

DESIGNING THE FUTURE OF TEXAS

DON'T MISS THIS DALLAS CEC MEMBER CHAPTER MEETING!

Featuring renown economist, **Dr. Mark G. Dotzour**, whose research findings have been published in the *Wall Street Journal*, *Money Magazine*, *USA Today* and *Business Week*. He delivers about 100 speeches each year to a wide variety of audiences. His goal for each of his presentations is to synthesize global, social, and economic trends to give his audience a tool kit of factual information to help them make good investment and business decisions. His audiences include virtually every facet of the real estate industry. Each presentation is individually tailored to meet the needs of the audience.

"The Economic Outlook for 2011 for Investors and Business Decision Makers"

- ◆ Overview for job growth, interest rates, inflation/deflation and how it will impact real estate and its related industries
- ◆ What will "austerity" mean for the US economy next year?



Dr. Mark G. Dotzour is the Chief Economist and Director of Research for the Real Estate Center at Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas. He earned his Ph.D. in the Department of Finance at the University of Texas at Austin in 1987 and served as Associate Professor of Real Estate and Finance at Wichita State University for 10 years. As Chief Economist, he is currently doing market research to monitor how global and national trends are likely to impact residential and commercial real estate markets.

Prior to his academic career, he was president of Gleneagles Development, Inc., developing residential subdivisions in Wichita, Kansas. He also served as president of Dotzour Inc., Realtors, which was a residential brokerage firm in Wichita.

He has been at the Real Estate Center since August, 1997. Since then, he has published 77 articles in magazines and given over 945 presentations to more than 140,000 people.

Monday, January 24, 2011

Cityplace, 2711 N. Haskell Avenue, Dallas
11:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. - Registration and Networking
12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. - Lunch and Special Guest Speaker

Cost to attend is \$30. RSVP by noon Friday, January 21 to Vicki@cectexas.org.
Cancellations must be made **72 hours** in advance and no shows will be charged for the meeting.

DALLAS CEC ANNOUNCES 2011 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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FEATURED DALLAS CEC BOARD MEMBER



Ramon F. Miguez, P.E.

Vice President, HDR

Director, Dallas Council of Engineering Companies

A 35-year infrastructure industry veteran, Ramon Miguez serves as HDR's North Texas Department Manager. HDR is a multidiscipline engineering, architectural and consulting company with 7800 employees in 185 offices. He manages over 100 engineering professionals in multiple offices, including Dallas, Fort Worth, and McKinney in North Texas. Prior to joining HDR, Miguez served for over 20 years with the City of Dallas in various leadership positions. Most recently, as Assistant City Manager he was responsible for managing over 3,200 employees within six city departments including: Dallas Water Utilities, Sanitation, Convention and Event Services, Street Services and Public Works and Transportation. Miguez served as City Engineer in Phoenix, Arizona, and Assistant Director of Public Works and Transportation in Austin, Texas, before coming to Dallas. He joined URS/Forrest and Cotton, an engineering consulting firm, after obtaining his bachelors of science in civil engineering from the University of Texas in Austin.

COMMITTEE REPORT

CITY OF DALLAS BUILDING INSPECTION AND ENTERPRISE COMMITTEE

January 6, 2011

Overview

When adopting the FY 2011 Budget, the Dallas City Council expressed a desire to receive additional stakeholder input regarding appropriate performance standards, process improvement strategies, customer service levels and fee adjustments for the Building Inspection and Permits Office. The Building Inspection Enterprise Fund Committee has been established to make a recommendation to the City Council. It is comprised of representatives from contractor associations, architectural and engineering organizations (including CECNT) developers, building owners, historical preservations, the City Manager's representative, and key decision makers from the City of Dallas Building Inspection staff.

Council is scheduled to take action on the task force recommendations next week. These are summarized on the attachment to these notes.

Currently 27 building inspector positions are open. Some due to retirement and others due to movement to other positions. City regulations require that all laid off city employees are given first priority. Due to Civil Service regulations the position must be offered to an employee even if there were past performance issues. Another challenge is that all laid off employees must be notified at least three times by registered letter before another candidate can be added.

The Q Team will handle accelerated reviews. City staff hopes to have the Q team in place by February 1, 2011. The goal is to backfill positions so that the Q team does not adversely affect regular review and permitting operations.

The council action will specifically address the recommended fee increases. Staff will email the final recommended fees to committee members in the next week. The remainder of committee recommendations will not be put in an ordinance but will be memorialized in a resolution. The recommended fee increase document can be provided by email request to Joe Campos.

A significant issue remains that the city continues to use enterprise funds to pay for costs that should be paid by the general fund. This will not change with the recommendations but these issues will be more transparent in the future and subject to feedback by the committee to council and the City Manager.

Several private industry committee members expressed significant disagreement with the current city budget process. Several expressed concern that no one on the city staff can answer specific budget questions.

Page 3 of the recommendations refers to a "chess clock". The purpose is to determine how long tasks require vs. total time to issue a permit. This will be used to better evaluate building inspection performance criteria.

The committee agreed that smaller task committees will be more effective. The task force list is: metrics, budget, privatization and zoning.

Page 4 of the recommendations includes establishing a time and a priority to review and permit *for high profile job creating projects. Staff acknowledges that standard building permit schedules will slide. Staff believes the major impact to the priority process will impact the zoning process and not building inspection and permitting.

Please call or email Joe Campos at (214) 696-6291 ext. 235 or jcampos@camposengineering.com if you have questions or would like an email copy of the proposed fee charges for each of the services.



Coming Up Online

January 26—Engineering Opportunities in the Upcoming Urban Water Crises
Create future water abundance, profit from new opportunities.

A reinvigorated focus on water conservation, new supply sources and water efficiency installations is opening up major new business opportunities for engineering firms beyond traditional water/wastewater storage, treatment and conveyance systems. **Jerry Yudelson** will explain some of these new market opportunities.

To read more and to register, [click here](#)

February 2—Wired to Clients—Insights on Getting Inside Your Customers' Minds
Get new insights, win client confidence and jobs.

Marketing advisor and author **David Stone**, Stone & Company, gets specific with the *why* and *how* of building trust-based relationships. The personal, one-to-one connection is vital to give the client confidence that you will look after their interests... the kind of confidence that doesn't come from a brochure or proposal.

To read more and to register, [click here](#)

February 9—BIM for Bosses
Get a realistic picture of what to expect and what not to once BIM is up and running.

Eric Wing, C&S Companies, answers the key questions of what to expect and what not to expect once BIM is up and running in your firm. Participants will hear a detailed explanation of benefits and end goals of using BIM; the processes for seamless implementation; steps and changes in hardware, software and network, plus new training and workflow practices.

To read more and to register, [click here](#)



ENGINEERING INC.

www.acec.org

THE AWARD-WINNING BUSINESS MAGAZINE

January/February 2011

What Will the Power Shift in Congress Mean for the Engineering Industry?

The January/February digital issue of ACEC's award-winning magazine, *Engineering Inc.*, takes a close look at opportunities and challenges ahead in the new 112th Congress.

This issue also reports on why competition is driving professional liability insurance rates lower; and provides a recap of significant mergers & acquisitions activity during 2010, with projections for the new year.

Also included is a preview of the upcoming ACEC Annual Convention and Legislative Summit, March 30-April 2, 2011 in Washington, D.C.

Engineering Inc. can now be e-mailed to all ACEC Member Firm employees free.

Just [click here](#) and provide names and e-mail addresses.

To view the magazine, [click here](#).

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES

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TEXAS CEC ANNOUNCES ENTERTAINMENT FOR ANNUAL MEETING

April 7 - 8, 2011 • Four Seasons Hotel • Austin Texas

New this year, recording artist, songwriter, cowboy poet, TV and motion picture personality **Red Steagall** will entertain attendees at the 2011 Engineering Excellence Awards Gala, to be held in Austin's Four Seasons Hotel April 8, 2011. Steagall's syndicated radio show *Cowboy Corner* is heard in 170 markets and is beginning its 17th year of production. The author of multiple books, Red has been inducted into the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum's Hall of Great Westerners and the Texas Cowboy Hall of Fame. In 2006, he was the poet laureate of Texas. So be sure to mark your calendar now for this celebration of engineering excellence highlighted by entertainment by a Texas legend.

To register online for the 2011 Texas CEC Annual Meeting, [click here](#).



MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW FOR THE DALLAS CEC 2011 MEMBER CHAPTER MEETINGS

DATE	DAY	TIME	LOCATION	SPEAKER	TOPIC	TOTAL PDH CREDITS
January 24	Monday	11:30 a.m.	Cityplace	Dr. Mark G. Dotzour, Chief Economist, Real Estate Center , Texas A&M	Economic Outlook	.5
February 28	Monday	11:30 a.m.	Cityplace	Steve Stagner, President, Texas CEC	Legislative Update	.5
March 28	Monday	11:30 a.m.	Cityplace			
April 25	Monday	11:30 a.m.	Cityplace			
May 23	Monday	11:30 a.m.	Cityplace			
June	TBD	TBD				
July 25	Monday	11:30 a.m.	Cityplace			
August 22	Monday	11:30 a.m.	Cityplace			
September 26	Monday	11:30 a.m.	Cityplace			
October 24	Monday	11:30 a.m.	Cityplace			
November 28	Monday	11:30 a.m.	Cityplace			
December	No meeting					

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Past President: Mark Pacheco, Pacheco Koch
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