

Engineering North Carolina's future.

# **Legislative Agenda 2021-2022**

The Mission of ACEC/NC is to represent the business of engineering through legislative advocacy and business services.

## Infrastructure

- Support the recommendations of the NC First Commission, NC Chamber Destination
  2030 Program concerning long-term transportation funding strategies.
- Support a Transportation Bond Referendum
- Support development of long-term funding programs for non-transportation infrastructure.
- Seek additional revenue sources, including:
  - o a statewide school bond,
  - expanded lottery proceeds,
  - changes to the Needs-Based Public School Capital Fund, to equitably address statewide public school and community college capital challenges,
  - o use of sales tax and other local funding/bonding alternatives.
- Create a permanent and adequate funding stream for local infrastructure needs.

#### **Environment/Energy**

- Support the development of a long-term sustainable energy program with appropriate funding that considers all energy sources.
- Support Environmental Regulatory Reform measures that streamline DEQ processes.
- Encourage the State to continue matching the Federal SRF allotments.
- Support increased funding for all agencies that support water and wastewater expansion, as well as capital projects, with consideration to local regulations and protection receiving waterways.
- Seek legislation to provide additional resources for preventative storm damage maintenance.

## **Economic Development**

- Support a Bond package that provides funding for both distressed and at-risk communities.
- Support the Viable Utilities Fund for distressed communities and look to increase funding.
- Promote and support additional incentives.
- Protect the industry during Building Code Reform.

# **Professional**

- Protect the integrity of Professional Engineering Licensure
- Protect North Carolina's Mini-Brooks Act and qualifications-based procurement (QBS) for professional services.
- Monitor Design-Build initiatives.
- Promote E-Commerce:
  - Improvements and simplification to electronic document signing/sealing (nonproprietary options)
  - o <u>Electronic submittals for regulatory agencies</u>
- Protect Anti-Indemnification/Duty to Defend Legislation that protects professional service firms passed in 2019 (HB 871 – FAIR CONTRACTS)
- Monitor proposed changes to Engineering Firm Ownership
- Support appointments of engineers to appropriate state boards and commissions
- Oppose the taxing of professional services.