

January 2021 | Issue 8



ACEC

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES
of North Carolina

The latest news & upcoming events
for engineering excellence in
North Carolina

Upcoming Events:

January:

1.13.2021

Environmental
Committee Meeting

[Read More](#)

February:

2.11.2021

Legislative Committee
Meeting

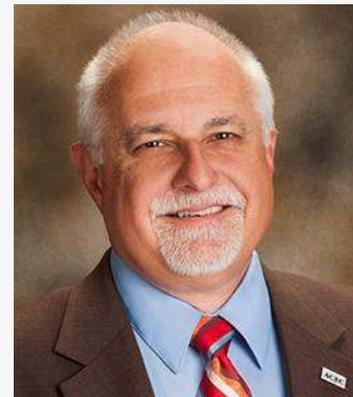
[Read More](#)

2.18.2021

Transportation
Committee Meeting

[Read More](#)

A message from Executive Director James Smith



Dear ACEC/NC Member,

Happy 2021! As I know you all are, I am looking forward to what I hope will be a much different year than what we just left. ACEC/NC has some great things on the horizon for 2021 and I hope you will be a part of them.

First and foremost, I am proud to announce that ACEC/NC reached its ACEC/PAC Goal for the **9th straight year!** Thank you to the **159 investors** who contributed to the PAC! We are especially grateful for everyone who helped us over the top by participating in our on-line auction in December. We exceeded our goal by **nearly \$2,000, with the final amount of \$37,220.** Nationally, for the fourth consecutive year, ACEC/PAC raised more than \$1 million to support business-minded House and Senate candidates. Forty states reached their annual fundraising goals. Our 159 investors were the second-highest number of investors nationally, following the state of Illinois. [Click here to read in full.](#)

We're advocating
for the N.C.
engineering
industry!

To see the most recent
legislative updates that
could impact you and

2020 ACEC Engineering Industry Profile

your firm [click here](#).

Follow us on
social media for
the latest
information!



The engineering industry in North Carolina has experienced significant impacts during the COVID-19 pandemic.

[Click here](#) to view our state resource page that includes the most recent information and updates.

[Click here](#) to view the National resource page that includes the most recent information and updates.

40,804
EMPLOYEES



\$78,845
AVERAGE
ANNUAL WAGE



4,576
COMPANIES



In January, the ACEC Research Institute published a [comprehensive analysis](#) of the engineering industry. Included in this 36-page report are numerous data points drawn from 2019 Census data and other demographic insights, analyzed by Rockport Analytics, an independent market and economic research firm.

The study aims to describe, measure, and demonstrate the indispensable partnership between engineering, architects, and other related professional services to deliver the built environment of the United States. It demonstrates the *significant contribution these sectors make to overall employment (3% of all US jobs), tax revenue (\$44.7 billion) and direct economic impact (\$229 billion)*. This study is part of a broader public awareness campaign by ACEC to provide state chapters and member firms with additional tools to promote the value of the profession.

But what does the data tell us about North Carolina's engineering sector?

- 6.2% employee growth from 2015-2019, triple the national compound annual growth rate over the period
- 389 employees per 100,000 people by population
- 1.7% wage growth from 2015-2019
- 2.1% growth in establishment/companies from 2015-2019

[Click here](#) for a copy of the report.

ACEC Advocated for Recently Passed COVID-19 Relief and Consolidated Appropriations Act



The American Council of Engineering Companies, the business voice of America's engineers, issued the following statement from its President & CEO, Linda Bauer Darr urging Congress to pass the COVID-19 Relief and Consolidated Appropriations Act:

"We urge swift passage of the COVID-19 relief legislation

now before the House and Senate. Contained within the bill are..." [Click here to read more.](#)

N.C. State Finds Compost in Landfills could have Environmental Benefits



Many people think of composting organic matter as a way of keeping solid waste out of landfills, but a new study from North Carolina State University finds there can be significant environmental benefits associated with using compost at landfills.

"There are an increasing number of composting programs out there, and many of them are required to use the resulting compost 'beneficially,'"... [Click here to read more.](#)

Featured Member Spotlight

[Thigpen Engineering & Consulting, PLLC](#) is a transportation engineering firm based in Raleigh servicing and repurposing roadways all over the Carolinas.



Thigpen Engineering & Consulting provides solutions focused around work zone traffic control, signing, pavement marking, signal design and roadway residential structural design. With just two employees total, the firm has gained a lot of respect in the industry since its founding in 2018. Certified in SPSF with the North Carolina Department of Transportation, Thigpen Engineering and Consulting has been selected for numerous NCDOT limited services contracts as a sub-consultant to perform work zone traffic control, signing or pavement marking design, private sector contracts completing road widening design for schools, and structural design for roof replacements, additions and renovations.

Some current and notable projects for the firm are; sub-consultant services to HDR for the completion of work zone traffic control plans for U-3422 Camden Road (SR 1103) from Future I-295 to Hope Mills Road (NC 59) in Cumberland County consisting of the widening of 3.3 miles of Camden Road as well as work zone traffic control design for U-5862, converting an at grade intersection to an interchange at the intersection of US 17 (Ocean Hwy) and Smith Avenue in Shallotte.

Owner and operator Matt Thigpen has more than seventeen years of experience in the industry and credits the early success of his firm to adaptability, networking and by gaining teaming opportunities with other consultants, working as a sub-consultant.

ACEC Scholarship Program

The ACEC Research Institute will award six general scholarships, and one Coalition of American Structural Engineers (CASE) Scholarship during the 2021 academic year.

The following scholarships will be awarded:

- ACEC Scholar of the Year Scholarship
- College of Fellows Scholarship
- A/E ProNet Scholarship
- Professional Liability Agents Network (PLAN) Scholarship
- Life/Health Trust (LHT) Scholarship
- Small Firm Coalition Scholarship



[Click here](#) for scholarship guidelines.

[Click here to read more ACEC/NC & member news!](#)

ACEC/NC |
acecnc.org

ACEC/NC is the premier organization that represents the business interests of the engineering industry in our state. ACEC/NC's mission is to promote the business interests of engineering companies by providing legislative advocacy and business services.

