

Ohio Construction Coalition “News Fax-Blaster” February 2005

To: All OCC Partners

OCC is stepping up battle to save Prevailing Wage NOW

Prevailing wage on Ohio’s public construction projects could very well be gone by May. That is the word around the capital, and a Jan. 22 Cleveland Plain Dealer article declared in its headline, “Prevailing-wage law repeal has momentum again.”

As Ohio’s only legal, statewide, multi-craft labor-management group, **the Ohio Construction Coalition is alive and strong and ready to step up its fight against the abolition of prevailing wage – and all issues that would adversely affect the construction industry in Ohio.**

Preserving prevailing wage is at the forefront of the OCC’s current efforts; A CAMPAIGN TO COMBAT THOSE SUPPORTING THE ELIMINATION OF PREVAILING WAGE CANNOT WAIT, and the OCC is the only organization prepared to act now for labor and management. The loss of prevailing wage would have devastating consequences across the industry, and with ABC pushing legislators in Columbus with distorted facts and figures, NOW IS THE TIME TO PUSH BACK!

The repeal of prevailing wage by the Ohio State Legislature could come in one of several forms, be it in the Capital Budget or by its own law or amendment. The OCC’s plan of attack is to reach those who can effect a change by rallying our lobbyists and sending out the correct information to legislators and the public, targeting those in Columbus who will be voting on any related legislation, with studies and research that show the ill effects of construction done without prevailing wage. To augment that, the OCC is currently working with researchers from the state’s most respected higher-education institutions.

The OCC needs the full support of all our contractors, associations and local unions to preserve prevailing wage. Contact us to assist in this critical struggle by calling OCC co-chairs Bill Brennan at 419-241-3601 or Brian Baker at 440-233-7156.

OCC to host training on researching school construction; open to all

The OCC is continuing to gather information on poor school construction and its calamitous results to use as ammunition in its coming all-out public awareness campaign aimed at changing the unsafe and unfair manner in which the Ohio School Facilities Commission directs the building of the state’s schools.

We are offering our partner contractors, associations and local unions free training that will help you assist the OCC in researching school construction projects. **Training will take place on Wednesday, February 16, from 10 a.m. to noon at the Radisson Hotel, 7007 North High Street in Worthington (at I-270 and Route 23).** Contact OCC co-chair Brian Baker at 440-233-7156 to register.

A housekeeping item ...

The OCC supported and advertised in our newsletter last year’s conference featuring Peter Cockshaw, which examined the Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) and was mentioned in the January News Fax-Blaster. However, it was the Ohio State Building & Construction Trades Council and Plumbers and Pipefitters Union Local 189 that sponsored the event.

As the Ohio Construction Coalition works to make a substantial difference in the state’s construction industry, the OCC has sent this “News Fax-Blaster” to you to help keep you informed and involved. Please submit information for and questions about News Fax-Blasters to Calvin Jefferson at BMA Media Group, the OCC’s communications firm, at cjefferson@bmamedia.com or 1-888-445-8255.