Chairman’s Letter

Welcome to the 2017 Spring/Summer issue of Partners in Quality! We would like to thank each and every one of you who made the 24th annual Maryland Quality Initiative (MdQI) Conference held on January 25 and 26th, 2017 at the Baltimore Convention Center, a huge success. The two-day event featured keynote speakers, technical session presentations and an interactive vendor exhibit with the vendor theme “Pirates of the Chesapeake.”

With nearly nine hundred representatives of the federal, state and local agencies, as well as contractors and material suppliers, and the consultant engineering community, we were able to discuss and address the future of quality transportation systems and many of the pertinent issues facing the transportation industry in Maryland.

The Conference drew 76 vendors whose innovative displays provided ideas and encouraged us to expand our thinking on the vendor theme. Throughout each day, conference attendees toured the various vendor exhibits and engaged in networking among peers. We would like to thank all sponsors and vendors for their continuous support of MdQI in making this one of the largest transportation quality conferences in the nation.

This year we welcomed the MDOT Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) as a sponsoring agency of MdQI. Their inclusion broadens MdQI’s perspective with respect to safety as we address Maryland transportation issues and solutions. The MVA Administrator, Christine Nizer, serves as Maryland’s Governor’s Highway Safety Representative and provides overall leadership for the state’s highway safety program. The MVA’s Maryland Highway Safety Office is dedicated to saving lives and preventing injuries by reducing motor vehicle crashes through the administration of a comprehensive network of traffic safety programs.

We continue to have the support of the leaders of our sponsoring agencies including MDOT Secretary Pete Rahn, and many of our MDOT Transportation Business Unit Leaders including Greg Slater, MDOT SHA Administrator, Kevin Quinn, MDOT MTA Acting Administrator, Ricky Smith, MDOT MAA CEO, Kevin C. Reigrut, MDTA Executive Director, Christine Nizer, MDOT MVA Administrator and Frank Murphy, representing Baltimore City DOT. Their dedication to quality has allowed MdQI to continue to grow and serve our customers, the citizens of Maryland.
Chairman’s Letter  (Continued)

We are pleased that the attendees of the 2017 MdQI conference had the opportunity to attend the many technical sessions with a wide variety of topics. Participants examined changes in the way we design and construct transportation projects, the infusion of technology into our cars, roads and devices, and planning, design and construction of practical, safe, sustainable and integrated transportation systems.

Planning for the 2018 MdQI 25th Anniversary Conference has already begun. The remainder of 2017 will involve the continued examination of our current processes and how we may improve project delivery. Many initiatives and issues facing our industry are being examined by a variety of industry teams including:

- Alternative Project Delivery
- eConstruction, eBidding and Construction Technology
- MDOT Safety Programs
- Building Information Modeling (BIM)
- Procurement
- Traffic Incident Management
- Connected/Autonomous Vehicles
- Various Projects and Initiatives of our Sponsoring Agencies, MDOT Business Units, Consultants, Contractors and Material Suppliers

If you have any suggestions or comments for the upcoming 2018 MdQI Conference, please contact the Conference Subcommittee Co-Chair, Ray Moravec at rmoravec@wallacemontgomery.com. Please keep an eye out for updates throughout the year in future newsletters and on our website: www.mdqi.org.

In conclusion, we would like to thank and acknowledge the dedication of all the transportation stakeholders, partners and sponsors for making MdQI the biggest transportation industry event in Maryland a huge success. We appreciate the efforts and commitments made by you to invest in the quality of our industry, and we look forward to your attendance at next year’s Conference.

Ray Seipp – New Executive Director at ACPA Mid-Atlantic

As many of you know, the American Concrete Pavement Association (ACPA) Mid-Atlantic Chapter has made a change in personnel. After 25 years as Executive Director, Bob Long stepped away and retired near the end of 2016. The industry is extremely grateful for Bob’s leadership and involvement with MdQI over the past 25 years.

Moving forward with the ACPA Mid-Atlantic’s initiatives, the ACPA Board of Director’s search committee is announcing new Executive Director, Mr. Ray Seipp.

Ray has been involved with sales and marketing of cement across the US for 40+ years and recently retired as Corporate Vice-President Marketing, Promotion and Government Affairs at Buzzi Unicem USA. Over the years, Ray has been a leader in numerous association activities, from developing new markets for cement based products within the DOT’s, like concrete overlays, pervious concrete and roller compacted concrete; to presenting industry’s position on various pieces of legislation. Please welcome Ray Seipp as ACPA Mid-Atlantic’s new representative to the MdQI Steering Committee.

Upcoming Industry Events:

MCMC Conference
Jointly sponsored by MTBMA and MRMCA the conference focuses on political, economic and technical issues affecting the transportation construction and materials industry.
June 21 – 23, 2017
Hyatt Chesapeake Resort
Register online www.mtbma.org or www.marylandconcrete.com

Annual Golf Outing & Sporting Clay Shoot
September 26, 2017
Queenstown Harbor & Schrader’s Outdoors
The 24th Annual MdQI Conference: Another Success

The 24th annual Maryland Quality Initiatives (MdQI) Conference, held on January 25th & 26th, 2017 at the Baltimore Convention Center, brought together local, state and federal agencies, as well as the consultant engineering community, contractors and suppliers to discuss pertinent issues facing the transportation industry and how we may build on our future quality transportation systems. The two-day event featured keynote speakers, technical session presentations and interactive vendor exhibits with the theme “Pirates of the Chesapeake.” The conference highlighted MDOT’s outlook on the future of transportation in Maryland.

A total of 890 people attended the MdQI conference this year. Also, in attendance were an additional 76 vendors who showcased creativity in their displays and giveaways. The vendor booths provided attendees with an interactive exhibit area and great networking opportunities.

Day One Activities: This year’s conference began with the standing room only “Ethics Training” given by Michael W. Lord, Executive Director of the State Ethics Commission.

As a part of the lunch Welcome Session, Dave Coyne, SHA’s former Deputy Administrator/Chief Engineer for Operations and MdQI Co-Chair introduced Tim Smith, SHA’s New Deputy Administrator/Chief Engineer for Operations and MdQI Co-Chair, who gave a welcome address and overview of the technical sessions. Conference Subcommittee Chair Ray Moravec introduced the Thursday activities and gave a brief overview of the new registration process, vendor contest and the Pinewood Derby Race. Glenn Vaughn gave a preview of the Mouse Trap Powered Car Engineering Challenge. Conference attendees were encouraged to visit the Exhibit Hall area to view the vendor displays and network with the many representatives of the transportation industry.

Lunch time activities also included a Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Awards presentation by Bill Wade, Assistant Division Administrator, to honor those who were involved in the planning, design, and construction of outstanding MDOT SHA projects throughout the state.

Following the opening lunch, ten Workshops and Technical Sessions were provided throughout the afternoon covering a variety of topics including “New Leadership in the SHA Project Development Office,” and “New Technology: The Future of Automated Vehicles and the Impacts on the Transportation Industry”
sessions. Engineers turned out in large numbers to take advantage of the opportunity provided by these sessions to fulfill the professional engineer’s licensing requirement for professional development hours.

**Day Two Activities:** Day Two began with MdQI Co-Chair Dan Cheng recapping Day One activities and a preview of the events for Day Two. Special recognition was given to the Industry Training & Recruitment Subcommittee led by Mark Crampton, Joe Makar, Nancy Palaridy and Ray Strieb. During the course of 2016, they were able to provide Career Outreach programs for approximately 1,150 Middle and High School students in Maryland through four (4) separate events. MdQI also thanked the many engineering firms, contractors and material suppliers that participate in this successful program.

MdQI also announced the formation of a 10th MdQI Subcommittee, the Maryland Innovation Council Subcommittee, whose role is to coordinate with the current FHWA Every Day Counts Program, the Maryland State Transportation Innovation Council and to help facilitate the sharing and rapid implementation of technology, tactics and techniques with transportation program delivery professionals.

Humorist and Author Ron Culberson closed the General Session by giving a presentation on “Do It Well. Make it Fun.” He shared many techniques to manage stress, improving relationships and making the processes in life and work more effective and more fun.

During lunch, our featured keynote speaker was Caroline Paff, Vice President of Sagamore Development. She presented an animated video and discussion of the multi-billion dollar Port Covington project. Gillespie Contractors was announced as the repeat champion of the Rose Cup Pinewood Derby contest. Not to be outdone, iDesign won the Tabacek Best in Show Award for their creative pirate ship pinewood derby car. The Vendor Booth contest winner for 2017 was JMT for their creative design of a pirate themed ship and picture booth with pirates.

Day Two offered 15 Technical Sessions that covered a wide variety of subjects as well as giving the MDOT Business Units, FHWA, County Engineers Association of Maryland the opportunity to share updates on their agency and projects. Sessions covered Safety, Asset Management, Partnering, Construction Technician Certifications as well as technical sessions on the Baltimore Link Bus Network, BWI Marshall Thurgood Marshall Airport, Wm. Preston Lane, Jr. Memorial (Bay) Bridge Cable rewrapping and dehumidification, and the Ellicott City Flood Emergency Response and Rebuilding.
The Award of Excellence Banquet featured remarks by Secretary of Transportation Pete Rahn, followed by the presentation of 22 Awards. Congratulations to all award recipients. A complete list of the award recipients may be found in this newsletter and at the MdQI website (www.MdQI.org).

We want to thank all the MdQI committee members, attendees, vendors, Baltimore Convention Center staff, and volunteers throughout the year for another successful MdQI Conference.

Planning for the 2018 25th Anniversary MdQI Conference has already begun, so please save the dates of January 31-February 1, 2018. If you have any suggestions or comments regarding the upcoming 2018 MdQI Conference, please contact the Conference Subcommittee Co-Chair, Ray Moravec at rmoravec@wallacemontgomery.com. Updates can be found throughout the year in future newsletters and on our website: www.mdqi.org.

Thank you again to all the transportation stakeholders, particularly the MdQI sponsors for making the biggest transportation industry event in Maryland a huge success. We look forward to seeing you again at next year’s conference.

Pinewood Derby Race

The 2017 MdQI Pinewood Derby Race for the Rose Cup was a great success. This year’s race featured a field of 20 participants (a new record!), including several new competitors like iDesign, FHWA, and Blackwater. The races were competitive and several came down to photo finishes. Though there were many close battles throughout the night, it was evident early on that last year’s defending champion, Gillespie, had another blazing-fast racer. Ultimately, in a repeat showdown of last year’s final event, the undefeated Gillespie topped AECOM to win the Rose Cup and repeat as MdQI Champion. Last but not least, iDesign’s beautifully crafted and functional pirate ship with full mast, sail, hull and marauding pirates, took home the Tabacek Cup for Best in Show.

Thanks again to all the participants, race facilitators, and fans for making 2017 an exciting and memorable Race for The Rose Cup!

**Overall the results were:**

1st Place - Gillespie Precast, LLC
2nd Place - AECOM
Tabacek Cup for Best in Show - iDesign
MdQI Engineering Challenge - Mouse Trap Powered Car

For the second year in a row, the team from MDOT SHA – Office of Structures was able to create the winning entry for this competition. The evaluation criteria was set up to measure a mouse trap powered car’s ability to travel a long distance in segment 1 of the competition and then travel quickly in segment 2. Only the top three distance qualifiers from segment 1 were allowed to compete in segment 2. MDQI distributed mouse traps for contestants to build their cars, all other materials were left up to the contestant, who were allowed to modify their cars during segment 1 of the competition in an attempt to post one of the top 3 distances.

The competition mission remained to ensure that a winner could be determined (this was a problem in 2014) while continuing to attract young engineers to MDQI and provide an audience friendly program at the end of Day 1.

Nine cars from eight firms (Century; Hardesty & Hanover; Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson; KCI; Marine Solutions; RK&K; MDOT SHA – Bridge and Stantec) were entered into the contest.

The contest got underway after the audience was informed of the scoring criteria. Segment 1 of the contest provided multiple heats in which the cars were run on the carpeted floor of the Baltimore Convention Center to see which ones traveled the farthest. On several occasions MDOT SHA-Bridge vacated their segment 1 qualifying distance so they could modify their vehicle’s gear ratio for better performance in segment 2. This strategy seemed to work well for them as even after modifications they posted the longest qualifying distance (37’-4”) and the fastest speed (6.01 seconds to cover 18’-3”). They were awarded an inscribed commemorative trophy during the Day 2 luncheon to recognize their accomplishment. The other two segment 1 qualifiers were RK&K and MDOT SHA – Bridge (second vehicle).

What we learned from the competition was that we need to continue to evolve these challenges to ensure that new designs and innovations are encouraged. We also learned that smoother riding surfaces certainly improve a vehicle’s ability to travel far and fast. MDQI recognizes the value of friendly competition and will strive to create new and exciting challenges that attract a larger pool of contestants. We certainly feel that allowing contestants to modify their entry during the competition was a step in the right direction to promote continuous process and product improvement. The engineering challenge organizers would like to thank all of the contestants who took the time to build and enter a car in the contest. We recognize that there is a substantial effort associated with these challenges and commend you for all your effort.
2017 MdQI Conference Awards of Excellence

MdQI Planning Award
Baltimore Washington International (BWI) Thurgood Marshall Airport, Concourse D Art Competition
Location: BWI Thurgood Marshall Airport, Anne Arundel County
Agency: MDOT Maryland Aviation Administration (MAA)
Firm: Airport Design Consultants, Inc., Ellicott City, MD
Scope: Competition for Artwork in Concourse D
Program Cost: $400,000

MdQI MBE/WBE Construction Award
Deck Rehabilitation and Joint Modifications of Bridges on I-95 South of the Fort McHenry Tunnel
Location: I-95 in Baltimore City
Agency: MDOT Maryland Transportation Authority (MDTA)
Firms: Wagman Heavy Civil, Inc., York, PA and Wallace Montgomery, Hunt Valley, MD
Scope: Deck Rehabilitation and Joint Modifications
Project Bid Cost: $51 million

MdQI MBE/DBE Design Award
BWI Thurgood Marshall Runway Safety Area, Pavement Management and Standards Compliance Program
Location: BWI Thurgood Marshall Airport, Anne Arundel County
Agency: MDOT MAA
Firm: Airport Design Consultants, Inc., Ellicott City, MD
Scope: Runway Safety Area, Pavement Management and Standards Compliance Program
Program Cost: $350 Million

MDQI Subcontractor Award
Deck Rehabilitation and Joint Modifications of Bridges on I-95 South of the Fort McHenry Tunnel
Location: I-95 in Baltimore City
Agency: MDOT MDTA
Subcontractor Firm: Sunrise Safety Services, Glen Burnie, MD
Scope: Deck Rehabilitation and Joint Modifications
Project Bid Cost: $51 million
MdQI Green/Sustainability/Environmental Award
Conowingo Elementary School - Environmental Site Design
Location: Rowlandsviewe Road, Cecil County
Agency: County Association Engineers of Maryland (CEAM) and Cecil County
Firms: AECOM, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD; Swan Creek Landscaping, Inc, Perryville, MD; and Mark T. Hudson Landscaping & Excavating, LLC, Elkton, MD
Scope: Environmental Site Design
Study Cost: $306,000

MdQI Partnering in Construction - Gold Award
Deck Rehabilitation and Joint Modifications of Bridges on I-95 South of the Fort McHenry Tunnel
County: Baltimore City
Agency: MDOT MDTA
Firms: Wagman Heavy Civil, Inc., York, PA and Wallace Montgomery, Hunt Valley, MD
Scope: Deck Rehabilitation and Joint Modifications
Project Bid Cost: $51 million

MdQI Partnering in Construction - Silver Award
Dual Steel Bridges on US 13 over the Pocomoke River
Location: Pocomoke River at the Somerset County / Worcester County line
Agency: MDOT State Highway Administration (SHA)
Firms: JMT, Sparks-Glencoe, MD and FAY, Inc., Glen Burnie, MD
Scope: Bridge Construction
Project Bid Cost: $16 million

MdQI Partnering in Construction - Bronze Award
US 1 / Ammendale Road Intersection
Location: Prince George’s County
Agency: MDOT SHA
Firm: Concrete General, Inc., Gaithersburg, MD
Scope: Drainage Improvements
Project Cost: $10 million
MdQI County Engineers Association of Maryland Award: Project under $5 Million
Renovation of Jericho Road Covered bridge over Little Gunpowder Falls
Location: Jericho Road over Little Gunpowder Falls at the Baltimore County / Harford County line
Agency: CEAM and Baltimore County
Firms: Wallace Montgomery, Hunt Valley, MD and Kinsley Construction, Inc., Lutherville-Timonium, MD
Scope: Historic Bridge Renovation
County Project Cost: $1.8M

MdQI Maryland Transportation Authority Award: Project under $5 Million
Structural Repairs to I-95 Bridges north of the Fort McHenry Tunnel
Location: I-95, Baltimore City, MD
Agency: MDOT MDTA
Firms: RK&K, Baltimore, MD and The Marksman Company, Baltimore, MD
Scope: Structural Repairs
Bid Cost: $500,000

MdQI Maryland Aviation Administration Award: Project under $5 Million
Near Term Federal Inspection Services (FIS) Improvements
Location: Baltimore/ Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport, Anne Arundel County
Agency: MDOT MAA
Firms: JMT, Sparks, MD; Airport Design Consultants, Ellicott City, MD; Parsons Infrastructure, Baltimore, MD; Baltimore Contractors, Glen Burnie, MD
Scope: Inspection Services at BWI Thurgood Marshall Airport
Program Cost: $1.6M

MdQI Maryland Port Administration Award under $5 Million
Dundalk Marine Terminal - Lot 304 Drainage Improvements
Location: Helen Delich Bentley Port of Baltimore, Baltimore City
Agency: MDOT Maryland Port Administration (MPA)
Firms: WBCM, Towson, MD and Marine Technologies, Baltimore, MD
Scope: Dundalk Marine Terminal – Lot 304 Drainage Improvements
Project Bid Cost: $4 million
MdQI Maryland Transit Administration Award: Project under $5 Million
Grade Crossing Replacements on Seaford Freight Line
Location: Freight Rail Line, Caroline County
Agency: MDOT MTA
Firms: AECOM, Baltimore, MD; STV, Inc., Windsor Mill, MD; and Bullock Construction, Easton, MD
Scope: Railroad Grade Crossing Replacements
Project Bid Cost: $850,000

MdQI Maryland State Highway Administration Award: Project under $5 Million
MD 129 (Park Heights Avenue) Bridge over I-695 (Baltimore Beltway)
Location: MD 129, Baltimore County
Agency: MDOT SHA
Firm: Martins Construction Corporation
Scope: Rehabilitate MD 129 Bridge over I-695
Project Bid Cost: $5 million

MdQI Baltimore City Department of Transportation Award: City Project over $5 Million
Roland Avenue and Northern Parkway Improvements
Location: Roland Avenue and Northern Parkway, Baltimore City
Agency: BCDOT
Firms: Sabra Wang and Associates, Columbia, MD and M. Luis Construction Company, Baltimore, MD
Scope: Roadway Improvements
Project Bid Cost: $3.9 million

MdQI County Engineers Association of Maryland Award: County Project over $5 Million
Winner: Piscataway Hills Landslide Stabilization
Location: County: Piscataway Hills, Prince George’s County
Agency: CEAM and Prince George’s County
Firms: KCI Technologies, Sparks, MD and Corman Construction, Annapolis Junction, MD
Scope: Landslide stabilization
Project Bid Cost: $8.5 million
MdQI Maryland Transportation Authority Award: Project over $5 Million
Deck Rehabilitation and Joint Modifications of Bridges on I-95 South of the Fort McHenry Tunnel
Location: I-95, Baltimore City
Agency: MDOT MDTA
Firms: Wagman Heavy Civil, Inc., York, PA and Wallace Montgomery, Hunt Valley, MD
Scope: Deck Rehabilitation and Joint Modifications
Project Bid Cost: $51 million

MdQI Maryland Aviation Administration Award: Project over $5 Million
BWI Thurgood Marshall Runway Safety Area, Pavement Management and Standards Compliance Program
Location: BWI Thurgood Marshall Airport, Anne Arundel County
Agency: MDOT MAA
Firm: Airport Design Consultants, Inc., Ellicott City, MD
Scope: Runway Safety Area, Pavement Management and Standards Compliance Program
Program Cost: $350 Million

MdQI Maryland Transit Administration Award: Project over $5 Million
Metro System - Interlockings Reconstruction Project for Reisterstown Plaza -West, Rogers Avenue-East, and Subway Portal Interlockings
Location: Baltimore City
Agency: MTA
Firm: AECOM, Baltimore, MD
Scope: Metro System from Park Circle neighborhood (Metro Tunnel Portal Interlocking) to Northwest Baltimore neighborhood
Project Bid Cost: $16.4 million
MdQI Maryland State Highway Administration Award: Project over $5 Million
Dual Steel Bridges on US 13 over the Pocomoke River
Location: Pocomoke River at the Somerset County / Worcester County line
Agency: MDOT SHA
Firms: JMT, Sparks Glencoe, MD and FAY, Inc., Glen Burnie, MD
Scope: Bridge Construction
Project Bid Cost: $16 million

Based upon the evaluation of all the projects submitted in 2016, the Awards Committee selected the following two (2) projects as the MdQI Projects of the Year:

MdQI Project of the Year under $5 Million
Renovation of Jericho Road Covered bridge over Little Gunpowder Falls
Location: Jericho Road over Little Gunpowder Falls at the Baltimore County / Harford County line
Agency: CEAM and Baltimore County
Firms: Wallace Montgomery, Hunt Valley, MD and Kinsley Construction, Inc., Lutherville-Timonium, MD
Scope: Historic Bridge Renovation
Project Cost: $1.8 million

MdQI Project of the Year over $5 Million
Deck Rehabilitation and Joint Modifications of Bridges on I-95 South of the Fort McHenry Tunnel
Location: I-95, Baltimore City
Agency: MDOT MDTA
Firms: Wagman Heavy Civil, Inc., York, PA and Wallace Montgomery, Hunt Valley, MD
Scope: Deck Rehabilitation and Joint Modifications
Project Bid Cost: $51 million
MdQI Hosts Baltimore City School Students for 12th Annual Construction & Engineering Career Day

On May 18, 2017 MDQI hosted students from several high schools across Baltimore City for the 12th annual Construction and Engineering Career Day. The event, held at the Baltimore War Memorial, introduced students to the many different career paths in the transportation industry. During the event, students were able to interact with professionals and were able to see and have hands on experiences in the design, testing and construction areas of the industry. The event provides firsthand experience to see what transportation engineering and related careers both do and how they need to work together to deliver projects. Students were also given the chance to visit with colleges and trade schools offering higher learning in the industry.

The annual Career Day event would not be possible without the support of many partners in MDQI and Project Lead The Way. Our thanks go to the following companies who provided speakers for the event: WRA, JMT, RK&K, CES Consulting, PRIME AE Group, Gannett Fleming, Stevenson Concrete, MRMCA, McLaren Engineering, Specialized Engineering, and MDOT SHA. We also thank the City of Baltimore, BCDOT, MDOT SHA OMT, Wagman Heavy Civil, Vulcan Materials, Brawner Builders, and the MDOT SHA Glen Burnie Shop for supplying equipment and speakers.

We also thank our industry partners who sponsored the event and donated financially to help provide lunch and materials given to the students. Those helping us out this year were:

**Gold level sponsors:** JMT, WRA, MTBMA

**Silver level sponsors:** Wallace Montgomery, CES Consulting

**Bronze level sponsors:** Development Facilitators, Inc., WBCM, Gray & Son, PRIME AE Group, Specialized Engineering

We are always looking for outgoing speakers and helpers to staff our events to educate students about our industry. If you are interested in helping on the MDQI Industry Training and Recruitment Team, please contact Marissa Lampart who co-chairs the team. Marissa can be reached at 410-545-8694, toll free at 1-888-228-5003 or by email at mlampart@sha.state.md.us.
Leaving a Legacy at the 2017 Concrete Conference

If you missed it, you missed one of the best presentations of the year, by Steven Tripp, Marketing Manager at Chaney Enterprises. Mr. Tripp was the speaker that followed our conference keynote speaker, Pete Rahn, Maryland DOT Secretary. Nearly 250 people attended the morning general session of the March 14, 2017 Maryland Concrete Conference.

Secretary Rahn gave straight forward comments about tight budgets and the role of concrete in Maryland’s infrastructure. He noted the current policy from the top down is to fix as much as possible – as fast as possible. However, when Mr. Tripp spoke, the audience heard a slightly different story. They heard a story about leaving a pavement legacy…a story about making a difference now; that lasts for generations to come. In his talk, Steven noted, “As I’ve visited counties, the story is similar. The roads are deteriorating faster than the budgets can keep up. Each year, the number of miles needing work grows. There has to be a way to break the cycle.” Steven then shared several challenging but rewarding ideas for leaving a legacy within the Maryland infrastructure.

Following Mr. Tripp’s talk about resilience and leaving a legacy, the speaker line-up included Matthew D’Ambrosia, The CTL Group who spoke about High-Performance Concrete for Extended Service Life Applications. Matthew talked about 50 year designs and even longer for concrete applications. Rounding out the morning general session was new Director of the Office of Structures, Glenn Vaughan who gave comments regarding the future of bridges in Maryland. The final morning presentation was an overview of the Dundalk Marine Terminal 4 project by Nicholas Joines, Moffatt Nichol.

The afternoon at this conference has historically involved two concurrent technical sessions with a focus on “Pavements” and “Structures.” This year, representatives from MD SHA, Stalite, ACPA and Creative Design Solutions, Inc. gave presentations in the “Planning & Design” session; while representatives from LafargeHolcim, NRMCA, GCP Applied Technologies and FHWA gave presentations in the “Construction & Inspection” session.

Attendees at this year’s Concrete Conference heard it loud and clear – the infrastructure across Maryland needs help and the concrete industry has the material science, the equipment technology and the beautiful minds of everyone in the room to be an integral part of leaving behind, quality roads and bridges that our children and grandchildren will be able to use.
MdQI Adds a New Innovation Subcommittee

MdQI has added a tenth subcommittee to the organization with the creation of the Innovation Subcommittee which will be co-chaired by Aaron Jones, Innovations Manager from MDOT SHA’s Office of Policy and Research and Dave Coyne from JMT.

The creation of this subcommittee was born out of the desire of MDOT SHA and FHWA to establish and maintain a fully functional Maryland State Transportation Innovation Council (STIC). STICs are active in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Federal Lands Highway, creating a national network for exchanging best practices on innovations and getting them into widespread use across the country.

Given the longstanding success of MdQI and its structure of the subcommittees, both the MDOT SHA Administrator, Gregory Slater and FHWA Division Administrator, Gregory Murrill were supportive that a new Innovation Subcommittee working collaboratively with the existing subcommittees would successfully fulfill the Purpose, Vision and Mission of the STIC as outlined in the Maryland STIC Charter as follows:

**Purpose:** The STIC Charter establishes the Maryland STIC and defines its mission, scope and responsibility, membership and administration.

**Vision:** The Maryland STIC will foster a collaborative culture for rapid implementation of meaningful innovation to efficiently deliver to the public a modern, high quality highway system.

**Mission:** The Maryland STIC will facilitate the rapid implementation of technology, tactic and techniques among transportation program delivery professionals at all levels of state government and throughout the private and non-profit sector to ensure smart, efficient investment in highway infrastructure.

Aaron and Dave have been working to populate the new subcommittee with a diverse group representing both design and operations from both the public and private sector as well as academia and are targeting their first meeting for the early part of June. They both look at the role of the Innovation Subcommittee to foster and facilitate the development of innovations that can be utilized by today’s transportation professionals to improve efficiency, effectiveness and safety at the lowest cost practical.

If you have any questions or require any additional information about this new subcommittee, please feel free to reach out to either Aaron or Dave. Aaron may be reached at 410-545-0362 or by email at ajones17@sha.state.md.us. Dave may be reached at 443-212-7139 or by email at dcoyne@jmt.com.

ACEC/MD Gains Passage of Important Legislation

Both pieces of legislation initiated by ACEC/MD were passed by the 2017 General Assembly.

With the support of Senate Education, Health & Environmental Affairs Committee Chair Joan Carter Conway, **SB 109/HB 283 – Procurement – Prohibition on Participation** met little resistance this year. The legislation greatly reduces the current lifetime...
prohibition to two years on an individual and the firm that subsequently hires that individual if the individual was involved in drafting the specification or RFP that is used on another project. In addition to greatly assisting our firms and their employees, since the current law is seen as a barrier to hiring employees, representatives from client agencies such as DGS expressed support for the legislation.

Responding to the Comptroller’s action of equating forensic engineering services with private detective services that are subject to sales tax, ACEC/MD initiated **SB 235/HB 470 – Sales & Use Tax – Exemption – Services Performed by Persons Practicing Engineering**.

If the Comptroller’s actions was allowed to stand, there was great concern that other engineering related services such as construction inspection would be next. While initial hearings on the legislation went very smoothly in both chambers, concern was eventually expressed that the legislation singled out engineering related services when other professional services are also not subject to being taxed.

Addressing this concern, an amendment initiated by the Budget & Taxation Committee passed out of the Senate that clarified that only private detective services are subject to being taxed and putting the Comptroller’s office on notice that the General Assembly had previously decided that professional services are not subject to being taxed. Surprisingly, when the legislation returned to the Ways & Means Committee’s Revenue Subcommittee, Chair Jay Walker (Ft. Washington), commented that he felt that private detective services are equivalent to forensic engineering services, and are, therefore, subject to being taxed. Responding to a request from ACEC/MD to contact both Delegate Walker and Ways & Means Chair Anne Kaiser, the legislation finally passed in the eleventh hour.

The MdQI Steering Committee is jointly sponsored by representatives of the following agencies:

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The MdQI Mission - "To provide the Maryland transportation industry a forum that fosters coordinated and continuous quality improvement in order to ensure safe, efficient, environmentally sensitive and sustainable systems to meet the needs of all transportation stakeholders."

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Don’t forget to visit our website at www.mdqi.org