



RAISING THE STANDARDS IN CONSTRUCTION



Associated Construction Contractors of New Jersey

MONTHLY UPDATE

November 2017

Labor

Dockbuilder Wage Rates

In Bulletin 99-17, we emailed to Active Members the wage and fringe benefits package for Dockbuilders Local 179, effective November 1, 2017. Access the bulletin in the members-only section at accnj.org.

New Carpenters Collection Policy Meeting - *January 11, 2018*

In November, we emailed signatory contractors that, effective January 1, 2018, the Northeast Regional Council of Carpenters Funds has adopted a new Collection Policy. Jack Widman, Management Co-Counsel on the Funds, and NRCC Administrative Manager Pete Tonia will provide an overview of the policy's key provisions on January 11, 2018, at 10 am in the ACCNJ office. Signatory contractors are asked to please contact ACCNJ if you have questions and to confirm your attendance at the meeting.

2018 Negotiations

ACCNJ has begun negotiations with the Heavy/Highway Laborers 472 & 172, whose Agreement expires February 28, 2018. Other negotiations in 2018 include: Ironworkers, Local 11 (contract expires June 30, 2018); Asbestos Laborers Local 78 (contract expires July 31, 2018); Teamsters Local 331 and Teamsters Local 676 (contracts expire April 30, 2018).

Christmas & New Year's Holiday Provisions

In Bulletin 107-17, we distributed to Active Members the holiday provisions of the general building trades for Christmas, December 25, 2017, and New Year's Day, January 1, 2018, and Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve as applicable. Access the bulletin in the members-only section at accnj.org.

ACCNJ Note to Members

Dues Invoices

On November 1, ACCNJ sent 2018 ACCNJ Dues Invoices to all members via regular mail. If you have not yet received it, please contact the Association office and we will email you a copy. Payments are due by January 15, 2018.

Safety

ACCNJ Safety Council Meeting - January 19!

In Bulletin 108-17, we announced the next ACCNJ Safety Council Meeting is scheduled for Friday, January 19, 2018, at 11:30 am at the Hilton Garden Inn, Edison. We welcome OSHA Area Director Kris Hoffman, who will address crystalline silica exposure and present an overview of OSHA's new standard. To register, access the bulletin in the members-only section at accnj.org.

Construction Safety Courses

For those interested in registering craftworkers for safety courses offered by the general building trades at their training centers, please contact the Association office.

Education & Workforce Development

REMINDERS:

Summer Internship Program

In Bulletin 91-17, we updated Active Members on the summer internship program offered through CIAP. We noted a CIAP video that provides insight into the program from the employers' and interns' perspectives.

Once again, approximately 60 students will be selected to attend a mandatory Job Fair on January 10, 2018, at the Pines Manor, Edison. If you wish to participate in the Job Fair and an opportunity to meet one-on-one with prospective interns, use the registration form attached to the bulletin in the members-only section at accnj.org.

Tuition Reimbursement Program

As you know, ACCNJ's Industry Advancement Trust has approved a Tuition Reimbursement Program for eligible, full-time employees of ACCNJ Active Member firms that contribute to the IAT. For complete information, access Bulletin 15-17 in the members-only section at accnj.org.

Government Affairs

NJ Legislature Sees Leadership Changes Following Election

As we told you in Bulletin-104-17, Senator Steve Sweeney (D-3) was affirmed by his Senate colleagues to lead the upper chamber as Senate President for another term. Senator Loretta Weinberg (D-38) was also affirmed by her peers as the Senate's Majority Leader.

In the Assembly, Assemblyman Craig Coughlin (D-19) received the majority of votes of support from Democratic members and will replace outgoing Speaker Vincent Prieto, whose term as leader of the lower house ends January 2018.

Assemblyman Lou Greenwald (D-6) was reaffirmed by his Democratic peers and will return in his previous role as Assembly Majority Leader.

Access the bulletin in the members-only section at accnj.org.

Library Bond Act Approved by NJ Voters

As you know, ballot question #1 on November's ballot, seeking voter authorization for New Jersey to borrow \$125 million to help fund capital projects at local libraries, passed by a wide margin. After more than 15 years since lawmakers approved borrowing for local library capital projects, the referendum enables additional public building projects to proceed. The \$125 million bond sale will raise revenue to provide grants for the "construction, expansion, and equipping of New Jersey's public libraries." New Jersey's state librarian has now been directed to work with Thomas Edison State College to draft eligibility requirements for the grant program, and to come up with a list of qualified projects. The revenue for the bond sale would fund 50% of a project's cost, with the balance coming from either local or private sources.

AGC of America Concerned about Federal Tax Reform Bill

AGC of America continues to have concerns about the taxation of pass-throughs and the lack of infrastructure financing in the bill. The national chapter reports that as of late November, *"the Senate Finance Committee released the Senate's version of comprehensive tax reform, and continues to amend the bill on the floor. The Senate tax reform plan differs from the House's already-passed bill in a number of ways. For the construction industry, the biggest change is how the Senate bill approaches the taxation of pass-through entities (S-Corporations, LLC's, Partnerships and Sole Proprietorships). While the House bill creates a separate pass-through business tax rate and sets up enforcement rules to curb abuses, the Senate bill would instead allow for a 17.4% deduction of net business income against the individual tax rates with a number of limitations. The top effective tax rates for pass-throughs under both bills, however, would create a wide gap between the tax rate on C-Corporations and pass-throughs (roughly 35 percent and 32 percent in the House and Senate bills, versus 20 percent for C-Corporations). Regarding infrastructure, the Senate bill did not entirely repeal the tax exemption for Private Activity Bonds (PABs) as the House bill did and scaled back the Historic Tax Credit, rather than repealing it entirely as the House bill did. These are improvements compared to the House bill."*

ACCNJ remains in close contact with AGC of America on this important federal issue for an on-the-ground assessment of the bill's impact on the construction industry and our regional interests.

Industry Issues

NJ Alliance for Action Releases Construction Forecast

In Bulletin 101-17, we announced that, following its 33rd Annual Construction Forecast Seminar, the New Jersey Alliance for Action released two-year public and private construction estimates totaling \$43.5 billion. The two-year total is expected to increase once the 2019 figures for the NJ Schools Development Authority are determined.

Private-sector estimates totaled nearly \$15 billion. The forecast included reports on anticipated construction activity for 2018 and 2019 from government agencies and private-sector companies in the state.

For highlights and the complete report, access the bulletin in the members-only section at accnj.org.

AGC of America Seeks Input for 2018 Hiring and Business Outlook

In Bulletin 105-17, we told you AGC of America has issued the latest survey to collect input for its annual Construction Hiring and Business Outlook, a projection of construction activities and business climate for the coming year. If New Jersey contractors respond in enough numbers, AGC will prepare a state-specific outlook.

We appreciate your willingness to participate in the survey and encourage you to respond, as it provides valuable information for us as we compare the AGC state-specific outlook with our own research on the New Jersey construction industry.

Communications

New Jersey Construction Magazine Due Out in Mid-December

The Fall 2017 issue of *New Jersey Construction* will be distributed by mid-December. In the feature story, "New Jersey's Construction Industry Can Make the State Thrive, With a Little Help from Our Leaders in Trenton," we invite you to review the Association's top legislative initiatives on behalf of our members and the state's construction industry as a whole. You will also enjoy seeing the member projects that took home awards during the

past year, profiles on two venerable members, Trevcon and Drill Construction, and many more articles of interest to construction professionals.

ACCNJ Upcoming Events

Annual Membership Meeting

As you know, at the Membership Meeting on December 5 at The Clubhouse at Galloping Hill in Kenilworth we will recognize our outgoing Chair, Al Daloisio Jr., for his dedication and commitment to ACCNJ and the industry.

We know you'll enjoy the entertainment -- *Carmen Ciricillo - The Construction Comic!* -- and the Basket Raffle to support the ACCNJ Scholarship Foundation. We warmly thank all our contributors for providing an outstanding selection of baskets. Tickets will be available at the event.

In Bulletin 106-17, we sent Active Members the 2018 Proposed Slate of Officers & Trustees. Active Members will vote on the proposed slate during the Membership Meeting and may access the bulletin in the members-only section at accnj.org.
