

# **ISSUES OF CONCERN**

ACEC Colorado is the business association of 260 member firms employing more than 12,000 employees in the independent, private practice of consulting engineering for both public- and private-sector clients in the built environment. ACEC Colorado-member firms' disciplines include among others: Transportation/Civil, Water Resources, Structural, Mechanical-electrical, Geotechnical, Land Surveying and Energy-environmental. ACEC Colorado members are a resource for technical matters and as company owners, they can also be of assistance on business matters.

#### **TRANSPORTATION**

ACEC Colorado urges the state's legislature and governor to increase annual funding for Colorado's transportation systems.

- Reliable and sustainable revenues are strongly needed for infrastructure, including areas outside of Denver Metro Area.
- Effective, efficient multimodal mobility with a balanced approach is essential to quality of life, safety and economic vitality.
- Proper transportation funding keeps commerce costs down and protects public safety.
- Colorado's traffic congestion and the need for more road repairs is increasing.
- A balanced toolbox of traditional capacity improvements, technological innovation, and multimodal improvements will be necessary to sustain and enhance transportation networks to keep pace with population growth and comply with greenhouse-gas reduction requirements.
- Consideration of infrastructure related to electrification of vehicles is crucial to positioning Colorado for the future.

## **WATER RESOURCES**

ACEC Colorado strongly supports funding for construction programs managed by the Colorado Water Conservation Board.

- Support of loans, grants and studies create jobs to develop and protect Colorado's water supply.
- Small community water and wastewater systems need updating.
- Reliable, sustainable funding of water projects assures a water supply for future Coloradoans.
- Support for a streamlined approach to the state's water supply and reuse plans for Colorado's expected growth.

### **ENERGY & CLIMATE STRATEGY**

ACEC Colorado encourages policies required to make Colorado a leader in environmentally responsible development and management of energy resources and greenhouse gas reduction goals.

- Colorado's growing population demands new sources of energy in the years to come.
- Colorado's economy and security depend on a reliable and affordable energy supply.
- Colorado needs an all-of-the-above strategy for fossil fuels and renewable energy.
- Supply of energy must be balanced for reliable and sustainable supply and distribution.
- Colorado needs an incremental approach to improve energy efficiencies in existing buildings.
- Fossil fuel operations need to be developed in partnership between the state and local agencies.
- Development of renewable fuels including hydrogen and biofuels is important.

#### **BUSINESS PRACTICES**

ACEC Colorado encourages the legislature and governor to provide a positive business climate that encourages private-sector growth, responsible economic development and public protection by stipulating that licensed individuals perform engineering work.

- Private sector, as -needed engineering services result in economic benefits of increased jobs.
- Cost-effective procurement is by competitive, qualifications-based selection procedures.
- Encourage innovation through partnership with the private sector.
- Trimming burdensome regulations and reducing new ones keep public projects streamlined.
- Current laws pose significant risk to design professionals by counteracting their insurance.
- Ensure that the integrity and value of licensure is considered when legislation is proposed.
- Consider unintended consequences from legislation that makes Colorado an unfriendly business environment.