

Issue #24-21 | June 14, 2021

# **CAWP CLC Holds Happy Hour Networking Event**



On Thursday, June 10, members of the CAWP Constructors Leadership Council (CLC) met for a happy hour event at Coop de Ville in the Strip District in Pittsburgh. Attendees enjoyed an evening of networking, games, food and drinks.

PHOTOS

## **CAWP + AGC**

In 1939, CAWP was granted a full charter with the Associated General Contractors of America (AGC), the largest and oldest national construction trade association in the United States. Established in 1918, AGC is the most respected voice of the construction industry in the U.S. Congress and has continued to enhance its reputation for being the respected voice of the





Your membership in CAWP includes membership in AGC. Please watch this section in the CAWP Weekly to stay up-to-date on the news, events, and member benefits from AGC and other AGC chapters.

## AGC Victory on New OSHA COVID-19 Safety and Health Standard

On June 10, U.S. Labor Secretary Marty Walsh announced that the longanticipated federal COVID-19 **Emergency Temporary** Standard (ETS) from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) will **only** apply to healthcare settings. This represents a significant change from early reports that the new standard would apply to a broad range of industries, including construction. The fact that the ETS only applies to healthcare settings is a significant victory for AGC and the industry. AGC led a broad coalition effort to question the need for the standard, considering the widespread adoption of coronavirus vaccines and the fact the construction industry has been operating, safely, since the start of the pandemic. This announcement comes just a few weeks after AGC successfully convinced **OSHA** to suspend enforcement of the agency's recordkeeping regulations related to adverse reactions to COVID-19 vaccines, whether required or recommended. For more information, contact Kevin Cannon at (703)837-5410 or kevin.cannon@agc.org or Nazia Shah at (703)837-5409 or nazia.shah@agc.org.

### House T&I Committee Passes Highway & Transit Reauthorization Bill

On June 10, the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee approved legislation to reauthorize federal-aid highway and transit programs, on a mostly partly line vote. This fiveyear, \$547 billon bill will now go to the full House for a floor vote at a yet to be determined date. An AGC analysis of this legislation as passed by committee may be found <u>here</u>. While AGC is supportive of the investment levels in this legislation, the association has significant concerns with the bill's significant restrictions to building new highways and expanding highway lanes and lack of environmental review and permit streamlining initiatives, among other things.

Ahead of the T&I Committee vote, AGC supported two amendments to the legislation: (1) one to strike a provision that would artificially restrict the construction of new highways or highway lanes, thereby reducing highway construction contracts available to bid and harming small businesses and DBE firms that do not have the financial means to adapt their equipment fleets to change from a new road builder to road paving and maintenance contractor; and (2) another to include the One Federal Decision policy that would accelerate the federal environmental review and permitting process without harming the environment by reducing bureaucratic duplication, setting clear deadlines and holding federal agencies accountable.

Both of these amendments were offered and failed largely on party lines during the committee markup. AGC will continue to work with members of the House to ensure these two provisions are addressed in any final reauthorization bill. For more information, contact Alex Etchen at <u>alex.etchen@agc.org</u> or Cory Gattie at <u>cory.gattie@agc.org</u>.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

FULL CALENDAR

#### **RECENT BULLETINS**

June 10

CAWP Labor Bulletin 13-21 Holiday - Independence Day (Member Account Needed)

June 2 CAWP Labor Bulletin 12-21 Reminder - Operating Engineers Local #66 Referral Program \_ (<u>Member Account</u> <u>Needed</u>)

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