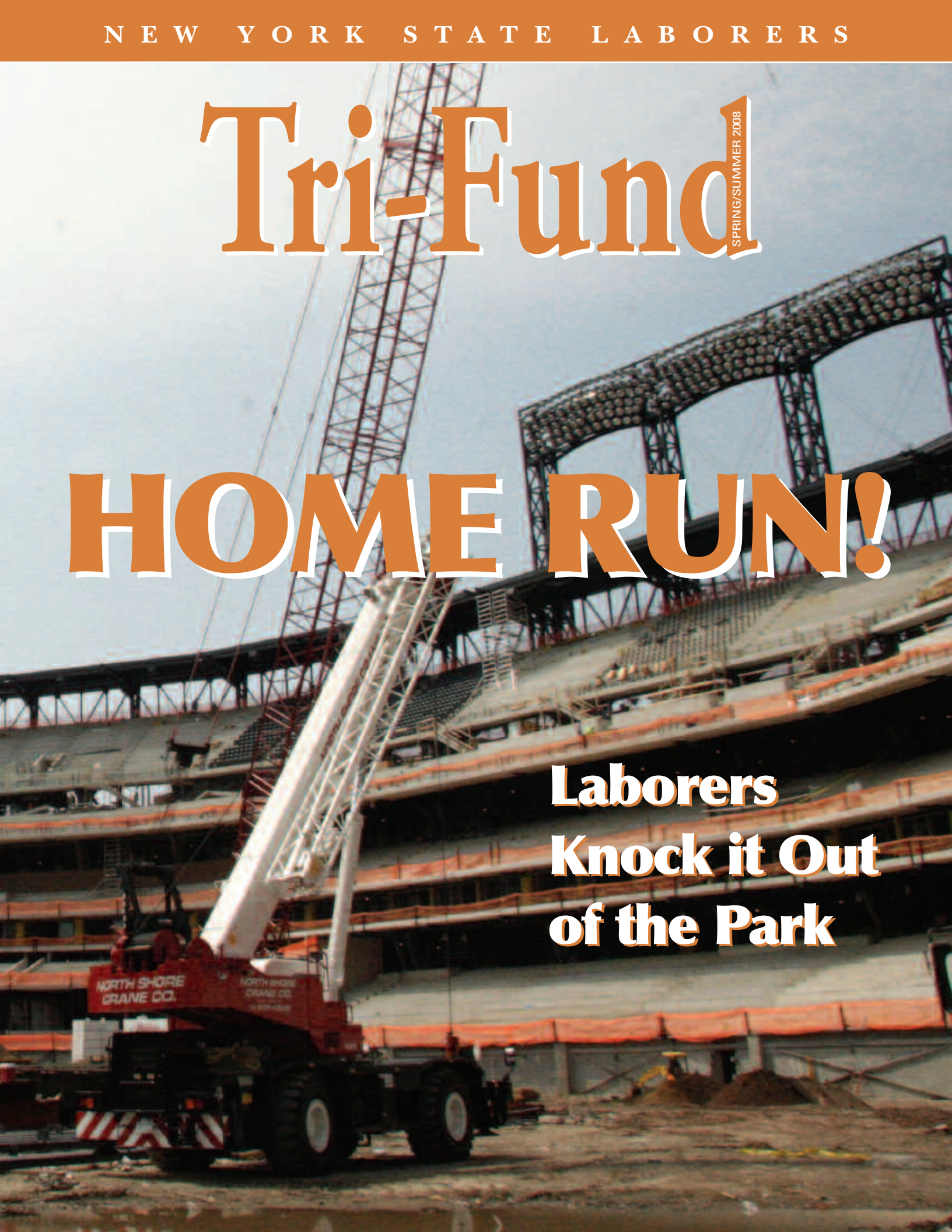


Tri-Fund

SPRING/SUMMER 2008

HOME RUN!

**Laborers
Knock it Out
of the Park**



Spring/Summer 2008

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Projects large and small are vital to our union



This is a quarterly publication of the New York State Laborers'-Employers' Cooperation & Education Trust, the New York State Laborers' Health & Safety Trust Fund and the New York State Laborers' Political Action Committee, 18 Corporate Woods Blvd., Albany, N.Y. 12211.

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MESSAGE FROM

THE LIUNA GENERAL PRESIDENT

LIUNA Launches Campaign to 'Build America So America Works'



Dear Brothers and Sisters:

Last week LIUNA launched our most intensive, sustained effort ever to redirect the nation's resources to taking care of America's basics: the roadways, bridges, dams, railways, schools and other fundamentals we all depend on every day. They have fallen into decay, lowering our quality of life and weakening our economy.

We put the first man on the moon, built the first national superhighway system, created such engineering marvels as the Hoover Dam and urban transit systems that move millions. We can reach again those heights that earned the world's awe. The men and women who build America are eager to do it.

In just one generation, we have become a nation whose people can no longer be assured of crossing the Mississippi River safely or depend on the protection of our dams and levees.

The American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) reports that America earns a near-failing grade for infrastructure neglect. It's harder and harder to get to work or home on time, and we waste an average of \$333 annually in gas and auto repairs due to our inadequate highways.

Nearly a year after the tragic I-35 bridge collapse in Minneapolis, an estimated 150,000 bridges across America are still deficient. Nearly three years after unsafe levees flooded New Orleans, killing thousands and dislocating hundreds of thousands, 3,300 dams and 150 levees across America remain unsafe. Our overcrowded, decaying schools rate a "D," reports the ASCE. In 772 communities in 33 states, nearly 10,000 known sewage overflow problems threaten the environment and water supplies. Meanwhile, developing nations – our global competitors – are building superior infrastructure.

Building America will benefit our nation and help build a healthy, sustainable economy. Responsible investment in highways and other infrastructure projects will support millions of good, family-supporting jobs, reports the Federal Highway Administration.

LIUNA has a new vision of what is acceptable and what is possible in caring for America's basic foundation. To help make it a reality, we will launch a "Make a Call to Build America" advertising outreach, a massive member-to-member voter registration effort and a new website www.LiunaBuildsAmerica.org with in-depth information for members and allies. LIUNA is also launching The Petition to Build America, raising a million voices urging Congress and the next president to "Build America so America Works."

This long-term campaign will include advocacy for specific legislation that helps build America, going beyond band-aid fixes and offering solutions that will benefit future generations of Americans.

Building America is about our nation and its people; about saving lives, improving the quality of life, lifting our economy and living up to the American Dream.

In Solidarity,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Terence M. O'Sullivan". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Terence M. O'Sullivan
General President
Laborers' International Union of North America

America needs a new vision of what is acceptable and what is possible in caring for its basic foundation

MESSAGE FROM

THE IUNA GENERAL SECRETARY-TREASURER

Working Green



Dear Brothers and Sisters:

“Green living” is in the news practically every day, and it’s part of every aspect of our lives from hybrid cars to using cloth grocery bags to painting rooms in our homes with low volatile organic compounds (VOCs) paint. It is natural that we, as Laborers, embrace green principles in our work.

In this edition of Tri-Fund, we focus on some environmental projects across the state. As a union, we have always been at the forefront of new technologies and training, and these are new and compelling examples. We need to supply our contractors with the best trained workers in the business and make sure that we are always on top of new trends in our

ever changing industry.

From the wind parks in northern New York (page 5) to the statewide green building initiative (page 10) – we really stand out from the pack because our members have an exemplary attitude toward building the future. This benefits the contractors we work with as our members learn new techniques that make everyone more efficient on work sites. Safer, too, for themselves and the earth, as our members work to improve air quality and overall environmental quality by using advanced and efficient materials with lower toxic levels.

New buildings are going green, and some of the rehab work that our members are completing is also green. We now dispose of materials differently and use different remediation strategies on site. The building supplies brought on the site incorporate renewable or recycled materials that will improve air quality and energy efficiency.

This process is not limited to New York state but is spreading across our entire New England Region. We see this trend continuing to progress and expand as more government initiatives encourage green standards in construction, rehab and materials disposal. As in everything we do on site, we are partnering with contractors for best results. We are also working on seeking government funding for green energy projects and insisting that these initiatives recognize our wage rates and our training programs.

Ultimately, we will occupy green buildings as customers, residents and visitors, enjoying safer spaces and the sense of belonging to a movement with great potential for public good.

As a union we are proudly committed to supporting these initiatives, and I believe we will all be thankful for many generations to come that we have led in embracing green building and the benefits it brings.

Fraternally yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Armand E. Sabitoni". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Armand E. Sabitoni
General Secretary-Treasurer
Laborers’ International Union of North America

We need to supply our contractors with the best trained workers in the business and make sure that we are always on top of new trends in our ever-changing industry.

LOCAL 186 ELECTRIFIES THE WIND – LABORERS TEAMS EXCEL IN SITE PREPARATION, ROAD-BUILDING, PAVING, ERECTION WORK AND CLEANING



As green building techniques (see page 10) and the development of renewable energy resources promise to improve our energy self-sufficiency and environmental conditions, Laborers are playing increasingly important roles in implementing this new technology.

A white forest of wind turbines is rising in the Adirondack foothills northwest of Plattsburgh. The project, which will generate electricity for more than 60,000 homes, is the work of Local Union 186.

Each tower is 265 feet tall, and the turbine rotor blades reach to 405 feet above the ground. Each of the 121 wind turbines that Noble Environmental Power built in Ellensburg and Clinton can produce enough electricity for 500 homes.

“It has been a pleasure to work with all the players on these jobs,” said Ray Jessey, Business Manager Local 186. “(Roadbuilder) Delany and (concrete supplier) Aristeo made the job progress very smoothly. To be a part of this cutting-edge technology and part of the bigger green movement is very exciting.”

Local 186 was involved in many aspects of this smooth-running project. Working with Delany, which is usually a non-union contractor, Local 186 built 16 miles of unpaved roads to be used

only by construction trucks, starting in June 2007.

Laborers flagged roadway intersections to allow trucks carrying the huge turbines to turn into the sites. They worked with operating engineers to excavate holes for the footers. Laborers helped build the crane pads and to pour a mud mat. A 35-man Laborers crew worked with Aristeo Concrete under project superintendent Jeff McPhil, pouring thousands of yards of concrete for the pads. Upon completion, another Laborers crew was responsible for back-fill and site remediation.



In addition to the assembly and erection work, Laborers were also involved in DEC-mandated cleaning of the units. A crew of seven Laborers cleaned each unit before it left the yards to begin its travels to the site. Once erected, four

Laborers thoroughly cleaned each turbine from top to bottom, inside and out.

When they completed the project in January, Laborers could proudly see their work looming against the sky, generating electricity from the wind.

Naturally, the locations for these wind turbine farms were chosen for their reliable flows of non-turbulent wind. In fact, the sites were chosen almost too well. Ironically, the project sometimes had to be halted for safety reasons – when there was too much wind blowing!

The new Ellensburg and Clinton wind turbine parks represent an excellent example of renewable energy, and to the Laborers of Local Union 186, they stand as a spectacular job well done.



HOME RUN!

Citi Field Will be State-of-the-Art Replacement for Shea Stadium

Before the first pitch on opening day in 2009, the Laborers of five New York City local unions will have completed Citi Field, the \$780 million replacement for Shea Stadium. The new stadium, home to the New York Mets, will be located in Queens near Flushing Meadows Park. This replacement for Shea Stadium will add modern amenities but also reflect a noble tradition going back to 1913 when Ebbets Field opened in Brooklyn.

Shea Stadium cost \$28.5 million and took 29 months to build. It opened in 1964 and hosted its only All-Star game that same season. The Beatles played before 53,275 fans at Shea in 1965 and 1966, and the Yankees played here in 1974 and 1975 while Yankee Stadium was being renovated.

Just as Laborers built the new Yankee Stadium, they are hard at work replacing Shea Stadium.

Designed to resemble Ebbets Field, Citi Field will accommodate 45,000 fans. Located in what had been the East Parking Lot of the current Shea Stadium, it will offer many services not available at the current stadium, including an exclusive "Home Plate Club" and separate "Ebbets Club." It is called Citi Field for the financial services company under a 20-year, \$20-million-per-year naming rights deal.

Though the new Citi Field will look like Ebbets Field, it does not share the historic stadium's humble beginnings. Ebbets Field was built on the site of the Pigtown garbage dump for \$750,000. Here, the Dodgers and the Reds played the first-ever televised baseball game, in 1939; and, in 1947, Jackie Robinson became the first black man to play in the major leagues. Ebbets Field (capacity 32,000) hosted the 1949 All-Star game, and the Dodgers won the 1955 World Series here before moving to Los Angeles. The same wrecking ball that leveled Ebbets Field in 1960 was used to demolish the Polo Grounds four years later as Shea Stadium was being built to replace it as the home of the Mets.

Laborers began construction of Citi Field in November 2006 with members from city Local Unions 79, 731, 1298, 1010 and 6A concrete workers busy on the job site. During construction Laborers have been involved in concrete pouring, fire proofing on the steel, block- and brick-work, general clean up, protection on-site, flagging and demolition. Laborers also staffed overnight heat-watch, with members of local 79 monitoring temporary heaters onsite.

"I am honored to be a business manager involved in the building of Citi Field," said John Delgado, Local 79 Business Manager. "As a fan of New York baseball, being involved in part of baseball history is an incredible experience."

Including the Laborers, the construction of Citi Field is expected to create 6,000 temporary full-time equivalent jobs. Ongoing stadium operations are expected to create approximately 1,000 permanent full-time equivalent jobs for





the surrounding community.

“As we get close to the completion of this project, everyone who worked on it feels proud to have been involved,” said Joseph D’Amato, Business Manager of Local Union 731. “Anyone who sees this monumental project must be impressed with its size and beauty and the tradition it represents. Players and fans will be enjoying this stadium for years to come, and our pride in being part of this will last just as long.”

The city and state have been working with the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) to make both short-term and long-term public transportation options available for Mets fans, to encourage more fans to take mass transit to games. Building these transportation links will result in additional work for our unions.

As of March 2008, more than 500 workers from the various trades were onsite every day. The exterior work is 85 percent complete, and brickwork is continuing on the Jackie Robinson rotunda.

All the light towers are standing in place.

Best of all, for baseball fans and everyone concerned, the new stadium is on budget and on time. Like the fans, Laborers obviously can’t wait for opening day, 2009.

“As a fan of New York baseball, being involved in part of baseball history is an incredible experience.”

– Local 79 Business Manager,
John Delgado



PROFILE OF A BUSINESS MANAGER: JOHN DELGADO

LOCAL UNION 79 BUSINESS MANAGER

In more than 25 years as a member of the Laborers’ International Union of North America, John Delgado worked on a wide range of projects throughout New York City, including 17 years with Tishman Construction on some of the city’s most recognizable landmarks. He was part of the team that built the original Seven World Trade Center; as a shop steward, John worked on the United Nations office tower on E. 44th Street; and his last job in the field was the Conde Nast Tower at 4 Times Square.

Following the consolidation and reorganization of the Mason Tenders District Council local unions, John became business agent for the newly chartered Local 79, working nights on many demolition jobs throughout the city. After 9/11, John worked 12 hours a day, seven days a week for six months straight, ensuring that the Ground Zero clean up was conducted in the safest, most efficient way possible. In November 2001 John was elected Sergeant-at-Arms for Local 79. With more than 9,000 members, it is the largest Laborers’ local union in the United States. He continued to work as a business agent until he became Business Manager of the local in June 2005 and, in the same month, was elected Secretary-Treasurer for the 15,000-member Mason Tenders District Council of Greater New York.

Among the many changes and developments John has seen over time, he considers the Local 79 PLA agreement in 2005 with School Construction Authority most significant. This five-year, \$7 billion agreement benefits both the local and the contractors, and is likely to be extended. This agreement “clears the benches” during the summer months when Laborers can work 24/7 in the empty schools.

“You can’t count on mega jobs to sustain the union and the payroll,” said Delgado. “You have to work on projects that will give you a constant, steady stream of work. That is what keeps the business and the union moving along.”

Delgado made organizing a top priority at Local 79, taking this vital activity to a new level. A team of 20 organizers may picket eight or nine sites a day, a strategy so effective that the Laborers recently managed to sign agreements with three contractors in a single day.

John’s commitment to helping people extends beyond his work for the members of Local 79. For more than 17 years, John and his wife have been foster parents to children at risk in Suffolk County. They now have four foster children in their Long Island home, and have sometimes hosted as many as six at one time. Suffolk County Executive named them Foster Parents of the Year. 🌟



5 “FILL IN FIVE” *Tri-Fund* magazine asked Delgado to fill in the blanks on five questions about himself.

1. People I’ve worked with all these years would be surprised to learn that:
I’m a hunter – bow and arrow.
2. My first job was:
Apple picker at a farm on Long Island.
3. The last movie I saw was:
No time for movies; we always have a house full of foster children.
4. My favorite song on the radio is:
“My Next 30 Years” by Tim McGraw
5. My favorite saying or quote is:
When people ask: “How are you doing?” I like to tell them, “Any better, I’d be in heaven.”

CAPITAL NEEDS FOR TRANSPORTATION WILL TOTAL MORE THAN \$175 BILLION OVER NEXT 20 YEARS

Astrid Glynn, Commissioner of the New York State Department of Transportation (DOT), recently announced during her testimony at a Capitol budget hearing that the state's transportation needs will total \$175 billion over the next 20 years. However, this hefty figure is not adjusted for inflation and does not include the capital needs of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA), the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, the New York State Thruway and other transportation authorities.

The New York State Laborers have been hard at work in conjunction with the New York Roadway Improvement Coalition (NYRIC) and other labor organizations, contractor associations, and various interest groups lobbying for increased transportation and infrastructure funding. Together, these groups have become the state's leading transportation construction advocacy organization.

The New York State DOT is conducting roundtable discussions at various locations throughout the state to garner the support of business leaders, public officials and the general public for state transportation funding as a legislative priority this year.

"Our transportation system is the backbone of our region," said Frank Marchese, Sr., Director of NYS LECET. "We need to continue to invest and improve our current system or the result will be disastrous. This is an important message that must be heard." 🍷



MAJOR NEEDS – MAJOR COSTS

State and Local Bridges - \$30.6 Billion: To reverse the decline in bridge conditions noted in the last several years, DOT estimates that it needs more than \$30 billion.

State and Local Highway Pavement – \$43.9 Billion: To reverse the decline in highway pavement conditions, DOT estimates that it needs more than \$43 billion, mostly for the 15,000 miles of state roads now in fair or poor condition.

Other Highway Assets and Administration- \$26.1 Billion: To maintain and repair drainage systems, traffic control devices, guide rails, lighting, and other transportation needs, DOT estimates it needs \$26.1 billion.

Transit Investment - \$6.5 Billion: For public transit systems other than the MTA, the DOT estimates it needs \$6.5 billion.

Rail, Port, and Aviation Needs - \$9.5 Billion: To continue developing infrastructure for passenger and freight rail travel and for aviation, DOT needs an estimated \$9.5 billion.

Local Capital Aid - \$8.6 Billion: To cover maintenance and improvements for New York's local highway infrastructure (CHIPS and Marchiselli programs), DOT estimates it needs \$8.6 billion.

Major Transportation Projects - \$50 Billion: DOT's 20-year estimate did not include specific estimates of the funding needed for major transportation projects such as the replacement of the Tappan Zee Bridge, expansion of the Peace Bridge, completion of I-86 and many other badly needed major projects. However, DOT estimates an aggregated total of \$50 billion for these projects.



Building Green

The efforts of former Vice President Al Gore and other leaders, along with the impacts of disasters such as Hurricane Katrina, have alerted millions of people to environmental issues. In recent years, builders have responded by adopting “green building” techniques that result in environmentally responsible design and construction.

Rapidly increasing in use across America as a major wave in construction industry innovation, green building provides social and economic benefits by considering such key environmental issues as water and energy conservation, air quality, waste reduction and the protection of natural resources.

Building green is initially more expensive than conventional techniques, but it brings real savings over time by reducing maintenance and operations costs. Green buildings, on average, use 30 percent less energy annually, saving \$60,000 per year in a typical 100,000-square-foot office building, for example.

Building green also creates increased employment

opportunities since some green building techniques – such as the need to sort materials for recycling – require additional labor.

Capitalizing on this opportunity will require rethinking – green thinking – by both Laborers and contractors, as new methods and materials move onto the job-site. For example, both groups will soon have to accommodate these and other innovations:

- Increased use of recycled materials, such as fly ash components in concrete;
- Use of more durable materials, including concrete, native stone, brick, etc.;
- Increased time spent separating and sorting construction/demolition waste for recycling;
- Increased abatement of hazardous materials (asbestos, lead paint, etc.) in efforts to reuse existing buildings;
- Installation of new equipment, including enhanced



In 2006, the Hearst Tower in midtown Manhattan achieved official “green” status, as New York City’s first office building recognized by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) for high environmental performance, in both its exterior (core and shell) and interior fit-out and systems. Members of Local 79 were on the job and able to perform construction that met the standards required, an impressive example of adjusting to deliver the talent needed to keep up with trends.

Building Highlights – The Hearst Tower exemplifies many key “green” initiatives:

- A “diagrid” system of four-story triangles on the façade provides the Tower with efficient structural strength, eliminating the need for approximately 2,000 tons of steel
- The glass that wraps around the building exterior has a special “low-E” coating that allows for internal spaces to be flooded with natural light while blocking invisible solar radiation that causes heat
- Light sensors control the amount of artificial light on each floor, to supplement the natural light available
- High efficiency heating and air-conditioning equipment utilizes outside air for cooling and ventilation for 75 percent of the year, and Energy Star appliances increase efficiency
- Water conservation systems include a roof designed to collect rainwater, reducing by 25 percent the amount of rainwater dumped into the sewer system. Rainwater is collected in a 14,000-gallon tank and used to replace water lost to evaporation in the air-conditioning system. It is also pumped into an irrigation system for plantings and trees inside and outside of the building.

Laborers Build Environmental Buildings and Skills

ventilation systems, improved wastewater treatment systems, energy efficient mechanical equipment, lighting and appliances, etc.

These innovations may also require increased training. However, green buildings are projected to increase in number by 20 to 25 percent by 2009. Therefore, our unions and their training funds must move with the times to develop the skills required to stay competitive and expand our market share.

“It’s vital to recognize that green building techniques represent new opportunities for Laborers, a wave of innovative thinking that will play itself out in positive and tangible ways at job-sites across the state,” said Jim Melius, Tri-Fund Administrator.

“We need to recognize green building requirements as an opportunity to demonstrate the advantages of our highly skilled members and our training programs,” said Armand E. Sabitoni, General Secretary-Treasurer. “We can help owners and developers meet green building requirements.”



“It's vital to recognize that green building techniques represent new opportunities for Laborers, a wave of innovative thinking that will play itself out in positive and tangible ways at job-sites across the state.”

SUNY OSWEGO CAMPUS CENTER — LABORERS HONORED FOR COMMUNITY BUILDING

Many college students take five years to earn a degree, but the Upstate and Eastern New York Laborers District Councils built the Campus Center at the State University of New York at Oswego in just four years.

Representatives of the two New York district councils and of the New England Regional Office, including LIUNA General Secretary-Treasurer and New England Regional Manager Armand E. Sabitoni, were among the crowd of 300 faculty, students, alumni and other members of the college community who proudly participated in the dedication of the new center. The \$56.1 million, 111,500-square-foot center includes



Representatives of the two New York district councils and of the New England Regional Office, including LIUNA General Secretary-Treasurer and New England Regional Manager Armand E. Sabitoni, center, participate in the dedication ceremony.

an ice arena, convocation center, 200-seat auditorium, a college store, a student media

center and several teachers' offices and classrooms.

"We are so pleased to have been a part of this process," Mr. Sabitoni said during his remarks at the dedication. "We hope that this new Campus Center will foster new connections on campus and improve community life here at Oswego."

The New York State Laborers have actually been at the center of things on the 700-acre, 8,000-student campus for years, as contributors to a scholarship fund as well as working diligently to expand and improve infrastructure at the bustling campus. Employing more than 6,000, the college generates \$137.3 million in economic activity annually in Oswego County.

"We have always viewed our involvement on the Oswego campus as a benefit to both, our local unions in the area and to our community," said William Shannon, Upstate New York District Council President. "We are building a future and have been extremely pleased with this partnership."

In recognition of the Laborers' major role on campus, an area of the common room in the new Campus Center was dedicated to their honor. LIUNA General Secretary-Treasurer and New England Regional Manager Armand E. Sabitoni gratefully accepted this tribute on the dedication day for the new Campus Center. 🍷



Upstate New York Laborers District Council Business Manager William Shannon and LIUNA General Secretary-Treasurer and New England Regional Manager Armand E. Sabitoni share a handshake.

CONSTRUCTION CAREER ACADEMY

CONSTRUCTION CAREER ACADEMY – LOCAL 17, NEWBURGH ENLARGED CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT UNVEIL REVOLUTIONARY TRAINING CONCEPT

Theory and practice come together in dynamic new ways at the new Construction Career Academy (CCA), a joint venture of the New York State Laborers Local 17 and the Newburgh Enlarged City School District. Launched through state funding arranged by Senator William Larkin (R-Cornwall), the CCA will provide a comprehensive three-year high-school education as an option to bridge the gap between school and work.

CCA students must meet New York State Regents standards while also working in hands-on construction projects. CCA graduates will be fully equipped either to work in construction or to enter college. As Local 17 Business Manager and Hudson Valley Construction Trades Council President Todd Diorio pointed out, the training that high school students receive will secure a high level of skills development and produce unique results.

“As a group we’ve always been at the forefront of the training initiative,” said Armand E. Sabitoni, General Secretary-Treasurer and New England Regional Manager. “This school is just another example of the importance we place on the skills of our members and the unique ways we are getting involved to make



Local Union 17 Business Manager Todd Diorio, left, and NYS Senator William Larkin, right, cut the ribbon at the new Construction Career Academy.

sure our membership is not only growing in size but also growing in experience.”

In addition to meeting high school academic standards and learning hands-on construction skills, CCA students will develop and practice those skills on necessary real-world projects in the city of Newburgh, contributing while they learn. The city will benefit from their labor on useful infrastructure projects at little or no cost to taxpayers.

Laborers Local 17 has played a major role in developing the new CCA, making large financial contributions and opening the Laborers’ Local 17 Training Academy for construction-based field trips throughout the school year. Local 17 will also provide the services of a

Journeyman/Instructor with 20 years of construction experience to serve as an instructor at the CCA.

Like graduates lining up to get their diplomas, the benefits of the new CCA just keep on coming.

- CCA offers structured, hands-on learning to students who want a practical education, and it gives them an alternative option for meeting NYS Regents standards.
- CCA provides the City of Newburgh low- or no-cost labor for community projects.
- CCA also supplies to trade unions and contractors skilled workers with solid practical training for high-quality productivity and safety on the job.
- CCA, over time, will also build a greater understanding of construction work among the general public while improving appreciation for the industry and the labor movement.

“So many building trades can benefit from the training at CCA,” said Todd Diorio. “It’s a highly efficient and visionary system for creating jobs, and we expect to bring five or six graduates annually into our Local 17 apprentice program for advanced training.”

LOCAL 17 VOLUNTEERS STEP UP

If fly-by-night contractors sometimes give the construction industry a bad name, the Laborers are constantly fighting this attitude through generosity and good works for those in need.

Consider the case of Robert Mason. When floodwaters washed out the bridge to his home in Westbrookville (Orange County) in 2004, he hired a contractor to rebuild the bridge. The contractor unfortunately took a \$32,000 payment but left Mason, who is physically disabled from a past work injury only a steel beam to cross the gap - a “bridge” clearly inadequate to reach his home. He became a double victim: of flood damage and of the contractor’s ripoff.

Hearing of Mason’s plight through Assemblywoman Aileen M. Gunther, Local 17 took action. Through the leadership of Local 17 officers Dean Tamburri and Jeff Diorio, volunteers James Baxter, Tony Fredo, Mike Richardson and several others began lending their skills, working long days to rebuild the bridge. Soon ironworkers joined them to lend a hand.

The generosity of these Local 17 members exemplifies how Laborers use their skills to help those in need. It’s another important way that Laborers build New York and build communities.

HONORING 50-YEAR MEMBERS

HONORING 50-YEAR MEMBERS — LOCAL 621, LOCAL 1298 AND LOCAL 186

Our members are the keepers of tradition in the Laborers Union. The fact that many members have maintained loyal affiliation in this organization for more than 50 years attests to the satisfaction of the life and work we share. The LIUNA constitution offers a two-fold award to honor these members: a gold membership card and exemption from further payment of dues.

LOCAL 621

Bob Shields, honored for 50 years of membership, began as a Laborer when most of the work was done by hand. Shields is the only Local 621 member who worked his entire career with the same signatory contractor during the tenure of three company presidents.



From left to right: Chan Whitford, Bob Shields, Brad Whitford and Don Giardini.

LOCAL 1298

Edward Cahill Jr., Robert Facompre and Josef Nowak recently received their 50-year pins and gold cards, honoring long service.



Standing left to right: Business Manager George Truckio, Eugene Gentile, Paul Lanews, James Mc Laurin, President Edward Horbach, Assistant Business Manager George S. Truckio. Seated from left to right: Edward Cahill Jr., Robert Facompre and Josef Nowak.



LOCAL 186

Kenneth G. Dumas, former business manager, received his 50-year pin and gold card.

From left to right: Recording Secretary Donald Anslow Jr., Business Agent/Secretary Treasurer John Donoghue Jr., Ken Dumas, Business Manager Raymond Jessey, President James Alger, and Executive Board member Vitchel Hemingway.

MESSAGE FROM

A UNION VICE-PRESIDENT

Projects Large and Small Are Vital To Our Union



Dear Brothers and Sisters:

This issue of Tri-Fund and the previous issue show that we have some very large-scale projects, including two baseball stadiums, in the works; but that's clearly not the whole story.

Perhaps Local 79 Business Manager John Delgado said it best, noting that we cannot depend exclusively on major projects to put our members to work. Small projects are also significant as components in the engine that moves our organization forward. We have learned that projects large and small, and the public policy decisions that fund them, are all tied together and all vital to our future.

We have learned that projects large and small, and the public policy decisions that fund them, are all tied together and all vital to our future.

The Shea Stadium story in this edition and the Yankee Stadium story in the previous issue show the magnitude of work we are capable of doing successfully. We can be proud of building these showpiece sports stadiums where history will be made and inspire generations to come. Our members help make that history possible.

Equally significant, although they attract less attention, are our efforts for responsible funding on the transportation front. When people ask why we are so involved in particular political efforts, the answer is simple: Everything is connected and everything builds the bottom line for our members and the users of everything we build.

Rebuilding our regional infrastructure is as important as this infrastructure is to our economy. It may sound obvious, but dependable infrastructure is necessary for the efficient building of any project, moving workers and materials to job sites and moving users to and from finished projects. For example, crowds need to move efficiently to events at the new stadiums, then home again.

We as a nation worry about public finances in light of our own struggles to afford food, housing and energy. But funding must be provided for necessary infrastructure projects, in New York and in New Jersey, where we're working with Governor Corzine toward responsible funding.

We as Laborers are working hard to ensure that this message is heard, for the health of our nation, our brothers and sisters in this great union, and our families.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Raymond M. Pocino". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Raymond M. Pocino
Vice President
Laborers' International Union of North America

Time Capsule

Local 147 – Underground workplace

Members of Local Union 147 are working on the underground arteries of New York City. Since receiving their charter in 1938, the “sandhogs” have been providing the infrastructure that moves energy, water and commuters through the city.



Holing Through



New York City Mayor LaGuardia meets with sandhogs



Union seals ca. 1900 and constitutions from the 1950s.



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