

OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Generated grassroots support for various local and municipal referenda funding millions of dollars worth of public construction projects.
- Worked with the *Back to Work Illinois* coalition to support comprehensive infrastructure improvements throughout the state.
- Provided marketing and communications assistance to the Chicago Laborers' District Council.



Chicago Area LECET

Chicago Area LECET works closely with the Chicago Laborers' District Council Labor-Management Cooperation Committee.

Chicago Area LECET Responds to Public-Private Partnerships

As the State of Illinois created a public-private partnership to finance the building of the Illiana Tollway, Chicago Area LECET moved to ensure that the project would be bid on a level playing field. Working with Illinois Laborers' Local Unions, signatory contractors, and allies in the state legislature, the fund helped insert prevailing wage, responsible bidder, and project labor agreement language into the legislation approving the creation of the Illiana Tollway Public-Private Partnership.

By stipulating that construction and maintenance of the toll road conform to all of the state's prevailing wage, responsible bidding, and project labor agreement guidelines, the bill ensures that Laborers and their signatory contractors will continue to have a fair shot at winning these projects and jobs, regardless of the funding mechanism. The project is expected to create 4,300 construction jobs over two years.

Illinois has turned to public-private partnerships to finance critical infrastructure projects at a time of diminished state revenues. Chicago Area LECET's work on the Illiana Tollway has positioned Laborers and their signatory contractors not only to win work on that project, but to influence the course of other public-private partnerships. The affiliate continues to work with industry partners and legislative allies to ensure that future public-private partnerships also follow guidelines that cover public works projects throughout the state.



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