

## OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Launched a safety incentive program to reward safe work practices among Laborers and signatory contractors.
- Launched a new website that includes an online directory of Laborers' signatory contractors.
- Hosted networking meetings to introduce Laborers' signatory landscaping subcontractors to Laborers' signatory general contractors.
- Hosted tours and events at the Minnesota Laborers Training Center for Laborers' signatory contractors.



### MINNESOTA LECET

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## MINNESOTA LECET

### Minnesota LECET Helps Win Best Value Contracting on State and Local Projects

Minnesota LECET, the Laborers' District Council of Minnesota and North Dakota, and a coalition of labor unions, municipal associations, and state agencies successfully campaigned for the adoption of best value contracting throughout the state of Minnesota. As a result, a provision of the Omnibus State Government Finance Act allows certain types of public projects to be bid under a system that considers past performance, planning, technical capabilities, employee training, safety record, and other quality factors in addition to bid price. This best value contracting law will be implemented in three phases over the next three years, and eventually will cover most public works contracting in the state.

The coalition supporting the bill mobilized both union members and signatory contractors to support the best value language, relying heavily on the positive experience of the University of Minnesota to make its case. Over the past few years, the university's best value contracting system has saved taxpayers money while making it easier for signatory union contractors to win university projects. University officials, local officials from throughout the state, and the League of Minnesota Cities all supported best value contracting, citing its effectiveness in improving project performance and lowering total project costs.

Minnesota LECET and the District Council are monitoring the law's implementation, identifying eligible projects, and helping contractors navigate the best value process. Access to Laborers' training and apprenticeship programs will position Laborers' signatory contractors to win projects under the new procurement system.