

March 13, 2014

Construction News

AGC of Illinois - promoting skill, integrity and responsibility.



217-789-2650

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

It was great to attend the AGC of America Annual Convention in Las Vegas last week. It was my first AGCA convention and I was impressed with the attendance and organization of such an event. Heavy, highway, and building contractors coming together in one place to discuss issues such as labor, lean construction, contractor ethics, field technologies, and federal funding reassured me how vital our connection with AGC of America is. AGCA has a myriad of resources at our disposal and each of us should use those to the fullest.

I like numbers, charts and graphs, so I especially enjoyed AGC Chief Economist Ken Simonson's report during one luncheon. The good news is that total construction spending is trending upward, totaling \$934 billion (seasonally adjusted annual rate as of November 2013). Compare this to just \$750 billion in 2011. The bad news is that most of this growth is in the private manufacturing and commercial markets. He forecasts that highway and street construction spending will not grow in 2014. We are familiar with the funding (or lack of) situation in Illinois. The federal government is at the same crossroads.

I think Illinois and America are at a critical inflection point—a time where strong leaders are needed to guide our state and country to growth and prosperity. Our leaders have a tough job. We need to make sure they get the facts and information they need to make the tough decisions. We are the voice for Illinois highways. **We Are AGCI.**

DID YOU KNOW?

The 2014 Illinois Construction & Buyer's Guide is now available. Every member should have received one copy by now. Attached is an order form if you wish to purchase more.

MEMBERS DOING BUSINESS WITH MEMBERS IS GOOD BUSINESS

CARPENTERS ADDENDUM EXPANDS CONTRACTOR OBLIGATIONS

by Andy Martone

AGCI's Director of Labor Relations, Frank Kazenske, recently discovered that the Mid-Central Illinois Regional Council of Carpenters is circulating an addendum to the Statewide Agreements that was not authorized by the AGCI. Contractors are not required to sign this Addendum in order to become signatory to the AGCI Statewide Agreements. It contains extra language that binds contractors beyond the scope of the statewide agreement:

1. Contractors who sign this Addendum recognize the Carpenters as the 9(a) representative of their employees, which means that a contractor is not free to walk away after it is terminated;
2. Contractors signing this Addendum are also agreeing to be bound by all of the other current collective bargaining agreements the Carpenters Regional Council is party to, not just the AGCI Statewide Agreements. This means that a contractor who signs this Addendum is bound by every single collective bargaining agreement that the Mid-Central Illinois Regional Council of Carpenters negotiates, regardless of scope, jurisdiction and terms, even if the contractor has never seen the other agreements.
3. Contractors who sign this Addendum also are agreeing to be bound by all successor agreements negotiated by the Carpenters Regional Council, which means that contractors who sign this Addendum have no voice in the contract negotiating process and are bound by future contracts that the Carpenters Regional Council negotiates unless the contractor gives proper notice.

This Addendum is a binding legal document that signs away a contractor's rights and binds the contractor to future contracts. Before signing it, contractors should consult with their legal counsel to understand its full effect.

COUNTY ENGINEER APPOINTMENT

Effective February 21, 2014, Mr. Rusty Hubbard, 1405 S. 4th Street, Greenville, Illinois 62246 was appointed Acting County Engineer in Bond County.

ASCE CRANE SAFETY SEMINAR

April 29, 2014 at the Hyatt Regency O'Hare
9300 Bryn Mawr Avenue
Rosemont, IL 60018
847-696-1234
www.hyatt.com

Aiming at reducing deaths and injuries involving construction crane operations, OSHA has recently updated its 40-year old crane safety standards with new crane regulations addressing the use of cranes and derricks in construction. It is important that all stakeholders responsible for the management and planning of crane operations understand the latest OSHA Cranes & Derricks in Construction, 1926 Subpart CC standards to ensure a safe work environment. The University of North Carolina Charlotte and the ASCE Construction Institute Crane Safety Committee jointly will conduct this training to present the "plug-in" module that captures significant changes of crane safety and new OSHA regulations. Training will be conducted on critical issues, such as ground conditions, power line safety, assembly/disassembly, and inspections based on interactive discussion, questions, and answers.

Contact John Frauenhoffer at 217-356-2797 or mustang2797@att.net to register.

AGCI's Upcoming Calendar of Events

March 25	Convention Committee—2:00 p.m.—AGCI Office
March 26	Budget & Finance Committee—10:30 a.m.—AGCI Office Board of Directors Meeting—1:00 p.m.—AGCI Office
April 15	IDOT/Industry Joint Coop Aeronautics—12:00 Noon—AGCI Office
April 16	IDOT/Industry Joint Coop Highways—10:00 a.m.—AGCI Office
April 25	IDOT Letting
April 30	IDOT Policy Committee—10:00 a.m.—IDOT
June 13	IDOT Letting
June 18	IDOT Policy Committee—10:00 a.m.—IDOT
June 20	Frank Tyrolt Education Foundation Golf Outing Red Tail Run—Decatur, IL
July 2	IDOT/Industry Joint Coop Highways—10:00 a.m.—AGCI Office
July 9-14	Canadian Fishing Outing—Moose Point Lodge
July 15	IDOT/Industry Joint Coop Bridges Subcommittee—AGCI Office—Noon
August 1	IDOT Letting
August 15	Budget & Finance Committee Board of Directors Meeting—St. Louis St. Louis Cardinals Baseball Outing
September 10	IDOT Policy Committee—10:00 a.m.—IDOT
September 19	IDOT Letting
September 22	Annual Golf Outing—Panther Creek Country Club in Springfield
September 24	IDOT/Industry Joint Coop Highways—10:00 a.m.—AGCI Office
October 3	Sporting Clays Outing—Sparta, Illinois
October 23	Budget & Finance Committee Board of Directors Meeting—AGCI Office
November 7	IDOT Letting
November 12	IDOT Policy Committee—10:00 a.m.—IDOT
November 19	IDOT/Industry Joint Coop Highways—10:00 a.m.—AGCI Office
December 8	Board of Directors Meeting
December 8-9	Annual Convention