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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by *Tony Frascarella, P.E.*



During these unprecedented times, our engineering and surveying professions, like most other professions and industries, are facing enormous challenges. The impacts from the Covid-19 pandemic are continuing to affect our businesses which may be felt for a number of years ahead, resulting in a weak economy and adding to vast shortfalls in funding for public infrastructure. Solutions seem to be elusive, with many State and local governments being forced to cut programs in operational and capital budgets. The federal government has yet to address infrastructure funding, both in the short term as a stop gap

solution to the pandemic, but also in the long term for programs including surface transportation and water infrastructure. Private and institutional development are also coming under the same economic pressures.

Thankfully, we have an association of concerned, dedicated and talented professionals fighting for the best interests of our profession. I am excited and honored to serve as your president for the 2020/2021 year, and look forward to working with all of you to be a strong advocate for our business interests.

I want to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to our outgoing President Alan Straus for his dedication and leadership of ACEC/MD under the trying conditions of this past year. Alan spent countless hours working with various ACEC/MD committees, providing almost daily support of our business interests. I particularly enjoyed his guidance in providing clarity to update our Mission, Vision Statement and Strategic Goals. He challenged all of us to do more to advance our profession through thoughtful advocacy, education, innovation and diversity in our businesses. Alan was also supported by a strong team of officers, directors and committee members for whom I am also grateful. I am continually impressed by the knowledge and enthusiasm of all the individuals that make up the executive committee and committee leadership. I also want to thank Jim and Barb for the tremendous work they continue to do for this organization, keeping everything running smoothly and efficiently.

contact:
Jim Otradovec
 Executive Director
 AMERICAN COUNCIL OF
 ENGINEERING COMPANIES/
 MARYLAND
 8254 Bayside Drive
 Pasadena, MD 21122
 Tel. 410-539-1592





PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

Now to discuss the year ahead. Our world continues to change in ways that none of us ever envisioned. We have traditionally worked for owners that we knew how to please. Separation from our traditional clients is changing, not only because we exist in a virtual environment, but also because innovative methods of project delivery continue to progress, including P3s, progressive design build, and construction at risk contracts. Our clients now include concessionaires, developers, consortiums and contractors. This means that we'll need to expand our focus on issues such as contract risk, schedule pressures, and cost versus quality expectations. Even with our traditional clients we continue to find ourselves dealing with issues such as standard of care, overhead and rate caps, uninsurable contract provisions and QBS.

Our programs for the upcoming year will continue to be impacted by COVID restrictions. Most, if not all, of our activities will be operating virtually at least through the end of 2020. Limiting social gatherings means that our annual holiday party normally held in December will unfortunately be cancelled, as has the popular Project Management workshop scheduled for October. Other mainstays of our annual program, such as the Legislative Breakfast and Legislative Action Day, may be impacted in similar ways. Also, to be held in 2020-2021 is our biannual Leadership class, which may possibly require some form of virtual learning. We have already begun discussions to effectively deliver these programs if changes to our traditional model is required.

But, with that said, I believe our committees will continue to operate just as effectively as before. We reformulated the committee structure this past year to consolidate and refocus our efforts. Committees have been forming and activities have already started moving forward. I want to welcome and thank all of our committee chairs, both those returning and those newly selected to their positions. If you have not signed up for a committee, please consider it.

In closing, I thank all of you for allowing me to serve as your president of this great organization. I will dedicate my efforts to try to fill the large shoes of the many talented presidents that have served before me. I look forward to working with each of you this year!

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## *NEW EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TAKES OFFICE AT VIRTUAL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING*

Continuing to operate in a virtual environment necessitated by the COVID crisis, ACEC/MD's new Executive Committee took office at the June 25th General Membership Meeting. Also participating at the meeting was ACEC Senior Vice President for Advocacy Steve Hall, who provided an update on ACEC's efforts to gain passage of both immediate and sustainable long-term funding for transportation, building and water infrastructure.

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## *VIRTUAL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING (CONTINUED)*

Steve Hall commented that ACEC had been working with a broad coalition to gain long-term infrastructure funding and then COVID hit. ACEC had to switch gears and focus on the survival of member firms in areas like favorable PPP legislation. Congress is starting to shift gears to focus on long-term funding solutions that includes consideration of an expanded VMT program.

Steve expressed relief that the anti-outsourcing legislation introduced by Congressman Geramendi, that would have had a devastating impact on firms providing construction inspection services, was introduced and immediately withdrawn. Big water bills are currently moving forward, and he expressed hope that a compromise transportation bill could be considered by the end of September. He closed by thanking everyone for contacting their elected officials, and he encouraged firm representatives to continue their involvement in the political process.

In his closing remarks, outgoing President Alan Straus (AECOM) commented that COVID has interrupted every way of life, and that the engineering communities' response has been very inspiring. He congratulated everyone for providing essential services and delivering them quickly during very challenging circumstances.

He acknowledged the tremendous amount of support and effort provided by outgoing Executive Committee members Vince Pielli (Urban Engineers) and Jerry Jannetti (WSP), and praised ACEC/MD as being a terrific organization in both an absolute and relative sense. During these challenging times it has never been more important than now to advocate on behalf of the engineering profession.

Alan encouraged everyone to pay attention to social injustices and stressed that it is our role to champion inclusion and diversity in both ACEC/MD and in attracting new members.

During his term as president, Alan mentioned the importance of strengthening the partnership with ACEC/MW, and efforts to revamp the strategic plan, bylaws, and committee structure. While there is still work to do, there have been tremendous improvements to ACEC/MD's website. He also singled out the efforts of the Young Professional Committee and the important role that the members have taken in ACEC/MD. In closing, Alan also commented about the importance of saving the Engineering Society of Baltimore and the parallel between its formation during the great Baltimore fire in 1904 and today's efforts during the COVID crisis.

After the virtual passing of the gavel, incoming President Tony Frascarella (Century Engineering) commented that he only wished that he would have purchased shares of stock in Zoom. He recognized how unfortunate it was that we are not together in Nashville for the annual conference, and he thanked Sean McCone for his willingness to hold the conference there when he assumes the role of president in 2022.

Tony thanked Alan for all of his leadership in steering the organization through the initial challenges of COVID and for accomplishing some very important initiatives.

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The logo for ACEC, featuring the text "ACEC" in a large, bold, sans-serif font, with a curved line above the text.

ACEC



## *VIRTUAL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING (CONTINUED)*

Looking ahead, Tony acknowledged the continuing challenges brought forth by COVID and how he looks forward to working under the guidance of the new strategic plan. He welcomed new directors Tony Mawry (Wallace Montgomery) and Rob Marchetti (McCormick Taylor), and outlined the following key items that he would like to focus on in the new year including:

- Political advocacy for infrastructure funding, duty to defend and QBS
- Enhanced communications with clients
- Emphasis on a vibrant educational program including programs for the vertical and structural practitioners
- Incorporating the newly realigned committees and including members of the Young Professional Committee in appropriate ACEC/MD committees.

Tony closed by thanking everyone for their past support, and expressed his optimism moving forward.

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CENTURY'S TONY FRASCARELLA TAKES THE HELM OF ACEC/MD

The 2020-2021 American Council of Engineering Companies/Maryland officers and directors were recently installed during the organization's virtual general membership meeting held June 25, 2020.

Anthony R. Frascarella, P.E., of Century Engineering (Hunt Valley), succeeds Alan Straus, of AECOM (Hunt Valley), as President. The other officers are: Sean McCone, P.E., CCM, of Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson (Hunt Valley), as Vice President, Melinda Peters, P.E., CCM, DBIA, RK&K (Baltimore), as Treasurer, and James Deriu, of KCI Technologies, as Secretary.

Tony is Executive Vice President and Board Member at Century Engineering, Inc., a multi-disciplined consulting engineering firm headquartered in Hunt Valley, Maryland. Tony has 35 years of experience in the industry, working on numerous projects as a Project Engineer, Project Manager and Principal, and is currently responsible for Century's transportation design and construction management/inspection business units throughout Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia.



Tony received his Bachelor of Science in Civil and Environmental Engineering from Clarkson University and his Master's in Business Administration from Loyola College of Maryland. Tony's nearly 20-year involvement with ACEC/MD has included being Treasurer, Secretary, Director, and chair and member of numerous committees.

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FRASCARELLA AT THE HELM (CONTINUED)

Sean McCone, P.E., CCM, is a Senior Vice President and Board Member at Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson, Inc. (JMT), an employee-owned firm that provides a full range of multi-disciplined engineering, architectural, and related services. Sean serves as the Chief Marketing Officer, responsible for marketing and national strategic growth plans. He has over 22 years of experience in the industry, with the majority of his work assisting clients in delivering complex healthcare renovations within occupied facilities.



Sean received his Bachelor of Science in Civil and Environmental Engineering from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and a Master's of Science in Civil and Environmental Engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. An active member of ACEC/MD, he has served on several committees, chairing the Legislative and CEPAC committees. In 2015, Sean was appointed by Maryland Governor Larry Hogan to serve on the Task Force to Study Small and Minority Design Firm Participation in State Procurement. His numerous publications include an article in ASCE's Journal of Geotechnical Engineering and a textbook published by Prentice Hall on construction dispute resolution techniques. Outside of the engineering industry, he has held philanthropic volunteer and leadership positions at the Al Cesky Scholarship Fund, the 21st Century Education Foundation, ACE Mentor Program, Boy Scouts of America, Lake Shore Youth Baseball, March of Dimes, and GBMC Foundation.



Melinda Peters, PE, CCM, DBIA is a Partner at RK&K. RK&K provides multi-discipline planning, engineering, environmental, and construction phase services to both public and private sector clients throughout the Mid-Atlantic region, with 27 offices in nine states and Washington, DC. Melinda oversees RK&K's Construction and Transportation Groups across the mid-Atlantic region, where she is responsible for planning, roadway design, traffic, structures, surveying, natural and water resources, construction management/inspection/engineering and oversight of the firm's design-build practice. Melinda has over 25 years of experience for major transportation projects, including executive leadership of the Maryland State Highway Administration (MDOT-SHA) for over three years.

Melinda received her Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from Virginia Polytechnic & State University and Master's in Business Administration from Mount Saint Mary's College. She is an active member of ACEC/MD, DBIA, ARTBA, WTS and CMAA. She has served on several committees including the Public Relations, Career Outreach, Awards and Financial/Business and was a Director for ACEC/MD for the three years and the Secretary last year. Melinda also serves on several boards with APC, ARTBA COMTO and, VA Tech Engineering School.

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FRASCARELLA AT THE HELM (CONTINUED)

James Deriu is a Vice President and Discipline Manager for KCI's Resource Management Discipline, responsible for nationwide oversight of the firm's natural resources, water resources, asset management and geospatial solutions practices. In this role, he manages and directs business development, strategic planning, operations, recruiting and staff development for a team of more than 150.

James joined KCI 15 years ago as an environmental scientist and project manager. In working with federal, state and municipal clients, James has been involved in major projects delivering innovative solutions for water quality assessment and management programs, TMDL and NPDES permit compliance, environmental mitigation for infrastructure improvements, and restoration of miles of streams and acres of wetlands.

James holds bachelor's and master's degrees in environmental science from Gettysburg College and Towson University, respectively. He has been active in a variety of professional organizations, and previously led ACECMD's Environmental Committee. He is a graduate of Leadership Maryland and Leadership Baltimore County, and is currently serving as the employee-elected representative to KCI's board of directors. James is on the board of trustees for the Baltimore Museum of Industry, and he has led KCI's industry participation in the Pathways in Technology Early College High School (P-TECH) initiative with Baltimore County Public Schools and the Community College of Baltimore County (CCBC) since 2017.



In addition to the officers, the following were also installed to serve on the ACEC/MD Executive Committee:

ACEC Director:

Stu Taub, P.E., Wallace Montgomery (Hunt Valley)

ACEC Alternate Director:

Alan Straus, AECOM (Hunt Valley)

2018-2021 Directors

Derek Mostoller, P.E., Gannett Fleming (Baltimore)

Kathy Walsh, P.E., Stantec (Laurel)

2019-2022 Directors

Malini Glueck, P.E., Phoenix Engineering (Parkton)

Heidi Van Luven, P.E., A. Morton Thomas & Associates (Towson)

2020-2023 Directors

Rob Marchetti, P.E., McCormick Taylor (Baltimore)

Tony Mawry, P.E., Wallace Montgomery (Hunt Valley)

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## *2020-2021 COMMITTEE CHAIRS HAVE BEEN SELECTED*

Newly elected ACEC/MD President Tony Frascarella (Century Engineering) has selected the committee chairs for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020.

As a reminder, a new committee structure has been formed to reflect groupings based on the primary function of the committees and whether they interact with clients. The new structure also eliminates some duplication that has been apparent in the past committee structure. While the QBS Committee is no longer a stand-alone entity, there will be a continued focus on promoting QBS in all appropriate committees, especially in the Local Government Liaison Committee. The QBS Facilitator function will be assigned to this committee, and that person shall liaise with other committees to advocate for the protection and expansion of QBS. The DGS Committee will now fall under the expanded Building/Facilities Committee. Finally, the Career Outreach and Engineers Week/Engineering Society of Baltimore Associate Council Committees will now be combined in a newly formed Community Outreach Committee.

If you or an employee of your firm is interested in serving on one of the many committees helping to shape the business environment in which your firm operates, please contact the ACEC/MD office.

**PLEASE NOTE** that even if you served on a committee during the current fiscal year, you must advise ACEC/MD of your continued interest in serving on that committee.

ACEC/MD's Committees are the backbone of the organization, and we very much appreciate your interest in supporting our efforts.

Here is a complete list of committees and Chairs:

### ACEC/MD 2020-2021 COMMITTEES

#### *Committees – Client Facing*

##### *TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE* (formerly MDOT Liaison Committee)

Director – Kathleen Walsh

DAVID COYNE, CHAIR (dcoyne@jmt.com)

Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson, 40 Wight Avenue, Hunt Valley, MD 21030

Phone: 410-329-3100

##### *LOCAL GOVERNMENT LIAISON COMMITTEE* (formerly County/Municipal Government Liaison, Baltimore City Liaison and QBS Committees)

Director – Tony Mawry (Wallace Montgomery)

MIKE IZZO, CHAIR (mizzo@wbcm.com)

Whitney, Bailey, Cox & Magnani, 849 Fairmount Ave., Suite 100, Baltimore, MD 21286

Phone: 410-512-4500

##### *BUILDING/FACILITIES COMMITTEE* (formerly Facilities and DGS Liaison/Interprofessional Committees)

Director – Derek Mostoller (Gannett Fleming)

MARCO LEGALUPPI, CHAIR (mlegaluppi@WBCM.com)

Whitney, Bailey, Cox & Magnani, 849 Fairmount Ave., Suite 100, Baltimore, MD 21286

Phone: 410-512-4500

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## *2020-2021 COMMITTEE SERVICE (CONTINUED)*

### *USACE PARTNERING / FEDERAL GOVERNMENT LIAISON COMMITTEE*

Director – Malini Glueck (Phoenix Engineering)  
 RICK WILLIAMS, CHAIR (rwilliams@jmt.com)  
 Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson, 40 Wight Avenue, Hunt Valley, MD 21030  
 Phone: 410-329-3100

### *UTILITIES COMMITTEE*

Director – Rob Marchetti (McCormick Taylor)  
 SCOTT RIDDLE, CHAIR (scott.riddle@kci.com)  
 KCI Technologies; 936 Ridgebrook Road, Sparks, MD 21152  
 Phone: 410-316-7800

## *Committees – Legislative and Advocacy*

### *LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE*

Director – Heidi Van Luven (AMT)  
 SAM MINNITTE, CHAIR (sam.minnitte@wsp.com)  
 WSP; 1 East Pratt Street, Suite 300, Baltimore, MD 21202  
 Phone: 410-727-5050

### *POLITICAL ACTION (CEPAC) COMMITTEE*

Director – Heidi Van Luven (AMT)  
 STEVE HAWTOF (shawtof@gfnet.com)  
 Gannett Fleming, 7133 Rutherford Road, Suite 300, Baltimore, MD 21244  
 Phone: 443-348-2017

### *PUBLIC RELATIONS/WEBSITE COMMITTEE*

Director – Tony Mawry (Wallace Montgomery)  
 BILL FRISCH (bfrisch@jmt.com)  
 Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson, 40 Wight Avenue, Hunt Valley, MD 21030  
 Phone: 410-329-3100

## *Committees – ACEC Operations and Programs*

### *AWARDS AND RECOMMENDATIONS COMMITTEE*

Director – Kathleen Walsh  
 TIFFANY HARRISON, CHAIR (tharrison@gfnet.com)  
 Gannett Fleming, 7133 Rutherford Road, Suite 300, Baltimore, MD 21244  
 Phone: 443-348-2017

### *MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE*

Director – Kathleen Walsh  
 SEAN McCONE, CHAIR (smccone@jmt.com)  
 Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson, 40 Wight Avenue, Hunt Valley, MD 21030  
 Phone: 410-329-3100

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## *2020-2021 COMMITTEE SERVICE (CONTINUED)*

### *NOMINATING COMMITTEE*

Director - Unassigned  
 STU TAUB, CHAIR (staub@wallacemontgomery.com)  
 Wallace Montgomery, 10150 York Road, Suite 200, Hunt Valley, MD 21030  
 Phone: 410-494-9093

### *PAST PRESIDENTS AND FELLOWS ADVISORY/BYLAWS COMMITTEE*

Director - Unassigned  
 STU TAUB, CHAIR (staub@wallacemontgomery.com)  
 Wallace Montgomery, 10150 York Road, Suite 200, Hunt Valley, MD 21030  
 Phone: 410-494-9093

### *PROGRAM, ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND GOLF OUTING COMMITTEE* (formerly Program/Annual Conference and Governmental Golf Outing Committees)

Director – Rob Marchetti (McCormick Taylor)  
 KYLE SMITH, CHAIR (ksmith@gpinet.com)  
 Greenman-Pedersen, Inc., 11000 Broken Land Parkway, Columbia, MD 21044;  
 Phone: 443-753-5518

## *Committees – Centers of Excellence*

### *BUSINESS FINANCE COMMITTEE*

Director – Tony Mawry (Wallace Montgomery)  
 DAN VOELTNER, CHAIR (dvoeltner@wrallp.com)  
 Whitman, Requardt & Associates, 801 South Caroline Street, Baltimore, MD 21231  
 Phone: 410-235-3450

### *HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE*

Director – Rob Marchetti (McCormick Taylor)  
 MALINDA HAGGERTY, CHAIR (malinda.haggerty@meadhunt.com)  
 Mead & Hunt Co., 7055 Samuel Morse Drive, Suite 100, Columbia, MD 21046  
 Phone: 443-741-3671

### *INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE*

Director – Malini Glueck (Phoenix Engineering)  
 PETE STRAWSER, CHAIR (pstrawser@amtengineering.com)  
 A. Morton Thomas & Assoc., 901 Dulaney Valley Rd., Suite 710, Towson, MD 21204  
 Phone: 410-752-6552

### *CONSTRUCTION SERVICES COMMITTEE*

Director – Derek Mostoller  
 JAMIE FOLDEN, CHAIR (jfolden@centuryeng.com)  
 Century Engineering, 10710 Gilroy Road, Hunt Valley, MD 21031  
 Phone: 443-589-2400

### *ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE*

Director – Heidi Van Luven (AMT)  
 CHRISTINA CASOLE, CHAIR (ccasole@hanoverlandservices.com)  
 Hanover Land Services, 2001 Meadow Drive, Westminster, MD 21158  
 Phone: 410-857-0210

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## *2020-2021 COMMITTEE SERVICE (CONTINUED)*

### *SMALL BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (SBE) COMMITTEE*

Director – Malini Glueck (Phoenix Engineering)  
 ANEESHA GRIFFIN, CHAIR (agriffin@cstengineers.com)  
 CST Engineering, 7075 Samuel Morse Drive, Suite 250, Columbia, MD 21046  
 Phone: 443-583-8988; FAX: 443-583-8988

### *Committees – Industry Liaison and Coordination*

### *COMMUNITY OUTREACH COMMITTEE*

Director – Derek Mostoller (GF)  
 KEVIN PERMISOHN, CHAIR (kevin.permisohn@wsp.com)  
 WSP, 1 East Pratt Street, Suite 300, Baltimore, MD 21202  
 Phone: 410-727-5050; FAX: 410-727-4608

### *YOUNG MEMBERS COMMITTEE*

Director – Rob Marchetti (MT)  
 BRIAN PIETRYKA, CHAIR (brian.pietryka@aecom.com)  
 AECOM, 7 St. Paul Street, 17th floor, Baltimore, MD 21202  
 Phone: 410-454-8121

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2021 ENGINEERING EXCELLENCE AWARDS PRELIMINARY PHASE

DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 21, 2020

Submit electronically to acecmd@acecmd.org (Limit - three entries per firm)

The American Council of Engineering Companies/Maryland's (ACEC/MD) annual Engineering Excellence Awards (EEA) competition recognizes engineering firms for projects that demonstrate a high degree of innovation, achievement, and value. In a two-step process, firms can submit their outstanding projects for consideration, culminating in our Annual Awards Banquet being held February 18, 2021, in association with Engineers Week.

Eligibility:

Any firm engaged in the private practice of consulting engineering or land surveying is eligible to enter the awards program whether or not the firm is an ACEC member. Engineering or surveying achievements that have won awards in other states' or national organizations' design awards programs may be entered.

Projects entered in the competition may have been executed anywhere in the world. Research and Studies (Category A) or Surveying and Mapping projects (Category D) must have been publicly disclosed by the client between November 1, 2018 and October 31, 2020. Construction of projects (Categories B through L - with the exception of D) must have been substantially completed and ready for use between November 1, 2018 and October 31, 2020.

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2021 EEA PRELIMINARY PHASE (CONTINUED)

General Criteria:

Both member and nonmember consultant firms may submit up to three (3) entries for consideration in the "preliminary" phase of the ACEC/MD Engineering Excellence Awards competition. In this phase, there is no cost for member firms to submit; the cost for nonmember consultant firms is \$100 per entry. Only those entries shortlisted in the preliminary phase will be eligible for submission in the ACEC/MD final awards program and the ACEC national competition. Entries may deal with any one of 12 categories in this brochure, which are also presented in the national awards brochure (www.acec.org).

Judging:

Entries will be judged in the preliminary phase of the awards program on the written description of the project as outlined in this brochure. For judging purposes, in the write-ups, do not reference any firms involved on the project. The entry will be judged on the basis of the work performed by the entering firm only and according to the rating guidelines listed below.

Rating Guidelines for Judging:

- Uniqueness and/or innovative applications of new or existing techniques (20%)
- Future value to the engineering profession and enhanced public awareness/enthusiasm of the role of engineering (20%)
- Social, economic and sustainable development considerations (20%)
- Complexity (20%)
- Successful fulfillment of client/owner needs (20%)

How To Submit An Entry

Entries are limited to three per firm. They must be submitted electronically to the ACEC/MD office at acecmd@acecmd.org, in .pdf format, no later than September 21, 2020, and shall include:

1. The ACEC/MD entry form.
2. One copy of an Executive Summary, not to exceed one page - 8.5" x 11" with 1" side margins; minimum 12pt. type, single spaced, describing the problem, and the solution. For judging purposes, in the write-ups, do not reference any firms involved on the project.
3. One copy of a Press Release (up to two pages, double spaced) clearly and concisely describing the project and the entrant's role in the project, reflecting on factors listed below. In addition, indicate the value of the project to the community, identify the number of people served, cost savings, etc. For judging purposes, in the write-ups, do not reference any firms involved on the project. Do not reference other awards in the submitted materials.

SUBMITTED PROJECTS WILL BE EVALUATED BASED ON THE FOLLOWING FEATURES:

1. Uniqueness and/or Innovative Applications of New or Existing Techniques:
 - Does the entrant's contribution to the project demonstrate the use of a new science or a breakthrough in the general knowledge of engineering?
 - Does the entrant's contribution to the project represent a unique application of new or existing technology, techniques, materials or equipment?
2. Future Value to the Engineering Profession and Perception by the Public:
 - Will the entrant's contribution to the project redefine current engineering thinking?
 - Does the entrant's project increase public awareness/enthusiasm about the role of engineering in their everyday lives?

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2021 EEA PRELIMINARY PHASE (CONTINUED)

SUBMITTED PROJECTS WILL BE EVALUATED BASED ON THE FOLLOWING FEATURES (continued):

3. Social, Economic and Sustainable Development Considerations:

- Do the solutions identified produce secondary benefits of value to the community environment?
- Does the entrant's approach provide society with social, economic, or sustainable development benefits?
- Does the entrant's contribution to the project improve the health, safety or welfare of the public or affected environment?

4. Complexity:

- Did the entrant's efforts successfully address highly complex criteria or unique problems?
- Were extraordinary problems of site, location, hazardous conditions, project requirements, or similar elements present?
- Did the entrant's solution require the use of out-of-the-ordinary technology or ingenuity for achievement of the project's goals?

5. Successful fulfillment of Client/Owner Needs:

- Did the entrant successfully engage the client/owner in the overall project development process?
- Did the entrant introduce an economical and cost-effective solution?
- How did the final cost relate to the original budget estimate?
- How closely does the entrant's solution meet the total goals of the client/owner?
- Did the entrant meet the client's time schedule?

Preliminary entries selected by the judges for submission in the final awards program must follow the additional guidelines as specified in the ACEC Engineering Excellence brochure. Submitting a graphic panel (30"x30" square board) with the final submission is encouraged, although not required. (Follow ACEC's guidelines.) As additional publicity for our members' achievements, ACEC/MD showcases these panels at events throughout the year. Firms may organize their entry for the ACEC/MD awards program, when advised, in any format they choose in a three-ring binder.

CATEGORY A: Studies, Research and Consulting Engineering Services

Non-design services, projects not involving the preparation of construction documents consisting of but not limited to the following types of projects:

- New products, materials and technologies
- Expert testimony
- Basic research and studies
- Computer/software technology
- Technical papers
- Public outreach/ involvement
- Water conservation
- Security plans
- Project feasibility studies/economic/risk
- Value engineering

CATEGORY B: Building/Technology Systems

- Mechanical/electrical/plumbing
- Computer/technology
- Communications
- Acoustics
- Software systems
- Sustainability or carbon neutrality
- Efficiency certification standards, e.g. LEED
- Energy efficiency - new and retrofit
- Secure facilities (military/research/correctional)

CATEGORY C: Structural Systems

- Foundations
- Tunnels
- Buildings

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2021 EEA PRELIMINARY PHASE (CONTINUED)

CATEGORY C: Structural Systems (continued)

- Seismic design
- Towers
- Bridges
- Stadiums

CATEGORY D: Surveying and Mapping Technology

- Geometrics, ALTA, land title and rights surveys
- Control, GPS, monitoring or construction surveying
- Survey mapping, GIS/LIS, photogrammetry

CATEGORY E: Environmental

- Hazardous waste
- Solid waste
- Restoration/reclamation/remediation
- Air quality
- Noise
- Recycling
- Waste pond management
- Carbon sequestration and trading
- Mitigation

CATEGORY F: Waste and Storm Water

- Wastewater collection/treatment and disposal
- Residuals management and reuse
- Graywater systems
- CSO's
- Mine tailings
- Agricultural
- Storm water management
- Erosion control

CATEGORY G: Water Resources

- Hydraulics, hydrology
- Surface and groundwater supply development
- Treatment
- Transmission, distribution & storage
- Watershed management
- Water use reduction
- Flood risk management
- Climate adaptation
- Coastal and ecosystem restoration
- Locks/dams/water control structures
- Irrigation

CATEGORY H: Transportation

- Highways
- Rail
- Airports
- Marine/ports
- Public transit
- Intermodal facilities

CATEGORY I: Special Projects

- Safety and security
- Corrosion protection/cathodic protection
- Program and construction management
- Land development
- Trenchless technologies/directional boring
- Recreational facilities
- Subsurface engineering

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2021 EEA PRELIMINARY PHASE (CONTINUED)

CATEGORY J: Small Projects

- Total project construction budget does not exceed \$2.5 million. At the entrant's discretion, except for entries in Category A, projects under \$2.5 million are not limited to this category.

CATEGORY K: Energy

- Transmission and distribution
- Power generation
- Renewable energy
- Co-generation
- Energy storage technologies
- Energy usage reduction programs
- Demand side management

CATEGORY L: Industrial and Manufacturing Processes and Facilities

- Petrochemical
- Biotech
- Manufacturing
- Heavy industry
- Industrial waste
- Materials handling
- Mining, metallurgy, mineralogy

The entering firm must select one category, which is most appropriate, in which it wishes to compete. A project may be entered only once in a particular category. However, after a project entered in Category A has been constructed, it may be entered in another year in B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K or L in the year when eligible.

The ACEC/MD 2021 EEA brochure and the ACEC Call for Entries can be accessed on the ACEC/MD website - www.acecmd.org.

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## *PURCHASE ACEC/MD RAFFLE TICKETS IN SUPPORT OF FEDERAL PAC*

In order to assist ACEC in their legislative advocacy efforts, ACEC/MD will once again offer interested member firm employees the opportunity to participate in a raffle. For only a \$100 investment, individuals have the opportunity to win a \$2,000 Grand Prize and other cash prizes. All proceeds go to ACEC/PAC, ACEC's Federal PAC. With only a maximum of 150 tickets being sold for the October 15th drawing, this is a tremendous opportunity to assist ACEC in carrying your message to Congress, while positioning yourself to win attractive cash prizes.

Thanks to your generous contributions, ACEC/MD has achieved its ACEC/PAC goal for the past fifteen years helping ACEC/PAC exceed its \$1-million goal. With issues such as COVID-19, infrastructure funding, sustainable energy, and tax and regulatory reform at the forefront, it is of paramount importance that ACEC continues to educate our elected officials on the issues of importance to your firm. Please support this effort by purchasing your tickets today! Contact the ACEC/MD office to purchase a ticket.

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HOME SALES THROUGH THE ROOF

This Time, Housing Market is a Bulwark of Stability

An Article by Anirban Basu dated August 26, 2020

An abundance of housing construction and flawed lending produced the Great Recession. This time is different. This time, the owner-occupied housing segment represents a major source of economic strength in America even as the pandemic lingers.

According to data from the U.S. Census Bureau, the number of new single-family houses sold in July rose 14% from June and 36% from July 2019. This was the most new homes sold in a month since December 2006. Home sales and permits continue to run well ahead of expectations.

According to the National Association of Realtors, existing home sales also surged in July, increasing 25% on a monthly basis after increasing 21% in June. Both sales (+9%) and median prices (+9%) are up significantly since July 2019.

Why is This Happening?

1. The new normal, with more people searching for places with home offices and a capacity to support social distancing.
2. Ultra-low mortgage rates.
3. Lofty apartment rents, especially in the context of new multifamily construction.
4. Pent-up demand from March and April.
5. Millennial demographics, with more Millennials forming households, looking for backyards, and seeking highly competitive school systems.

But Where is the Inventory?

It's embodied within intentionality. The inventory of homes available for sale is down 21 percent since July 2019. At the current pace of sales, inventory would last just 3.1 months, well below equilibrium.

With demand high and supply low, homebuilders are actively pulling residential building permits, amassing softwood lumber (prices of which are rising rapidly), and getting ready to put more housing in place. While the previous decade was largely about luxury apartments built in center cities, the current one will be about new homes in the suburbs.

Three Key Takeaways

1. COVID-19 has accelerated outmigration from cities, especially the most expensive ones, and produced an influx of interest in suburbs.
2. Available supply is down. Demand is up. Prices are rising. See? Economics isn't useless.
3. Homebuilding is and will be one of the best performing industries for the foreseeable future.

What to Watch

Will there also be more commercial development in the suburbs? It is said that commercial development follows residential, but with so many vacated storefronts, shuttered restaurants, and emptied office suites, we may not experience the uptick in commercial construction that typically accompanies plentiful home building.



Be sure to sign up for the MEGA MARYLAND 2020 Conference at www.megamaryland.org, being held virtually September 28th-October 30th featuring keynote remarks from Anirban Basu.

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## *PLEASE RESPOND TO ACEC'S REQUEST REGARDING QBS*

The ACEC Research Institute is currently engaged in updating the Qualifications-Based Selection study completed in 2009. Today, a decade later, this report is being updated as QBS comes under increasing pressure in multiple states. The issues and concerns that initially prompted the 2009 study remain with us and continue to broaden. The original authors of the study, Professor Paul Chinowsky from the University of Colorado Boulder and Professor Gordon Kingsley from Georgia Tech, are once again leading this effort. As part of this update process, we are asking for your assistance.

To effectively update the original study, we need to collect a broad group of project examples that can be analyzed to determine the use of QBS, the apparent effectiveness of QBS, and how QBS fits into current procurement policies. This group of projects ideally will cover multiple sectors, multiple geographic regions, and multiple cost levels. For this reason, we are requesting assistance from ACEC member firms to identify potential projects that can be used in the study. We are looking for nominations by September 11th.

To maintain consistency with the original study, we are looking for projects with the following characteristics:

- a. Projects should have been completed within the past 10 years and let to construction.
- b. Projects can be from any sector as indicated in the form.
- c. Projects could have been conducted under a QBS contracting process or non-QBS system (such as design/build or a low-bid process). We are looking for both so comparisons can be drawn in terms of effectiveness.
- d. Firms should ideally nominate more than one project, a QBS-based project and a non-QBS project if possible. The projects nominated should represent a range of outcomes in terms of project cost, project quality, schedule, and project completion. Ideally there should be cases that represent three groups: good cases where everything went well in terms of costs, quality, schedule, and completion, as well as projects that were average and below average in terms of these outcomes.
- e. Projects should be nominated where the project participants from a firm are still available for followup questions if appropriate.

Once all the project nominations are received, the team will review the nominations and get back to the nominators if additional information is required. A limited group of projects will be chosen for use as in-depth case studies at the conclusion of the project nomination process. All information submitted by firms will be strictly confidential and viewed only by the research team. No individual firms or project information will be highlighted in the study without the firm's permission.

As you can see, this is a very critical undertaking and we ask that every member firm take a moment to respond to the survey to ensure the success of the study. We thank you for considering this request. Building a project database is the foundation of this effort and we need your assistance to build a database that will lead to a successful project completion. All ACEC member firms will be receiving a copy of the QBS report upon its completion.

Should you have any questions, please contact Steve Hall, ACEC's Senior Vice President for Advocacy at shall@acec.org or Paul Chinowsky at paul.chinowsky@colorado.edu.

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HOWARD COUNTY APPROVES BIRD-FRIENDLY DESIGN STANDARDS

Howard County becomes the first county in Maryland to require that certain projects meet bird-friendly design standards. The American Bird Conservancy and the Smithsonian estimate that bird collisions with glass buildings likely kill between 365 million and 1 billion birds annually in the United States alone. The County Council approved legislation by 4-1 vote on July 6 that was promptly signed the next day by County Executive Calvin Ball.

From coverage in the *Baltimore Sun*:

“What [the bill] really is referring to is these big, glass buildings today that literally threaten the existence of birds because birds fly into the glass, unable to realize that it is glass, and they are dying by the millions as a result of these big, glass buildings,” said council Chair Deb Jung, who introduced the legislation.

The bill requires that certain building applications include documentation showing the project meets LEED Pilot Credit 55 for bird collision deterrence.

During the 2020 Maryland General Assembly Session legislators introduced a bill that would required the Department of General Services to develop standards consistent with LEED Pilot Credit 55 for state buildings. The bill advanced through the House, but did not move in the Senate likely due to the abrupt adjournment.

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## *MEMBER NEWS*

**EBA ENGINEERING** is pleased to announce the following:

- **Rizwan Siddiqi, PE**, President & CEO, has been appointed to a 3-year term as a member of the Maryland Transportation Commission.
- **Spencer Lee, PE** has joined the firm as structural and transportation engineering manager.
- **Pranoy Choudhury, CCM, BBIA** has been promoted to construction management and inspection (CMI) department manager.
- **Prakas Karayyukudy, PE, PMP** has joined the firm as senior project manager for transportation.

**HANOVER LAND SERVICES, INC.** recently announced that **Christina Casole, PE** joined the firm as office manager.

**LEE/SHOEMAKER PLLC** is proud to announce the opening of their new office in Charlottesville, VA located at 701 E. Water St, Suite 101, Charlottesville, VA 22902; 434-484-1800. **Joseph W. Cooch** has rejoined the firm and will be located in that office.

**MUELLER ASSOCIATES** has announced that **Bradley Gratton, PE** has been promoted to mechanical project engineer.

**SCHNABEL ENGINEERING** recently announced the following:

- **Chad Mayers, PE** has been promoted to Branch Leader of the firm’s Sterling, VA and Rockville, MD offices. As Executive Vice President of Geotechnical Services he is responsible for the firm’s northern regional geotechnical operations.
- **Andrew Harrison, PG**, an Associate with the firm, has been promoted to Associate Scientist.

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WTS BALTIMORE CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

WTS Baltimore, like many other professional organizations, is striving to provide creative and valuable programming and ways to virtually reach our colleagues in the transportation industry during this uncertain time. With this in mind, they are asking for volunteers from your firms and agencies to lead or assist in leading virtual or small group programs and events.

They are interested in hosting programs that are either technical or non-technical in nature and offer skill-building in professional or personal development or an opportunity to connect. Technical writer, professional photographer, fitness instructor, cyclist, or meal planning expert are sample roles that volunteers from your organizations may be able to fill to lead a program. They are also interested in gathering ideas for program content from your employees.

If you know of an individual or group of people that are willing to volunteer in this capacity or offer program ideas, please send their contact information to their Programs Chair, Christine Sutkowski at csutkowski@rkk.com. If you would like more information, please contact Christine at 301-602-1079.

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## *REMINDER!*

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING  
COMPANIES/MARYLAND (ACEC/MD)

## *We've Moved*

Effective March 1, 2020, our new address is:

8254 Bayside Drive  
Pasadena, MD 21122

Our telephone number remains the same - 410-539-1592.



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UPCOMING ACEC/MD EVENTS

General Membership Luncheon Meeting
October 15, 2020
TBD

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**LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST**  
November 19, 2020  
TBD

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ACEC/MD Holiday Party
December 1, 2020
CANCELLED

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**General Membership Luncheon Meeting**  
December 17, 2020  
TBD

For more information on these, and other events, please contact the ACEC/MD office at 410-539-1592, [acecmd@acecmd.org](mailto:acecmd@acecmd.org), or go to [www.acecmd.org](http://www.acecmd.org). Mark your calendar and to plan to participate!

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**contact:**  
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**Executive Director**  
**AMERICAN COUNCIL OF**  
**ENGINEERING COMPANIES/**  
**MARYLAND**  
**8254 Bayside Drive**  
**Pasadena, MD 21122**  
**Tel. 410-539-1592**

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2020 ACEC/MD's  
Engineering Excellence  
Grand Award Winner,  
designed by  
KCI Technologies, is the  
Town of Rising Sun  
Chester Water  
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