BIGGO ENDERS' INTERNATIONAL UNION OF NORTH AMERICA, LOCAL BGO CLEVELAND

DEDICATED TO ENSURING LABOR MAINTAINS ITS PROPER PLACE IN THE WORLD

SPRING 2022 / VOLUME 18 • ISSUE 1

# A Message from Anthony D. Liberatore Jr.

On January 28th, a bridge collapsed in Pittsburgh. Thankfully, no one was hurt. But this is a reminder of how decayed our roadway infrastructure is and the importance of our member's work in construction is every day. Roads and bridges are not just an economic benefit, but their maintenance protects community health and safety.

Having turned the page on the Trump era, the new Biden administration has our country once again investing in itself. I am constantly reminded and in awe of the collective perseverance of this Local and its membership during these difficult years. Collectively, we overcome, we get stronger, we persevere, and positive things happen – even as we faced the COVID 19.

We are entering year three of the pandemic, and the world had to evolve and adapt to new ways of socializing and conducting business. As a hot bed of activity, Local 860 is always a step ahead. We have accomplished so much during this time, including major public sector growth, merge with Local 1099, and not to mention the daily policing and construction of our projects, thereby improving the living conditions of our community. We remain diligent and resourceful in our commitment to thwart any incoming threats to our rights as union members.

We can anticipate a positive and prosperous partnership with the Biden Administration, particularly having LIUNA Brother, Marty Walsh, as Secretary of Labor. I have never seen such a pro-union president and administration in my lifetime. The recent executive order requiring project labor agreements of all federal projects over 35 million is just one of many signs of a promising future working with the federal government, for a change.

The future just keeps getting better, Sisters and Brothers. The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act shall provide much needed additional funding for water, road and bridge improvement. Through organizing, your business representatives continue to secure our growth, ensuring continued future success.

Local 860's market share and proactivity continues to elevate our membership's strength and standard of living. Our robust retirement programs ensure us a dignified retirement. We couldn't be prouder.

Thank you, Brothers and Sisters. Be healthy and out of harms way!

In solidarity,



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TRAINING & SAFETY Make Yourself More Employable



**AROUND TOWN** 



STILL SMILING Holiday Civeaway 2021



(West Side) Cleveland July 6, 1914 

> Cover Photo: Photo by Frank Aleksandrov, from the Cleveland Press Collections, courtesy of the Michael Schwartz Library Special Collections, **Cleveland State University**

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# INFRASTRUCTURE: Funding, finally



Staying positive and continuing to persevere is engrained in who we are at Local 860. Sometimes are more difficult than others, but we continue on, and then sometimes the legislation passes and we can celebrate how worthwhile it was to put in the work. As is the case with the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA).

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) will provide new funding that will impact communities across America by increasing access to safe and reliable transportation. IIJA is part of the bipartisan infrastructure law.

#### **KEY TAKEAWAYS:**

- Provides \$351 billion for highways over five years from the Highway Trust Fund and General Fund, with \$307 billion provided as formula apportionments to states.
- Provides \$91 billion for transit, including \$69.9 billion for transit formula programs and \$21.3 billion for Capital Investment Grants and certain formula programs.
- Provides \$12 billion for highway safety.
- Provides \$66 billion for passenger rail and includes Amtrak, CRISI, fed-state partnership, and rail crossing elimination.
- Provides \$20 billion for airports over five years, including terminal improvements, multimodal transport, and traffic-control infrastructure.
- Creates a new \$27.5 billion formula-based Federal Highway bridge program. Eligible uses include highway bridge replacement, rehabilitation, preservation, protection, or construction projects on public roads.
- Creates a new \$5 billion Electric Vehicles (EV) charging infrastructure formula program.

#### HERE ARE JUST A FEW WAYS THE INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT AND JOBS ACT IS DELIVERING FOR OHIO:



\$1.8 BILLION to repave roads, modernize highways, and reduce commute times



\$240 MILLION to update drinking and wastewater systems



THE LARGEST INVESTMENT in public transit, including our bus and rail systems, in our nation's history



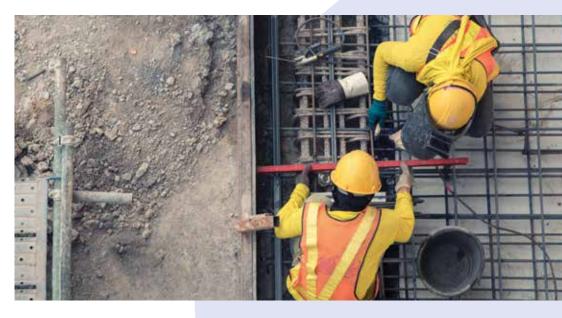
Expanded access to high-speed internet to more than 250,000 OHIOANS

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law is the largest long-term investment in our infrastructure in our lifetime. Recent data shows how much Ohio needs this law. For decades, infrastructure in Ohio has continued to deteriorate from a lack of investment. Last year, the American Society of Civil Engineers gave Ohio a C- on our infrastructure report card.

Nationwide, 173,000 total miles of America's highways and major roads and 45,000 bridges are rated in poor condition. In Ohio, 1,377 bridges and more than 4,925 miles of highway rate poorly, according to the organization's report cards out earlier this year.

Estimates from the White House and Ohio's senators show the Buckeye state is in line to receive at least \$9.2 billion for highways, \$1.2 billion for public transportation, \$483 million for bridge replacement, \$140 million for an electric vehicle charging network and at least \$100 million to expand internet coverage.

This investment will make life better for millions of Ohio residents and, as members of Local 860, this ensures our jobs and position of importance in making life better. In fact, the



White House is projecting that the infrastructure investments will add, on average, about 2 million jobs per year over the coming decade.

A provision in the bill provides another \$12.5 billion Bridge Investment Program, which allows states to compete for funds to fix economically significant bridges like the Brent Spence Bridge, one that handles about 3% of the country's GDP daily. This is the single largest dedicated bridge investment since the construction of the Interstate Highway system.

## WAR ON WORKERS

# DRAWIN



#### REDISTRICTING OR GERRYMANDERING?

Redistricting is the process of drawing the lines of districts from which public officials are elected. When it's conducted fairly, it accurately reflects population changes and racial diversity, and is used by legislators to equitably allocate representation in Congress and state legislatures.

When politicians use redistricting to manipulate the outcome of elections, however, it's called gerrymandering – a practice that undermines democracy and stifles the voice of voters. Voters should be picking their politicians. Not the other way around. The current state of politics favors unions. Our dedication to the cause is coming back around to show us that the fight is always worth it. Our positivity movement continues to persevere, even when the threats to our rights are not obvious. We stay in the know and keep united.

With that said, it's still imperative that we remain strong and informed. There will always be obstacles to overcome. We do this so that when the threats rear their ugly heads (which they always do) – we're ready for it.

## HERE'S A QUICK RUNDOWN OF THE RECENT REDISTRICTING THREAT:

The Ohio GOP drew legislative maps gerrymandered to rig elections in their favor. The Ohio Supreme Court struck down the proposed state legislative maps, as well as the Congressional maps, saying they violated the state's constitution.

# **G THE LINE**

The first, now-rejected maps threatens the integrity of our democracy by the positioning the GOP at a 57-42 advantage in the Ohio House and a 20-13 advantage in the Ohio Senate.

The second round of maps, which passed despite Democrats' objections, reduce the number of Republican-leaning seats in the Ohio House and Senate, but don't match the statewide voting preferences of Ohio voters. Currently voting preferences amount to 54% for Republican candidates and 46% for Democratic ones over the past decade. Instead, the new plans crafted 57.5% House seats and 60.6% of Senate seats to lean Republican.

The Ohio Redistricting Commission approved the maps in a 5-2 partyline vote, and because the maps did not receive bipartisan support, they could last only four years.

Republicans say their new maps are close enough to the statewide voting preference and don't violate other parts of the Ohio Constitution, such as compact districts and how Senate incumbents are treated.

Plaintiffs in the lawsuits proposed their own maps to the Ohio Redistricting Commission. Those plans gave Republicans a 57-42 or 56-43 advantage in the House, depending on election data used, and an 18-15 advantage in the Senate.

They also pointed out places where GOP mapmakers made clear choices NOT to draw Democratic districts. In addition to proportionality, the maps had additional problems, and not to mention that the public was cut out of the mapmaking process.



#### JUVENILE UPDATE DON'T BACK DOWN

The battle continues and we continue to fight. As we know, the court employees were stripped of their union representation in 2020, the Cuyahoga County Juvenile Court and Detention Center has become a highly dangerous environment, both to its juvenile residents and staff.

There have been over 600 acts of violence in 18 months and the administration has dismantled every bit of structure that once governed the facility.

The benefits of having the Cuyahoga County Juvenile Court adequately staffed, managed, and trained according to protocols and best practices goes beyond the facility and its residents themselves. It benefits the community as a whole.

Laborers' Local 860 can do this on behalf of the courts, possessing vast experience in serving the public sector, law enforcement and the courts. Local 860, a landmark of the Cleveland labor force, truly cares about our city, and if allowed to step back in, can bring the manpower and support so desperately needed by a besieged court.

Yet the Juvenile Court won't return to the bargaining table with Local 860 - despite Judge O'Malley stating in a letter, "When all factors are considered, it becomes readily apparent that the current staffing situation at the Cuyahoga County Juvenile Detention Center is in a state of crisis."

Despite the Court dragging their feet, Local 860 stays the course until we get results. The good news is there are potential unionfriendly judges in the near future, and we will continue to build our support base by spreading the word about the continued attack on organized labor.

# PUBLIC SECTOR UPDATES

Let's rise to every challenge. Let's seize every opportunity. Let's overcome every setback. Let's win every battle. Let's leave our great International Union better, stronger, larger, tougher and more powerful than any other time in our entire history."

Terry O'Sullivan, LIUNA General President

#### BARGAINING UNITS CURRENTLY IN NEGOTIATIONS:

Fiscal Treasurers BOR HHS/IT CMSD Geneva Richmond Heights Cleveland Cleveland Heights Westlake

#### BARGAINING UNITS WITH NEW CONTRACTS:

Berea Parma Cuyahoga County Public Works/Sanitary Engineers Cuyahoga County Sheriffs' Deputies Wickliffe Highland Heights Brookpark University Heights Lakeview Cemetary

#### BARGAINING UNITS WITH UPCOMING LMC MEETINGS:

Mayfield Heights Highland Heights Cuyahoga County Public Works Facilities and Maintenance Cleveland Public Library

#### OTHER NOTEWORTHY NEWS:

PARMA HEIGHTS Local 860 would like to congratulate unit member, **Bob Sepik** on his appointment as Service Director for the city.

CLEVELAND PUBLIC LIBRARY Local 860 had a wage re-opener with the Library and the proposal passed unanimously with the membership.

AS LOCAL 860 MEMBERS, THE SUPPORT WE OFFER OUR SISTERS AND BROTHERS IS IMPERATIVE TO THE OVERALL SUCCESS OF THE UNION.

In 2021, union membership among employees ages 24-34 grew another 9.4 percent over the previous year's growth of 8 percent. This growth is expected to continue.

Additionally, a White House task force was created to promote union organizing. They're recommending more transparency for employers' anti-union spending, automating prevailing wage enforcement, and expanding access for organizers on federal property.

"At its core, it is our administration's belief that unions benefit all of us," a White House official said in a statement on the report.

With more young workers joining unions and spearheading campaigns to mobilize, and with our administration finally coming to bat for us, we should expect our strength and unity to grow.

Standing together has gotten us this far, and will carry us into the future.

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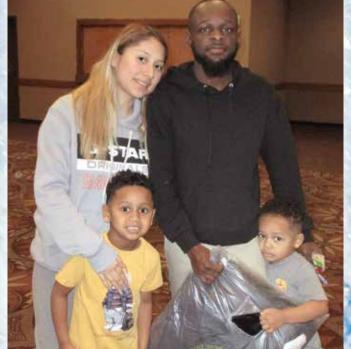








































































# TRAINING & SAFETY





#### MAKE YOURSELF MORE EMPLOYABLE

This past year has yet again proved we can persevere. Even with pandemic challenges, we continued to offer training options to members while adhering to CDC guidelines, and the Local 860 members continued to train up. That means we're still putting out the most highlyskilled laborers into the field.

As a member of Local 860, you have more opportunities available because you are constantly diversifying your skill set. It means success. It means safety.

Keep up-to-date on available classes at www.laborers860.com. The need for trained and skilled workers continues to grow in the field. Don't forget that STP has to be updated every five years. Field rigging is mandatory.

Please be safe out there, Sister and Brothers. Our favorite saying rings true today more than ever – Safety is a two-way street. Especially with the unpredictable weather patterns, a high level of awareness is necessary while on the job. Stay healthy and stay safe.

KEEP YOUR SKILL SHEET UP TO DATE Log-on to www.laborers860.com/member

# AROUND TOWN

#### CITY OF CLEVELAND WASTE COLLECTION Clarence Howard

CITY OF CLEVELAND URBAN FORESTRY Bryant Thomas

DER DEMOLITION SOUTHERLY SEWAGE WWTP BUILDING DEMO Maurice Barrett CITY OF CLEVELAND STREET DEPARTMENT Christopher Greer, William Bildstein, Momcilo Radujkovic

BELDEN

www.laborers860.com

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# AROUND TOWN

PERK COMPANY, INC. W. 30TH & CLARK SEWER REPAIR Jerry Roseberry, Kain Grimm

#### CLEVELAND PUBLIC LIBRARY SECURITY Wayne Yates, Marcel Tidorescu

#### CUYAHOGA COUNTY DEPUTY SHERIFFS Carmen Fanara, Tony McGowen

22 LOCAL 860 EXPRESS SPRING 2022

COOK PAVING & CONSTRUCTION COTNER PARK RENOVATIONS W. 97TH ST. & WALFORD Chuck Barcik, Richard Paintiff, Ben Saplak, Adrienne McQueen

TERRACE CONSTRUCTION CO., INC. WATER SERVICE REPAIR E. 40TH & CARNEGIE Anthony Serna, Greg Spagnola

The Gathering Connection

Special Events

CATTS CONSTRUCTION BEACHWOOD SEWER PROJECT CAMPUS BLVD. Ed Zacharias, Efrain Ramirez

ROUND TOWN

MCNALLY/KEIWITT SHORELINE STORAGE TUNNEL GORDON PARK Rich Dixon, Adam Hornbeck, Rob Tagg, Nick Furness

TERRACE CONSTRUCTION AT&T ROAD CROSSING WICKLIFFE Mike Deighton, Darrin Griffin

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TERRACE CONSTRUCTION HIGHLAND RD. WATERMAIN BREAK **RICHMOND HTS.** Brian Delphia, George Lee

J.D. WILLIAMSON **75TH STREET BRIDGE** REPLACEMENT **Billy Franks** 

DIGIOIA SUBURBAN EXCAVATING SHORELINE STORAGE TUNNEL GORDON PARK Ed Gaillard, **Anthony Eiflander** 

NICHOLSON CONSTRUCTION SHORELINE STORAGE TUNNEL **GORDON PARK** Kelly Bitsko

NICH

#### MARRA SERVICES , INC. SHORELINE STORAGE TUNNEL **GORDON PARK**

Rich Clingan, Mike Oliver, Robert Cochrac, Damas Armstrong, Danny Marchetti

A STATUTE OF THE OWNER.

# Sill SMiling HOLIDAY GIVEAWAY 2021















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#### KEEP YOUR UNION DUES UP TO DATE

It is imperative that you keep your monthly union dues up to date to avoid suspension. If you get suspended, a readmission fee must be paid to be reinstated. In other words, it saves you money if you pay your dues on time. To make it even easier: WE NOW ACCEPT CREDIT CARDS!

### PAY DUES ONLINE!

Construction members and retirees can start paying dues online. Go to www.laborers860. com and click the Pay Dues tab at the top of the page to access this new feature. You can also update addresses and check the date your dues are paid through. Set up automatic payments and never worry about paying dues again!

#### **UNION MEETINGS**

First Thursday of Every Month at 7PM (no December meeting). BEGINNING IN JUNE 2022, MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS WILL TAKE PLACE ON THE THIRD THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH.

# CHANGE OF ADDRESS & CONTACT INFORMATION

It is extremely important that Local 860 and the Ohio Laborers' Fringe Benefit Program are informed of any changes concerning your address and/or contact information, including email addresses. Please notify Local 860 so we can better communicate with you. In addition, change of address forms and beneficiary forms are available at Local 860 for your convenience.

#### LOCAL 860 ON-SITE DROP BOX

Located on the east-front corner of the training center.

- Place your payment (check/money order) in an envelope with your 860 card
- Make sure your last name & last four digits of Social Security number are included
- Payments will be processed the following business day

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

CEDAR POINT 2022: Various Dates Look for more information this Spring.

# **Contact Us**

#### LABORERS' LOCAL 860

3334 Prospect Ave. Cleveland, OH 44115-2616

216.432.1022

www.laborers860.com



Business Manager / Secretary-Treasurer **Anthony D. Liberatore, Jr.** (ext. 110)

Training & Apprenticeship Coordinator, Recording Secretary **John Perri** (ext. 115)

Field Representative **Lenny Rizzo** (ext. 107)

Field Representative Mallory Jackson (ext. 105)



Business Representative **Mike Piccirillo** (ext. 117)



Organizer **Colin Sikon** (ext. 118)

Secretaries (ext. 0)





LABORERS' INTERNATIONAL UNION OF NORTH AMERICA, LOCAL 860

3334 PROSPECT AVENUE CLEVELAND, OH 44115-2616

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