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**Marshall Cobra**

CobaCo, LLC Gov’t Relations  
ACEC Oregon lobbyist

**Legislative Update – Cobra’s Capitol Comments**

The end of month two of the legislative session brings approaching deadlines and a sense of urgency in the Capitol. With the gorgeous cherry blossoms in full bloom and a long-awaited one-day spring break this Friday, legislators are working on the lists of bills that will live on and those that will die without a work session April 7. Key issues for ACEC include:

- **Transportation package: Sen. Brian Boquist**, R-Dallas, who spoke at the ACEC legislative preview dinner on December 6, presented the most significant game changing proposal in many years from the Congestion Workgroup this past Monday night to the Joint Transportation Preservation and Modernization Committee. The proposal includes a mix of traditional funding with gas tax and fees but includes a local match component from the metro region to create enough bonded cash flow to pay for the three key identified bottlenecks including the Rose Quarter, I-205 Abernethy Bridge and Highway 217 expansion. Sen. Boquist’s leadership on the workgroup has opened up the conversation on how to appropriately fund the staggering backlog of investment needed to begin to help move Portland’s commuters and freight more efficiently and with more certainty. Recent public opinion work suggests that metro area residents are frustrated with their declining quality of life in regards to transportation and would be willing to invest more to improve the situation. While Boquist’s proposal is just a draft for consideration by the full committee and by the many stakeholders, it sets a marker as to how it could happen if policy makers are so inclined. The full committee will begin further deliberations beginning next week.

- **Congestion & Freight Mobility Workgroup presentation:**  
<https://olis.leg.state.or.us/liz/2017R1/Downloads/CommitteeMeetingDocument/112284>.
- **Video of the March 27 hearing** (Joint Committee on Transportation Preservation and Modernization):  
[http://oregon.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?clip\\_id=23038](http://oregon.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?clip_id=23038).
- **SB 855:** The bill to amend current comity laws with out-of-state and country engineers, had a hearing this Monday. ACEC spoke in opposition to the bill. Key sponsor **Sen. Arnie Roblan**, D-Coos Bay, indicated his interest was in emergency and catastrophic situations which is different than the bill indicates. OSBEELS did not testify as they were not given permission from the Governor's office to do so. OSBEELS expertise in the issue would have been helpful as they deal with out-of-state engineers on a daily basis. The bill is being pushed by Canadian interests associated with the Pacific Northwest Economic Region group (PNWER) of which Sen. Roblan is the incoming president. PNWER's annual meeting will be held in Portland in late July. We will continue to work with Sen. Roblan's staff to determine if we can limit the bill to emergency situations but we believe there is already ample rules and regulations in place for engineers and others to engage in identifying problem buildings and other structures after an emergency is declared.

ACEC Oregon **President Karen Tatman** testified on Tuesday to the Ways Means Committee on the ODOT budget and briefly introduced the Oregon Partnership for Effective Transportation Program Delivery document. We will follow up with key committee staff with a more thorough discussion on the key points in the document and how ODOT needs core competencies in order to effectively deliver on design contracts if a major package were to pass this session.

Key approaching deadlines:

- April 7 - Schedule work sessions for bills in the original chamber; and
- April 18 - Hold work sessions to move bills to the next committee or to the floor for a vote.

**WED  
May 3**

Click [HERE](#) for more info & to register.

Click [HERE](#) to see who's already registered.

**Only 3 seats remaining!**  
Class size limited to 20.

SCHEDULE

**April 3 is LAST CHANCE to save \$\$ with early bird registration!**  
**Learn the Critical Elements of Successful Technical Writing**  
*Correct bad habits and reinforce good habits*



All messages fit within a broad communication environment. The large amount of technical information that professionals must consolidate and explain in technical documents requires skills to ensure that the information is understood by the intended audience.

This course explores methods for understanding the communication context, guiding the selection and organization of information, revealing the structural plan for the information, integrating visuals, and communicating with effective sentences and

7:30 A.M. – Check-in & b'fast

8:00 A.M. – Program begins  
(includes lunch)

4:00 P.M. – Conclusion

CPDs

Program is good for accruing 7.0  
(seven) continuing professional  
development credits.

WHERE

David Evans and Associates  
2100 SW River Parkway  
Portland, OR 97201

paragraphs.

You will learn the critical elements of technical writing:

- Audience and purpose
- Organizational strategies
- Document design principles (including effective use of graphics)
- Writing and revision methods

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

Engineers, scientists, and technical writers and editors who spend much of their time writing, revising, and editing documents will find this workshop useful in honing their technical communication skills.

**THURS  
May 25**

Click [HERE](#) to register.



SCHEDULE

5:00 P.M. – Social

6:00 P.M. – Dinner

6:30 P.M. – Taking care of business

WHERE

Multnomah Athletic Club  
1849 SW Salmon Street  
Portland, OR 97205

## Surfin' Safari & All Committee Dinner



COME SUPPORT YOUR COMMITTEE!

**Join us for fun, food & festivities!**

Catch up on ACEC Oregon news, hear brief committee reports and vote on the 2017-18 budget.

The newly elected board of directors also will be inducted.

**This is a great event to gain a good overview of the organization.**

It's also an excellent event for networking with leaders and up-and-comers of Oregon and southwest Washington engineering companies.

**Bring an emerging leader!**

Enter promo code "EL" at checkout to receive \$10 off registration.

(For member firms only. Good for one discount per registration; additional ELs will need to register separately to receive the discount.)



**SAVE THE DATE!**

**June 21 – Networking Day golf tournament, Langdon Farms**



## UPCOMING

- April 23-26 – ACEC National Annual Convention & Legislative Summit, Washington, DC
  - April 27 – Interviewing to Win with SMPS – *Registration to open soon!*
  - May 9 - Contracting & Risk Management program with SEAO
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### ACEC Washington Upcoming Events – *ACEC Oregon members receive the member rate!*

- April 5 – How to Determine Firm Value and Identify Key Insurance Issues During Ownership Transition
  - April 19 – Advancing Women and Minorities in Leadership symposium
  - May 18-20 – Spring Conference – Key Staff Recruitment and Retention: Finding and Keeping Your Rock Star Employees
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## COURTESY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **LAST CHANCE TO RSVP!**  
April 5 – SAME luncheon with Mike Harryman, Oregon's first State Resilience Officer  
RSVP by March 22 at [SAME.PDX.RSVP@gmail.com](mailto:SAME.PDX.RSVP@gmail.com), or call (503) 643-8710 to confirm and prepay with credit card.
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Comments? Questions? Please e-mail [mwebber@acecOregon.org](mailto:mwebber@acecOregon.org) or [adavis@acecOregon.org](mailto:adavis@acecOregon.org).

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES OF OREGON

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**Upcoming events:** [http://www.acecoregon.org/calendar\\_list.asp](http://www.acecoregon.org/calendar_list.asp).

**ACEC Oregon is 118 member firms strong representing more than 3,600 employees!**

Check out our online directory at [http://www.acecoregon.org/AF\\_MemberDirectory.asp](http://www.acecoregon.org/AF_MemberDirectory.asp).



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