

ACEC

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES

of Indiana

ACEC Indiana Short List

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PUBLISHED FOR ACEC INDIANA MEMBERS

Upcoming Events

Sunday, February 18th-
12th Annual Bridge Design
Competition & Technology Expo
for 6th, 7th, & 8th grade students
Held at IUPUI
Volunteers still needed!

Saturday, March 10th-
Engineering Excellence Awards
Banquet
Marriott North Hotel
Indianapolis
\$90 per person
Reservations required

Thursday, April 19th-
QBS Coalition Annual
Awards Luncheon
Indianapolis
Mark your calendar now!

Visit www.acecindiana.org
or call (317) 637-3563
to register.

Key legislative issues face ACEC Indiana members

The 2007 Indiana General Assembly convened on January 8th and is scheduled to conclude on April 29th. With a month into this "long" legislative session, your lobbyists, staff and Governmental Affairs Committee have pored through hundreds of bills to determine their impact on the professional design community.

At this point in the process, legislative committees are conducting hearings on many bills that were filed, and ACEC Indiana is there to represent your interests.

The most important piece of business for the legislature will be to craft and pass a two-year state budget, and agencies such as INDOT have presented its request. The details of the budget bill are not yet avail-

able but we will closely monitor and act on it.

As you have heard through the news, some other big issues that concern our membership include:

* The proposal for the Indiana Commerce Connector and Illiana Expressway. (*Senate Bill 1, authored by Senators Tom Wyss and Sue Landske. ACEC Indiana strongly supports it.*)

* Property tax relief and the funding of local government (such as Hometown Matters).

* Any attempts for others who want to encroach on Professional Engineering, such as Interior Designers. (*SB 490 authored by Senators Dennis Kruse and Ryan Mishler.*)

* The debate about "privatization" of state services and any impact on INDOT.

The last day for 3rd readings in the House will be February 27th and in the Senate, it will be on February 28th. After that, bills that have passed their "house of origin" will be moved onto the second chamber for action.

Senate and House bills can be reviewed off the Internet at the following address:
<http://www.in.gov/apps/lisa/session/billwatch/billinfo>

To contact your legislator about these issues, go to <http://www.in.gov/legislative/legislators/>

Make Plans Now to Attend ACEC National Convention in Washington, D.C.

May 6-9, 2007

Right after the Indiana General Assembly adjourns in April, it will be time to head to Washington, D.C. to participate in the 2007 ACEC Annual Convention. It will be held from May 6-9, 2007 at the Grand Hyatt Hotel.

The ACEC Annual Convention features top-notch education programs to improve your business, a chance to interact with top government

officials, the national Engineering Excellence Awards, outstanding speakers (Chris Matthews of CNN's "Hardball" and columnist George Will), as well as the opportunity to join your fellow ACEC Indiana members to meet with our members of Congress.

Just as there are important issues facing the Professional Consulting industry at



the state level, there are also several ones stemming from the U.S. Congress, including water, transportation, tax and other business issues.

ACEC Indiana is scheduled to meet with its U.S. Representatives and Senators on Capitol Hill on May 8-9. This is a great opportunity

to influence the outcome of important national legislation and build key relationships.

For more information or to register for this event, go to <http://www.acec.org/conferences/annual-07/information/index.cfm>