Maryland Department of Transportation. I have agreed to stay on in an advisory capacity to help ensure the successful completion of the Intercounty Connector project.

Although I will be stepping down as SHA Administrator, I look forward to maintaining the many relationships that I have developed over the years, and look forward to interacting with you in the future.

Thank you, Neil (Pedersen)"

ACEC Weighs In On Proposed SBA Size Standard

Trying to strike an equitable balance addressing the interests of its member firms, ACEC has submitted a recommendation to the Small Business Administration (SBA) that the size standard for engineering services be increased from \$4.5M to \$10M rather than the proposed \$19M. In addition, ACEC is recommending that federal agencies produce contracts that better reflect the capabilities of small firms and that subcontract goals be based on contract role versus percent of work subcontacted. A summary of ACEC's response is as follows:

The following comments are submitted on behalf of the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC), the association of the nation's engineering industry. Representing nearly 5,500 engineering firms of all sizes, the Council is pleased to provide guidance on the proposed size standard for Engineering Services (NAICS Code 541330) as published in the *Federal Register* Volume 76, Number 51 (Wednesday, March 16, 2011).

Summary

ACEC appreciates the efforts by the Small Business Administration (SBA) to address the need to update the existing small business size standard. The current standard of \$4.5 million in gross receipts per year has been in place since 2005, and there appears to be general agreement among the Council's members that the size standard should be allowed to grow in a manner that keeps true pace with inflation over time and accommodate the people and tools needed to provide service to federal clients.

At the same time, the Council is concerned that SBA may be reaching too far in its recommendation to increase the standard to \$19 million in gross receipts per year, noting issues with the data on which the proposal was based and impact to the industry. While opinions among ACEC's diverse membership have varied to some degree on the proper level, the Council calculates that a size standard of \$9 million in total revenues is a better reflection of inflation and industry data relative to the staffing needs of small firms and the revenue they generate. If SBA holds to the published 8 predetermined size standard levels, this would result in the new size standard of \$10 million.

In addition to recommending an increase to \$10 million, the Council is also advocating a number of specific policy changes aimed at both improving the tracking and participation of small firms on federal contracts, as well as accommodating teaming arrangements among small, medium and large firms that are essential to responding to agency needs. These recommendations include:

- 1) Requiring federal agencies to design small business contracts and scopes of work to better reflect the capabilities of small firms, and halt the current practice of large, complex, and geographically expansive solicitations that require large firm involvement (or support, if set aside) to meet breadth, management, insurance, and financial requirements.
- 2) Measuring all federal small business participation based on role, independent of contract tier.
- 3) Establishing subcontract goals based on contract role versus percent of work subcontracted (eliminating the current mid-size

penalty, allowing teaming with all size firms, and providing a base of true work for small firms).

Michael Baker, Jr., Inc.'s Paul Slonac Takes the Trophy at ACEC/MD's Annual Tournament

Outgoing ACEC/MD President Joe Makar (WRA) made good on his "campaign promise" and delivered a perfect day for ACEC/MD's 44th annual golf tournament. Over 100 golfers took part in this year's tournament, which was encouraging in light of reduced attendance at some other popular tournaments held this year.

Taming the challenging Greystone Course and winning this year's tournament was Michael Baker, Jr., Inc.'s Paul Slonac, who shot an impressive low gross score of 70.

While there were some fairly close shots, the \$20,000 prize for a hole-in-one remained unclaimed.

Through the purchase of mulligans, golfers did contribute a record \$855.00 to ACEC/MD's Scholarship Fund. We would also like to thank both the contributors to the silent auction and the bidders that helped raise \$1,925.00 for CEPAC, ACEC/MD's state political action committee.

Other notable performances during the tournament included:

2nd Low Gross – Jim Frazier (Michael Baker, Jr., Inc.)

1st Low Net – Steve Carl (Prime Engineering)

2nd Low Net – Charlie Adams

3rd Low Net – Mike Marsolais (Greenman-Pedersen)

Least # of putts - Paul Daloni

Most # of putts - Duane Repko

Men's Longest Drive – Jerry Jannetti (PB)

Ladies' Longest Drive – Heidi Van Luven (AMT)

Closest to the Pin (2) – Amanda Baxter (WRA)

Reza Hatami (EBA)

BCPS is Interested in Partnering with You!

The Baltimore County Public School system is very interested in engaging professionals in the community. They are looking for partners interested in working with their schools. This can be an individual or a company.

The Baltimore County Public Schools Partner Network works as follows:

Establish Partnerships

A partnership represents a specific resource that your organization offers to one or more county schools. Recording the partnership on the network allows you to then invite new members to join the partnership, maintain a contact list of participants/schools in the partnership and alerts you when your contact at a school(s) has changed.

Search for Schools in Your Area

If you are interested in contributing to the needs of schools in your area, the Partner Network has provided a search tool that will allow you to enter your address and view the schools in your immediate area. Use this list to generate an invitation list for a partnership you manage.

Receive Partnership Opportunity Notifications

Since all of the principals at county schools are members of the network, they also have the ability to establish partnerships. Principals develop partnerships based on the specific needs of their schools. When basic criteria that a registered, you are asked to select the partnership proposal must meet in order for you to receive notification. Those criteria determine which invitations you receive when a new partnership opportunity is created.

Partnerships with members of the community offer the potential for an improved educational environment for all students. Your willingness to assist BCPS in meeting its educational goals is greatly appreciated.

Questions regarding the BCPS Partner Network should be directed to PartnerNetwork@bcps.org<mailto:PartnerNetwork@bcps.org>. You may also visit https://www.bcps.org/partnernetwork once your account has been activated to learn more.

Baltimore County Career Technology Advisory Council Seeks New Member

There is an opening for an individual to serve on the Career and Technology Education Advisory Council of the Baltimore County Public Schools.

This three-year appointment would assist the school system in ensuring a quality career and technology education experience for every student. It is expected that the appointee would attend four meetings per year commencing in September, 2011 and their Annual Banquet. For more information, please contact EBA's Kunal Gangopadhyay (kunal@ebaengineering.com) or WBCM's Richard Magnani (rmagnani@wbcm.com).

IRS Mileage Rate to Increase in July

Commencing July 1^{st} , employees that use their car for business and don't get reimbursed from their employer will be able to deduct $55\frac{1}{2}$ -cents per mile on tax returns. This is up from 51-cents in the first half of the year.

Individuals that use their vehicles for medical purposes or moving will be able to deduct $23\frac{1}{2}$ -cents per mile, while the mileage rate for charitable work will remain at 14-cents per mile.

New Members

The following firms have been elected to membership:

J.K. Datta Consultants, Inc.

711 West 40th Street, Suite 355

Baltimore, MD 21211

Telephone: 410-243-2882; Fax 410-243-2888

Firm Rep.: Kimberley Adams, PE kim.adams@datta-consultants.com

Website: www.datta-consultants.com

Brief History and Activities of the Firm: Established in 1983, Datta Consultants is a minority-owned, full service engineering consultant firm providing engineering services for various local government municipalities and agencies. The field of operations for the firm include: Highway, Environmental, Electrical, Traffic, ITS, and Utilities. The firm's focus is in the design and engineering of Storm Drain Facilities, Erosion and Sediment Control, SWM facilities, Water Distribution Systems, Sanitation Systems, Roadway and Sidewalks, Traffic Signals, Street Lighting, Intelligent Transportation Systems, Database Design, Maintenance of Traffic, Utility Planning for state roadways, and preparing and processing permits and other environmental applications. They also have extensive experience in Pavement Rehabilitation, Systems Design, and Geographic Information Systems (GIS), Construction Inspections, Pedestrian, Bicyclist and Vehicular Traffic Assessment, Critical Area Assessment, and Subsurface Utility Investigation.

Landmark Consulting Engineers

356 Congress Avenue

Havre de Grace, MD 21078

Telephone: 410-939-2144; Fax 410-939-1284

Firm Rep.: Ted Williams, PE tedw@landmarkjcm.com

Website: www.landmarkjcm.com

Brief History and Activities of the Firm: Established in 1987 by five professionals in Delaware to provide civil engineering services to the tri-state region, Landmark Consulting Engineers has grown to 60 employees in five offices. The field of operations for the firm include: Civil, Environmental, Highways, Survey, Site Development, Natural Sciences, Remediation and Green Buildings. Integrated civil-site engineering services include land surveys, GIS mapping, land planning, engineering design for civil, site, traffic/transportation, water resources, pre-development advisory, due diligence, and construction phase services. Environmental services include wetlands, forests and wildlife investigation and mitigation, pond and land management, brownfields redevelopment, site remediation, and green building consultation.

David Myers & Associates

28099 Adkins Road Salisbury, MD 21801

Telephone: 410-422-3100; Fax 443-736-3821

Firm Rep.: David Myers, PE <u>davidmyers2662@hotmail.com</u>

Website: www.davidmyersandassociatesllc.com

Brief History and Activities of the Firm: Established in 2011, David Myers & Associates is a full services civil engineering and land surveying firm. David Myers has 17 years experience in the industry. The expertise of the company is urban stormwater management with an emphasis on water quality control. Other services include transportation engineering, site plan engineering, subdivision engineering, underground utility engineering, and surveying. Activities of the firm include: engineering calculations and construction plans for land development, transportation, and infrastructure projects; land planning and construction administration; parking lot design, gravity flow sanitary sewer engineering, waterline engineering, storm water infrastructure engineering, highway engineering; commercial and industrial site plan engineering; land surveying, boundary surveying, ALTA surveys, construction staking; FEMA flood studies; stormwater engineering, quantity and quality control, hydrology and hydraulics calculations and reports.

We welcome these firms as members of ACEC/MD. Be sure to add their information to your records. The next time you see one of their representatives, please take the time to let them know we're glad that they have joined the Council!

Member News

- A. Morton Thomas and Associates, Inc. is pleased to announce the following:
 - Laura Mehiel, P.E. has joined the firm as an Associate, and Glenn Fox has been hired as the Manager of the firm's Subsurface Utility Engineering practice.
- CBIZ is pleased to announce the hiring of Gregory Whitehead as Sales
 Consultant for the Architects and Engineers Division of CBIZ Insurance
 Services, Inc.
- **EBA Engineering, Inc.** was recently named by MSPE as the "2011 Engineering Firm of the Year". Also, *Rizwan Siddiqi* was honored by ACEC/MW with their "IMPACT AWARD" for providing leadership on their Water Infrastructure Committee.
- **Johnson Mirmiran & Thompson (JMT)** is pleased to announce that *Joseph R. Miller, P.E.* has been promoted to Vice President at their Sparks corporate office. He is a leader in the firm's Structures group.
- **KCI Technologies** recently announced the following:
 - CEO & Chairman *Terry F. Neimeyer, P.E., BCEE* and Director *Patricia J. Mitchell* were recently honored by the United Way of Central Maryland for their commitment and impact in central Maryland.
 - *Michael A. Lambert, LEED AP* has been promoted to Vice President overseeing the firm's Land Development Practice in Maryland.
 - *J. Ryan Flickinger,* a senior environmental engineer, was honored as Young Engineer of the Year by the Delaware Section of ASCE.

- **Mueller Associates, Inc.** takes pleasure in announcing the appointment of *Adam Fry, P.E.* as a stockholder and associate of the firm.
- Sidhu Associates, Inc. was recently honored by Baltimore County as the MBE of the Year.
- The Traffic Group Inc.'s Wes Guckert was recently recognized by Corridor Inc. as a Finalist in their fifth annual Person of the Year competition.

Seeking Employment

The following individuals are seeking employment and have a complete resume on file in the ACEC/MD office. Please phone 410-539-1592 if you are interested in obtaining a copy.

- 1. Civil Engineer (registered MD PE with BSCE and MS degrees) with 30 + years consulting engineering experience in water resources, transportation, utilities, and site engineering is interested in full or part time employment in the Baltimore area. Clients include the State Highway Administration, Maryland Transportation Authority, Maryland County Departments of Public Works, the City of Baltimore, the Department of Defense, and private corporations. Experienced in project management, quality control, and marketing in the Maryland Region.
- 2. Certified Human Resources Management professional seeks position with firm. Experienced in accounting function, benefits and office policy manual revisions.

American Council of Engineering Companies/Maryland 312 North Charles Street, Suite 200, Baltimore, MD 21201

 $Phone: 410.539\text{-}1592; FAX: 410.685.5470; Email\ \underline{acecmd@acecmd.org}; Website\ www.acecmd.org$