



American Council of Engineering Companies of North Carolina

A message from Executive Director James Smith December 2022

Dear ACEC/NC Member,

As 2022 comes to a close, I start this letter with something simple: THANK YOU! Thank you to each and every one of you for all that you have done and meant to ACEC/NC this year. I can't begin to name people individually because we'd be here all week, but your contributions have made this year as successful as it has been. I would also be remiss if I didn't also thank my team, who has kept the trains running on time, the events planned, and each of you informed and engaged. They are indeed the best in the business!

By the time you are reading this, we have likely concluded our last Holiday Party. While these were the culmination of our event calendar, we are already building the calendar for 2023. Check out the <u>Events Calendar</u> for more details and registration for some great events.

The Holiday Receptions not only gave us a chance to say goodbye to 2022 but also allowed us to exceed our federal and state PAC goals! We are still totaling everything, but this will go down as one of our most successful years in history. Your investments matter, and because of them, we were able to contribute more than \$50,000 to support successful candidates for Congress and the North Carolina General Assembly.

This year's ACEC/NC NCDOT Transportation Conference was another rousing success, with more than 1200 attendees from across the industry. All were treated to a great group of speakers and networking opportunities, including our first small business showcase focusing on small firms. We look forward to continuing this engagement opportunity.

On the advocacy front, with the next session of the General Assembly and the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress less than one month away from gaveling in, we are already finalizing our legislative agendas. The 2022 elections saw slight changes in the make-up of the General Assembly (supermajority in the NC Senate but not in the NC House) and an evenly split 7-7 Congressional delegation. We will unveil more details about key priorities over the coming weeks, and we hope you make plans to attend our annual legislative day on April 11 in Raleigh.

Thank you to everyone for your involvement in all we are doing! If ACEC/NC can ever do anything for you, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Best, Jim