



Ohio Construction Coalition

“News Blaster”

April 27, 2006

UA, STATE BUILDING TRADES COUNCIL REITERATE THEIR SUPPORT FOR ADVANCEMENT OF ‘NEW’ OCC

During the April 20 monthly meeting of the OCC’s Transition Committee, **Jerry O’Leary**, the region’s International Representative for the United Association of Plumbers and Pipefitters, and **Mike Thomas**, president of the Ohio State Building and Construction Trades Council (OSBCTC), both expressed their respective organization’s desire to back the “new” OCC.

The Transition Committee, which was formed in April 2005, continued to work on details of forming a new, more all-encompassing OCC. The results of these efforts 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. The new OCC will focus on being an educational entity for decision-makers and the public at large.

During the April 20 meeting, Mr. O’Leary and Mr. Thomas each indicated to the Transition Committee that his respective group will work to be part of the new OCC and to support OCC efforts.

OCC LAUNCHES NEW WEB SITE; FEATURES WEALTH OF DATA

In keeping with one of its primary missions to provide its members, the public, the media and decision-makers at all levels with pertinent, real information on construction-industry issues, the OCC has launched a comprehensive new Web site at www.ohioconstructioncoalition.org.

The site includes sections that specifically address each of the industry issues the OCC monitors; extensive downloadable research reports on those issues; legislative news; responsible contracting and reports on poor school construction; ABC Watch; Prevailing Wage Watch; and contact information.

A members section lists information on each of the organizations that support the OCC.

Additions and improvements will be constantly made to the site as needed.

PRESENTATIONS ABOUT ‘NEW’ OCC CONTINUE, ARE WELL-RECEIVED

Contractors and labor representatives were well-represented at recent presentations on the formation of the “new” OCC in Cleveland on March 21 and in the Youngstown/Warren area on April 7. Presentations are made by OCC representatives and consist of a brief but very informative PowerPoint show, followed by a comment and question/answer session led by OCC labor and management representatives.

Gary Dwyer, secretary-treasurer of the OSBCTC, spoke after the Cleveland presentation and expressed the OSBCTC’s desire to see the “new” OCC come to fruition and the Council’s plans to contribute financially to the OCC.

A presentation is being held today (April 27) in **Lima**, and additional presentations are being planned for many areas, including **Columbus, Akron/Canton, Cincinnati** and **Southeast Ohio**.

To schedule a presentation or to receive an invitation for a planned presentation on the formation of a “stronger, more inclusive and improved” OCC for your industry group, organization or association, please contact Bob Verhoff, executive director of Union Construction Industry Partnership and “new” OCC Board facilitator, at 440-366-4003.

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 OCC’s Prevailing Wage booklet! For copies of the booklet and more information, contact Calvin Jefferson at cjefferson@bmamedia.com or 1-888-445-8255. (An electronic version is available, enabling you to print the booklet whenever needed.)

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