



Ohio Construction Coalition

“News Blaster”

December 20, 2005

OCC to roll out plans for ‘new’ larger, all-encompassing coalition; presentations to be scheduled around the state

After nearly a year of discussions and planning, the OCC has finalized details for the formation of a “stronger, more inclusive and improved” OCC labor-management group for taking on important industry issues, such as prevailing wage and school construction. The “new” OCC will focus on being an educational entity for decision-makers and the public at large on a broader, more statewide level.

Participation from all parties interested in the welfare of the state’s construction industry is essential. To make this most possible, the “new” OCC’s transitional Board of Trustees is sending out letters explaining the effort and the fee structure for members. Also, presentations from OCC associates will be conducted beginning next month all over the state. **If you would like a presentation about the “new” OCC to be made to your industry group, organization or association, please contact Bob Verhoff, executive director of Union Construction Industry Partnership who has facilitated the OCC discussions, at 440-366-4003.**

The “new” OCC trustees have been meeting since March to hammer out details of forming a completely statewide labor-management committee that has the ability to protect the state’s construction industry and its qualified workers and contractors. With the involvement of entities across Ohio, it will do this through education, public relations and legislative efforts.

GOP state legislators respond to Prevailing Wage booklet, thanking effort

The OCC recently received letters from Ohio State legislators in response to the OCC’s informational booklets on Prevailing Wage sent to every Ohio state senator and representative at the end of September. Republican Sen. David Goodman, 3rd District, and Republican Rep. Jim McGregor, 20th District, both sent letters to the OCC thanking it for providing the information contained in the booklet.

The booklet contains a synopsis of the Davis-Bacon Act and a plethora of examples of the poor school construction work taking place in the state of Ohio under the Ohio School Facilities Commission – which exempts public school construction from Prevailing Wage laws. There also is a summary of the many research reports done that say Prevailing Wage is advantageous for multiple reasons – including quality of work and protection of local workers.

News clips of multiple stories and articles from newspapers all over the state reporting on poor construction are included. Also in each booklet is a DVD of two news segments from Channel 10-TV in Columbus reporting on poor construction and OSFC mismanagement of required contractor evaluations on school projects.

The OCC asks that all those interested in the welfare of the state’s construction industry contact their local senators and representatives to make sure they have received and reviewed the booklet! For copies of the booklet (which you can distribute locally) and more information, contact Calvin Jefferson at BMA Media Group at cjefferson@bmamedia.com or 1-888-445-8255.

To report **SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROBLEMS AND SUCCESSES** in your area, contact Calvin Jefferson at BMA Media Group at cjefferson@bmamedia.com or 1-888-445-8255.