



Ohio Construction Coalition “News Fax-Blaster” September 1, 2005

To: All OCC Partners

OCC applauds and urges support for Building Trades’ ‘OCC Membership Survey’

The Ohio State Building and Construction Trades Council (OSBCTC) on August 23 sent a letter and survey to its board members, district councils and affiliated local unions to gauge their interest in being part of the “new” Ohio Construction Coalition. The letter also urged recipients to “seriously consider joining” the OCC.

Leaders of the existing OCC are extremely encouraged by the letter and survey.

The OSBCTC’s Statewide Labor-Management Steering Committee and OCC leaders have been meeting since March to work out details of forming a new, all-encompassing OCC. The results of this effort will be an OCC to be used as a vehicle to develop a stronger, more inclusive and improved process for taking on important industry issues, such as prevailing wage and school construction, focused on being an educational entity for decision-makers and the public at large.

The letter, which was addressed from Gary Dwyer, secretary-treasurer of the OSBCTC, informed recipients that the OCC “has expanded its organization to include Board members represented by contractor associations from around the state and the OSBCTC Executive Committee members to meet the challenges our industry faces.” In the letter, Mr., Dwyer also informs recipients of the funding plan for labor, proposed by the Executive Committee, to help subsidize the “new” OCC.

OCC’s Prevailing Wage information packet nearly ready to be sent to state legislators

The OCC’s booklet that it will distribute to Ohio legislators in Columbus outlining the case for preserving Prevailing Wage laws is nearing completion and will be handed out in early September. The booklet was crafted to refute Prevailing Wage claims in a flier distributed to legislators by the ABC – which the OCC handout refers to as “The Big Lie.”

The booklet will be accompanied by a DVD with two WBNS TV-10 (Columbus) reports and several statewide newspaper clips on poor school construction.

The OCC handout addresses the history of Prevailing Wage and the catastrophic consequences of its repeal. It supports these statements with facts about failed Ohio school construction projects, which are exempt from Prevailing Wage laws; data on poor safety in the absence of Prevailing Wage; plummeting wages and benefits in cases where Prevailing Wages were not required; and figures on rising costs, economic damages and job losses in places where Prevailing Wage laws were rescinded.

HAPPY LABOR DAY! The OCC wishes everyone a safe, fun and reflective Labor Day Weekend. According to the Department of Labor, Labor Day was created by the labor movement and is dedicated to the many social and economic achievements of American workers. The OCC honors the contributions of all workers to the strength, prosperity and well-being of our country.

To report school construction problems in your area, contact, Calvin Jefferson at BMA Media Group at cjefferson@bmamedia.com or 1-888-445-8255.

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.