

LICA NEWS

Long Island Contractors' Association

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER
2008



The Voice of Long Island's
Highway & Infrastructure Professionals

The Long Island Contractors' Association, Inc. (LICA) represents more than 100 of our region's heavy construction general contractors, subcontractors, suppliers and industry supporters. Focused primarily on the outdoor construction industry such as highways and other public works, LICA members play a significant role in Long Island's economic vitality.

LICA's services include:

- ◆ Maintaining industry standards
- ◆ Supporting ethical conduct
- ◆ Promoting safety on the job
- ◆ Advocating for increased funding of public infrastructure projects
- ◆ Engaging in labor negotiations and contract enforcement
- ◆ Monitoring state and local regulatory actions
- ◆ Performing legislative lobbying
- ◆ Arranging and administering safety training programs
- ◆ Coordinating industry networking opportunities
- ◆ Interacting with other industry and business organizations
- ◆ Providing timely industry news and information

A Man, A Plan, Obama

At a time when governors and local officials are cutting back infrastructure projects, President-elect Barack Obama has two objectives that affect our industry. He needs to win approval for:

- A \$60-billion National Infrastructure Reinvestment Bank that will also seek to bring in private funds to expand and enhance federal infrastructure projects. It is projected to create two million jobs and another \$35 billion in economic activity.
- The federal transportation spending law that expires in September. The current law, enacted in 2005, allocated \$286 billion to highway and transportation projects.



Both of these plans will be even more important because they will be used to offset local cuts in infrastructure projects like New York State's actions last month to cancel proposed projects on Route 112 and at the intersection of Route 110 and the Northern State Parkway.

Obama's plans for the National Infrastructure Reinvestment Bank call for it to be funded by money saved in the military withdrawal from Iraq.

"When it comes to rebuilding America's essential but crumbling infrastructure, we need to do more, not less," Obama said in June in a speech to the U.S. Conference of Mayors. "Maintaining our levees and dams is not pork barrel spending, it's an urgent priority and that's what we'll do when I'm president. The work will be determined by what will maximize our safety, security and shared prosperity."

"President-elect Obama has us pointed in the right direction on infrastructure spending," said LICA Chairman James Pratt III, "but all of us need to work harder than ever with our members of Congress this year to make sure that those plans come to fruition.

"The competition for dollars will be tough but most people understand that a dollar spent on infrastructure creates more economic activity than a dollar spent on retail purchases. Most of the money is spent locally and substantially affects the local economy. The best part is that, at the end of the process, Long Islanders have something of lasting value that enhances their safety and quality of life. You can't say that about purchasing an iPod."

The \$60 billion for the National Infrastructure Reinvestment Bank is significant but it is just a small part of the \$1.6 trillion needed over the next five years, according to the American Society of Civil Engineers.

Open House

Celebrating its move “back to where it all began,” LICA hosted an open house reception to officially inaugurate its new headquarters along Motor Parkway this fall. The Long Island Vanderbilt Motor Parkway (that’s the official name) celebrates its 100th anniversary as the nation’s first superhighway this year. LICA decided that was the perfect theme to celebrate for the occasion.



Suffolk County Democratic Chairman Rich Schaffer and LICA Executive Director Marc Herbst



LICA Directors Paul Posillico (Posillico), Chester Broman (110 Sand Company), Grant Hendricks, Jr. (BIMASCO)

Barbara Anderson (LICA), New York State Senator John Flanagan (R-Northport), Josephine Magee (LICA) and Nicole Alexandrovich (ABLI - Association for a Better Long Island)



LICA Chairman Jim Pratt (Pratt Brothers) and Osprey's Dominion Vineyard's Bill Tyree (Tyree Environmental/Construction)

Long Island Mid-Suffolk Business Action (LIMBA) Chairman Ernie Fazio





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LICA's 2009 Top Ten Events*

Thursday, January 8th	LICA Safety Seminar Sheraton Long Island, Smithtown
Thursday, January 22nd	LICA State Elected Officials Breakfast Huntington Hilton, Melville
Thursday, February 19th	LICA Nassau Local Governments Breakfast, Carlyle on the Green, Bethpage
Thursday, March 12th	LICA Annual Meeting and Dinner Stonebridge Golf Links & Country Club, Hauppauge
Thursday, April 2nd	LICA Suffolk Local Governments Breakfast, NYIT Culinary Institute, Central Islip
Monday, April 20th	LICA Annual Golf Outing Nassau Country Club, Glen Cove, and Meadow Brook Club, Jericho
Thursday, July 23rd	LICA Evening Cruise Nautical Cruise Line, Freeport
Thursday, August 6th	LICA/CIC/GCA Day at the Races Saratoga Race Track, Saratoga Springs
Thursday, October 29th	LICA Annual PAC Reception Nico at the Gatsby Mansion, Islip
Wednesday, December 16th	LICA Holiday Party Watermill, Smithtown

**Dates and locations subject to change*