

March/April

Volume 2019 Issue 2



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On the Back Cover:  
SITE Calendar of Events

# Third Annual Infrastructure Expo



It was another great turnout for the third Investment in Infrastructure Expo, held on February 26 at the St. Charles Convention Center. The event attracted more than 360 registered attendees, including prime contractors, subcontractors, owners, vendors and equipment dealers.

Two new presenters and two panel discussions were added to the returning presenters in 2019. SITE welcomed Ameren MO and St. Louis—Kansas City Hyper Loop project to present alongside returning presenters from MSD, MoDOT, Jefferson County, St. Charles County, St. Louis City, St. Louis County and the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis.

Following the presentations, attendees were invited to stay and network in the exhibition hall, where equipment dealers, suppliers and vendors showcased their latest and greatest projects. The event was a great opportunity to get the inside track on future construction projects in the St. Louis area, meet new people in the industry, and strengthen relationships that already exist.

To view any of the material presented during one of the informative sessions, simply visit SITE's website at [www.sitestl.org](http://www.sitestl.org) and click on the "2019 Investment in Infrastructure" logo. Guests can view or download any of the slideshow presentations from the event. See more photos from the Expo on page 6 or view all the photos from the Expo on SITE's website.



The Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District will be giving an update on its Disparity Study and a presentation on its FY2020 Capital Construction Program on **Monday, April 22, 2019**. The event will be held at the Moolah Ballroom, located at 12545 Fee Fee Road. Doors open at 1:00 p.m., the Disparity Study Update will begin at 1:30 p.m. and the Capital Construction Program presentation will begin at 2:45 p.m. Networking with refreshments runs from 4:00-5:30 p.m. Reservations are required; please email [leah@sitestl.org](mailto:leah@sitestl.org) if you wish to attend. A limited number of company display tables are also available; separate reservations are required. Reservations are requested no later than Thursday, April 18.

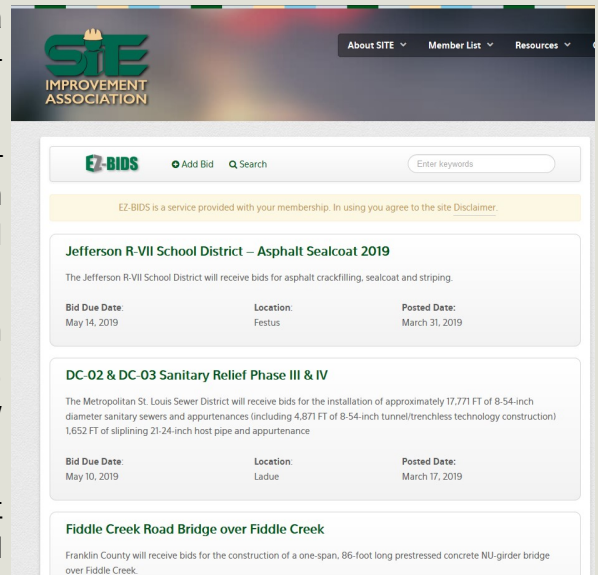
## WE MAKE FINDING PROJECTS EZ

As a contractor, finding construction projects to bid can be a lot of work, especially if you search numerous websites, newspapers and online planrooms. We know because we do it too.

SITE operates a free online database called EZ BIDS. Contractor members can easily search through opportunities from local cities, counties, sewer districts, school districts and much more.

Contractor members also can search for projects based on geographical areas or the work their company performs. Plus, SITE sends email notifications of new project listings. How easy is that!

It's just one of the many services we provide at SITE. Contact Leah at SITE's office, [leah@sitestl.org](mailto:leah@sitestl.org), to become a registered user or if you do not already receive our EZ Bids email notices.



Join a distinguished group of regionally and nationally known speakers at this year's Missouri Concrete Conference, May 6-7, 2019, in Rolla, Mo.

For more information, including topics or to register for the conference, go online to <http://concrete.mst.edu>, or call (573) 341-6222.



## ***Terry's Tidbits*** **Executive Director**

Have we finally escaped from the winter that never ends? The first few days of April have been very pleasant, with nice temperatures and limited rainfall. I would imagine many contractors are now fielding calls from their customers wanting to know when they can start on their projects, right? Hopefully, the weather is good this spring and contractors can work on their backlog of projects.

The March general membership meeting (see article on page 7) generated a great turnout of members to hear both sides of the issue on whether to merge St. Louis City and County into one governmental unit called Metro St. Louis. Staff is not sure whether it was the topic or the fact the membership meeting was held during the lunch hour that drove attendance at the meeting. Either way, it was nice to see such a good turnout.

That has also prompted the board to consider moving half of SITE's four general membership meetings a year to the noon hour. SITE's staff is considering moving the fall general membership meeting—usually held in September—to the lunch hour to hopefully attract another large crowd.

Congratulations to Joe Hoette, Hoette Concrete Construction, upon his receipt of the American Subcontractors' Association-Midwest Council' Legacy Award for all the time and contributions Joe has made to ASA. You may recall Joe received SITE's President's Award back in 2012 for his leadership and guidance with this association. It is nice to see Joe's many contributions to the construction industry recognized.

We are winding down another legislative session in Jefferson City. At this point, early April, it is uncertain whether we will see a transportation funding package approved. Governor Parson's proposal for a \$350 million bonding package, paid from general funds, did not go over so well in the House. The lower chamber deleted the bonding program funding from the state's proposed fiscal year 2020 budget and substituted



\$100 million in general revenue funds as a direct allocation for transportation funding. That proposal met opposition in the Senate, which preferred the bonding.

It all may be a moot point because the state's revenue picture still is not pretty at the end of fiscal year 2019 (June 30, 2019). Revenue receipts are running some \$300 million below what was projected in this year's budget. And, if things don't turn around shortly, the governor may be faced with reducing or withholding funds from the budget.

I continue to think what a different picture it would be if voters had approved Proposition D, the fuel tax increase last November. Neighboring states, such as Illinois and Arkansas, are proposing increases in their fuel tax rates; in Illinois' case a whopping 19 cents per gallon. The difference is that these states don't have to take such increases to a public vote like we do in Missouri.

I hope everyone has a safe and profitable construction season this year. The forecasts I have seen tend to show construction continuing to do well, although not as great as in previous years.



# Legislative Report

By Chris Davis  
Director of Government Affairs



The Missouri Legislature reached halftime of the 2019 session at the end of March. The General Assembly took a break from March 14-24. The first half of session resolved little, if any, of the major issues facing the legislature.

In particular to SITE, Legislators are further away from a solution to much needed infrastructure funding. Governor Parson took leadership of the infrastructure issue in his January State of State and budget address. Most of you know that the Governor proposed a \$351 million general obligation bond program for the rehabilitation and replacement of 250 small and rural bridges throughout Missouri. The program would require a \$30 million bond payment over 15 years. In addition, the governor requested \$50 million in state general funds earmarked for matching funds for local governments that dedicated funding of local infrastructure projects.



The House of Representatives has initially rejected the Governor's infrastructure proposal. The House instead sent a budget to the Senate that includes \$100 million in general funds in MO-DOT's budget dedicated to bridge construction. The Senate has already indicated that it is likely to reject the House's approved \$100 million and restore the Governor's bonding program. This will set the stage for either a compromise between the House and the Senate on infrastructure in the final days of session or nothing for infrastructure.

The Governor's initiative was wisely constructed to heavily leverage additional infrastructure funds. The \$351 general obligation bond program enabled MODOT to apply for \$170 million in federal highway funds that would be critical to construction of a new I-70 Rocheport bridge. The \$50 million in Governor Parson's proposal would appropriately leverage an additional \$50 million in local infrastructure funding. Despite this benefit, some legislators simply are steadfast opponents of debt.

SITE has been successful in advancing legislation that would provide needed payment protections for subcontractors on certain projects. SB 167 and HB 791 are being sponsored by Senator Sandy Crawford (R-Buffer) and Representative Aaron Griesheimer (R-Washington), respectively. The legislation requires either the developer or general contractor on private construction performed on publicly owned land to obtain a performance and payment bond to guarantee payment to subcontractors on the project. This bonding requirement would be identical to what is required on public works construction. SB 167 was unanimously passed by the Senate by a vote of 33-0 and is progressing in the House.

SITE continues to be engaged in closely watching HB 214, sponsored by Representative Trent (R-Springfield). This legislation authorizes the Office of Administration to procure goods and products via reverse auction. The legislation eliminates the competitive bidding requirement on state purchases less than \$10,000 and public advertisement thresholds are raised from \$25,000 to \$100,000, in addition to the language enabling reverse auctions. The legislation is similar to SB 257, sponsored by Senator Denny Hoskins (R-Warrensburg). The Senate version allows the Commissioner of Administration to conduct reverse auctions for materials or supplies only. HB 214 passed through the House quickly, as a priority of both the Governor's administration as well as Speaker Haahr.



# CONTRACTOR MEMBERS

## Concrete Division

Alfred F. Mullen Concrete Contracting Co.	Mike Mullen	(314) 966-0177
Aztec Construction Specialties, LLC	Hector Maldonado	(618) 223-9936
Birkemeier Construction, Inc.	Jeff Birkemeier	(636) 978-8892
Boling Concrete Construction	Cindy Boling	(314) 772-6300
Bumb Construction, Inc.	Dave Bumb	(314) 291-4284
Byrne & Jones Concrete	Carl Rouse	(314) 567-7997
Concrete Strategies, LLC	Joe Vitale	(314) 592-2153
Fenix Construction Company	Steve Ladenberger	(314) 892-4700
Hawkins Construction and Flat Work LLC	Bob Hawkins	(636) 409-1115
Hoette Concrete Construction Co.	John Hoette	(314) 895-5000
J.S. Aubuchon Concrete Company	Jerry Aubuchon	(636) 661-5655
Joint Sealing Solutions	Blake Gamber	(314) 229-1460
Karrenbrock Construction, Inc.	Roger Karrenbrock	(636) 828-5420
Musselman & Hall Contractors, LLC	Keith Ahal	(314) 739-1142
Oreo & Botta Concrete Company	Tom Milne	(314) 427-3800
R. V. Wagner, Inc.	Dan Wagner	(314) 892-1600
Scharf Construction Co., LLC	Rick Scharf	(314) 869-0060
Spencer Contracting Company	Tim Spencer	(314) 843-5166
Vee-Jay Cement Contracting Company, Inc.	Sam Vitale	(314) 351-3366

## Earthmoving Division

Ballmann Earthworks, LLC	Jon Ballmann	(636) 236-4242
Bloomsdale Excavating Co., Inc.	Scott Drury	(573) 483-2564
Brandt Contracting, Inc.	Sedrick Brandt	(636) 352-4818
Budrovich Excavating & Contracting	Jeff Budrovich	(314) 892-3030
Busken Construction Company	David Busken	(314) 630-8866
Edwards-Kamadulski, LLC	Kevin Edwards	(314) 329-3624
Interstate Trenching & Excavating	Steve Lawrence	(636) 387-7700
Jones Grading & Excavating, Inc.	Noel Jones	(314) 647-1697
K. J. Unnerstall Construction Company	Kurt Unnerstall	(636) 239-2028
Kuesel Excavating Co., Inc.	Mike Steiniger	(636) 978-3478
McFry Excavating, Inc.	Doug Pavis	(636) 386-4779
Nor-Vel Grading & Excavating, LLC	Matt Beckmann	(636) 387-1888
Plattin Creek Excavating, LLC	Mike Harman	(314) 267-7650
R & K Excavation, Inc.	Kyle Faulkner	(636) 937-1268
Rich Gullet & Sons, Inc.	Randy Gullet	(636) 271-2327
Sellenriek Grading Company, Inc.	Drew Sellenriek	(636) 938-9299
Semke Grading & PipeWorks, Inc.	Brenda Semke	(636) 250-4225
Town & Country Grading, Inc.	Alan Laughlin	(636) 475-7887

## Highway/Bridge Division

AMCON Municipal Concrete, LLC	Gary Amelong	(636) 379-9396
Gershenson Construction Co., Inc.	Ed Gershenson	(636) 938-9595
J.M. Marschuetz Construction Company	Denny Marschuetz	(636) 938-3600
Krupp Construction, Inc.	John Meiner	(636) 391-8844
Millstone Weber, LLC	Thom Kuhn	(636) 949-0038
N.B. West Contracting Company, Inc.	Jim Fitzgerald	(314) 962-3145
Pace Construction Company	Phil Hoher	(314) 524-7223
Pavement Solutions, LLC	Matt St. John	(636) 970-2727
Zoie, LLC	Dana Howard	(618) 857-8444

## Asphalt Paving Division

Accurate Asphalt Paving Co., Inc.	Dan Lucas	(636) 343-5199
Byrne & Jones Construction	Brian Goggins	(314) 567-7997
Diversified Contractors	Brad Laramie	(314) 638-2500
Ford Asphalt Company, Inc.	Brad Fritsche	(314) 291-2600
Jokerst Paving & Contracting	Grant Jokerst	(636) 937-7101
L. Keeley Construction	Matt Taylor	(314) 421-5933
Leritz Contracting, Inc./Busy Bee Paving, Inc.	Joe Leritz	(314) 821-2615
Topps Paving & Drainage LLC	Allen Baldwin	(314) 333-4444

## Landscaping Division

A. Waldbart & Sons Nursery	Jay Behle	(314) 895-4589
Baxter Farms & Nurseries	Gary Hente	(314) 542-9400
Chesterfield Irrigation Co.	Dave Horwitz	(636) 537-9795
Conoyer Brothers Landscaping, Inc.	Craig Conoyer	(636) 397-7217
DJM Ecological Services, Inc.	Doug Bauer	(314) 478-2388
ECO Constructors	Shawn Garland	(636) 561-3158
Greenspace Landscaping	Stephen Kelly	(314) 895-8860
Keeven Brothers Landscaping, Inc.	Mike Keeven	(314) 837-6948
LanDesign, LLC	George Tucker, Jr.	(636) 332-4500
Midwest Turf Contractors	Charity Keeven	(636) 926-9988
Professional Irrigation Systems	Jon Lauer	(636) 695-7800
Roden's Landscaping, Inc.	Steve Roden	(636) 561-3947
ROSCH Midwest, LLC	Scott Rozier	(636) 519-7770
Schaefer-Meyer Seed-Sod Div. 1, Inc.	Greg Meyer	(636) 947-7173
Site System Landscaping, LLC	Kathy Roden	(636) 332-7333
TerraScape Landscape Constructors	Eric Hoqan	(314) 581-8576

## Sewer/Utility Division

Bates Utility Company, Inc.	Tim Bates	(636) 939-5628
Bi-State Utilities Company	Mike Jerome	(314) 209-0202
C.E. Bollmeier Co., Inc.	Bill Bollmeier	(314) 298-7885
Castle Contracting, LLC	Aaron Retherford	(314) 421-0042
David Mason + Associates	Spencer Mason	(314) 534-1030
Fred M. Luth & Sons, Inc.	Bill Luth	(314) 771-3892
Girdner Contracting LLC	Bridget Girdner	(314) 605-4301
J & J Boring, Inc.	Jennifer Bouquet	(636) 566-6766
J.H. Berra Construction Company, Inc.	Frank Berra	(314) 487-5617
J.W. Bommarito Construction Co., Inc.	Joe W. Bommarito	(314) 353-0104
Karrenbrock Excavating LLC	Doug Bierman	(636) 828-5420
Kelpe Contracting, Inc.	Tom Kelpe	(636) 458-1400
Luther's Supply, LLC	Amber Boykins	(314) 385-6499
Poeling Construction	Shane Poeling	(636) 463-2437
S & S Utility Contracting Company, Inc.	A.J. Kochanski	(636) 463-2441
SAK Construction	Jerry Shaw	(636) 379-2350
TaylorMade Construction, LLC	Andre Taylor	(314) 868-1005
Unnerstall Contracting Company, LLC	Steve Unnerstall	(636) 257-3003
Williams Tunnelling Industries, Inc.	Edison Williams	(832) 889-1468
XL Contracting, Inc.	Ken Novel	(636) 970-2710

## Specialty Division

AgriCycle, Inc.	Patrick Geraty	(636) 861-3344
All Star Concrete Pumping	Keith Dennis	(636) 475-9539
A-Plus Contractors, LLC	Will Sanders	(636) 498-1790
Badger Daylighting Corporation	Benji Koonce	(314) 954-7192
Collins & Hermann, Inc.	Mike Shepard	(314) 869-8000
Drainscapes	Casey Graves	(314) 892-9888
Drilling Service Company	Sean Jackson	(314) 291-1111
Fick Supply Service, Inc.	Dave Fick	(314) 560-0146
George McDonnell & Sons Tuckpointing Co., Inc.	Tom McDonnell	(314) 739-0468
GS Grinding Services, LLC	Dave Grimes	(636) 474-1183
Hansen's Tree Service & Environmental Resources	Ken Byrne	(636) 379-1830
Ideal Landscape Group	Dave Buckel	(314) 892-9500
J&R Concrete Services, LLC	Stephanie Johnson	(314) 596-2311
McConnell & Associates Corporation	Greg Lucas	(314) 962-1920
Native Landscape Solutions, Inc.	Chuck Caverly	(314) 544-7918
Premier Demolition, Inc.	Bill Buell	(314) 645-5566
Reinhold Electric, Inc.	Jerry Reinhold	(314) 631-1158
Retaining Wall Solutions	Michael Yount	(314) 842-8200
Supplied Industrial Solutions	Stephen Brock	(618) 452-8151
Thomas Industrial Coatings, Inc.	Don Thomas	(636) 475-3500
Traffic Control Company	Joe Backer	(636) 225-7800
TraMar Contracting, Inc.	Peggy McGrath	(636) 255-0808
Two Alpha Contracting, LLC	Rhiannon Parisi	(636) 356-4055

# March/April





# ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

1st Advantage Bank	Greg Smith	(636) 970-0440	Lockton Companies	Zach Frey	(618) 975-7258
Advanced Drainage Systems	Brian Snelson	(618) 593-6135	Luby Equipment Services	David Kedney	(636) 343-9970
Agilis Systems	Sean Gaffney	(314) 732-4925	Luby Shoring Services, LLC	Stephen Luby	(636) 660-7467
American Steel Fabrication, Inc.	Tim Thomas	(636) 475-7272	Mannino Truck Leasing, Inc.	Joe Mannino	(314) 393-0715
ASP Enterprises, Inc.	Don Thieman	(636) 343-4357	MayeCreate, LLC	Stacy Brockmeier	(573) 447-1836
Audio Video Concepts	Rob Roessler	(618) 281-4164	Middendorf, Inc.	Allan Middendorf	(618) 540-8446
Bank of Springfield (BOS Bank)	Marty McCabe	(314) 888-6906	Mississippi Valley Equipment Company	Bob Clapsaddle	(314) 869-8600
BITCO Insurance Companies	Chris Demse	(314) 822-4446	Missouri Petroleum Products Company	Mike Hartman	(314) 219-7305
Bobcat of St. Louis	Mike Allen	(636) 225-2900	Mueller Prost LC	Ralph Crancer	(314) 862-2070
Bussen Quarries, Inc.	Mark Bussen	(314) 894-8777	Neenah Foundry Company	Brandon Ostendorf	(636) 928-1023
CarsonAllaria Wealth Management	Joe Allaria	(618) 288-9505	Northwestern Mutual	Zach Nannini	(636) 578-6677
Carter-Waters LLC	Ray Hillmann	(636) 940-0001	Nu Way Concrete Forms, Inc.	Dave Pazdernik	(314) 544-1214
Central Stone Company	Jeff Pullen	(314) 830-9000	Pat Kelly Equipment Company	Brian Kelly	(314) 895-9500
Champion Precast, Inc.	Joel Anderson	(573) 384-5855	Peoples Savings Bank	Don Meyer	(636) 398-5600
CMIT Solutions	Barry Herring	(636) 925-9920	Providence Bank	Nick Brunnworth	(636) 397-3804
CMW Equipment	Larry Glynn	(314) 993-1336	Purple Wave Auction	Scott Broz	(636) 725-6737
Contech Engineered Solutions, LLC	Mike Hill	(573) 380-0719	R. Barr Consulting LLC	Rich Barr	(314) 692-8888
Core & Main	Randy Bradley	(314) 432-4750	Rackers & Fernandez, LLC	Sergio Fernandez	(636) 498-1900
County Materials Corporation	Joel Gardner	(217) 544-4607	Republic Services, Inc.	Jerry Ballard	(636) 947-5959
Dan Althoff Trucking, Inc.	Dan Althoff	(636) 677-7772	Risk Consulting Partners	Warren Dunnegan	(314) 449-8181
David J. Peters Trucking, Inc.	Dave Peters	(314) 440-0255	Ritchie Bros. Auctioneers	Michael Juenger	(636) 751-8383
Dewitt Insurance	Alex Toler	(314) 845-9120	Rock Hill Quarries Co.	Bruce Dresser	(314) 968-2336
Energy Petroleum Company	Steve Madras	(314) 383-3700	Roland Machinery Company	James Jesuit	(314) 291-1330
Enterprise Fleet Management	Kamil Kosciuk	(314) 889-8516	RubinBrown LLP	Ken Van Bree	(314) 290-3429
Erb Equipment Company	Gregg Erb	(636) 349-0200	Rudd Equipment Company	John Robinson	(314) 487-8925
EquipmentShare	Jordan Kennamann	(314) 230-4242	Rush Truck Centers of Missouri, Inc.	Justin Demers	(314) 449-7200
Fabick CAT	Greg Durst	(636) 343-5900	Safety Training Resources	Jeff Viehmann	(314) 808-3502
Federated Insurance	Cole Waddell	(316) 617-7880	Sandberg, Phoenix & von Gontard, P.C.	Tony Soukenik	(314) 446-4279
Fred Weber, Inc.	Jack Branz	(314) 344-0070	SCI Engineering, Inc.	Karl Koenigsfeld	(636) 584-7991
G.S. & S.	Chris Hyams	(314) 298-8100	Silver Eagle Construction Products, Inc.	Erik Thompson	(636) 240-6300
Gateway Dredging & Contracting, LLC	Terry Bangert	(636) 665-5180	Simpson Materials Company	Steve Simpson	(636) 343-4944
GenCon Safety Consulting, LLC	Joe Thornton	(636) 345-3883	SmithAmundsen LLC	Daniel Peters	(314) 719-3766
Hanes Geo Components	Steve Wright	(636) 875-7317	St. Louis Composting	Roy Gross	(636) 861-3344
Hayden Machinery LLC	Jeremy Hancock	(314) 550-1400	Tensar International Corporation	Eric Nestel	(816) 516-7033
Heritage Petroleum, LLC	Mike Mabrey	(314) 504-3198	The Charles L. Crane Agency Company	Frank Rebholz III	(636) 537-5641
Interstate Testing Services	Andy LaPlante	(314) 994-0641	The Clayton Engineering Company, Inc.	Steve Quigley	(314) 692-8888
J.D. Kutter	Brenda Mainer	(314) 444-4949	Topcon Solutions	Craig Ferris	(314) 416-4970
J.W. Terrill, Inc.	Pete Mohs	(314) 594-2700	United Rentals	Angie Wheeler	(314) 267-7621
John J. Guilfooy & Associates, LLC	John Guilfooy	(314) 781-1122	United Rentals -Trench Safety	James Dickey	(314) 729-0003
K & K Supply Inc.	Matt Williams	(636) 349-1141	Vanguard Truck Centers	Dan Green	(618) 857-7625
K & P Precast, Inc.	Tammy Daugherty	(636) 978-3111	Vermeer Midwest, Inc.	Chad Van Soelen	(636) 532-2332
Kienstra Co.	Ted Kienstra, Jr.	(314) 994-1616	Wallis Lubricants, LLC	Kati Douglas	(636) 271-0900
Kienstra Precast, LLC	Steve Peery	(618) 482-3283	Warrenton Oil Company	David Baker	(636) 456-3346
Kohrs Truck & Auto Repair, Inc.	Harold Kohrs	(636) 240-7935	Western Ready-Mix, Inc.	Mike Reed	(636) 519-1522
Krilogy Financial	Charles Schulz	(314) 884-2811	Wieser Concrete Products, Inc.	Drew Wieser	(618) 251-9210
Lizmark Branded Solutions	Liz Tillman	(636) 938-5502	Winter Brothers Material Company	Ryan Winter	(314) 843-1400
			Workplace Synergy	Maureen Trompeter	(314) 473-4665

## MAKE SITE WORK FOR YOU

Call on SITE members for the highest quality products and services

**March/April**

SITE has serious concerns about the legislation eventually expanding to MODOT and including construction services. However, the opposition has not been well received by the General Assembly, because the legislation does not currently include such procurement.

The budget is emerging as a critical hurdle for infrastructure and numerous other issues. As of this writing, state revenues were approximately \$240 million short of last year. Whereas Governor Parson's recommended budget relied upon modest revenue growth for the current fiscal year, this shortfall will make it extremely difficult to prioritize funding for infrastructure. Time will tell...

As always, be well and do good!



## YES Legislative Trip

A contingency of SITE Improvement Association board members, Young Executives of SITE, and legislative committee members participated in a legislative field trip to the Missouri state capitol in Jefferson City.

Participants met and departed via a bus from SITE offices in St. Charles. Upon arrival in Jefferson City, we were introduced and recognized by Representative Aaron Griesheimer before the full House of Representatives. Then the group met with Senate President Pro Tem David Schatz and Senate Democrat Leader Gina Walsh. The group also was greeted and welcomed by Lieutenant Governor Mike Kehoe.

After a brief lunch, the group met with two St. Louis area freshman representatives, Republican Aaron Griesheimer of Washington and Democrat Steve Butz of St. Louis City. The Legislators discussed how they are learning and adjusting in their new roles and how they are building relationships with their colleagues.

Finally, SITE met with freshman Senator Brian Williams, who represents North St. Louis County. SITE learned how the senator represents the most diverse district in the state of Missouri, containing wealthy parts of University City and Clayton, as well as some of the poorest municipalities and neighborhoods, in addition to middle-class areas of St. Louis County. SITE and Senator Williams have continued to meet, discussing workforce development, infrastructure and diversity issues.

All who participated in the trip found it fun, informative and productive.





# 2019 Investment in Infrastructure Expo





# March General Membership Meeting

## **PRESENTATION ON PROPOSAL TO COMBINE ST. LOUIS CITY AND COUNTY**

SITE members and guests filled the banquet room for March's General Membership meeting and the opportunity to learn more about a proposal to merge St. Louis City and County governments into one Metro City. It was an afternoon event featuring speakers on both sides of the issue, Pat Kelly, executive director of the Municipal League of Metro St. Louis, represented the opponents to the plan while Marius Johnson-Malone, from Better Together, gave the proponents' side of the issue.

Better Together was created five years ago to study the governmental structure of St. Louis City and County and make recommendations on ways to improve it. The group submitted a plan earlier this year containing a number of recommendations on how to merge the city, county and 88 municipalities into one unit of government. Better Together has already amended its proposal twice, and future changes may also be made before it begins circulating petitions to place the plan on the November 2020 ballot for a statewide vote. A total of 166,000 signatures are needed to put the issue before voters.



Among the Better Together recommendations are:

- ♦ Consolidating all police departments into one police authority;
- ♦ Placing planning and zoning, permits and building review all under one governmental unit;

- ♦ Consolidating all public works and streets departments under one department for the entire area;
- ♦ Metro City receiving all sales tax revenues in the area, except for those taxes dedicated to retire public debts;
- ♦ And numerous other changes in local government structures in the city and county.

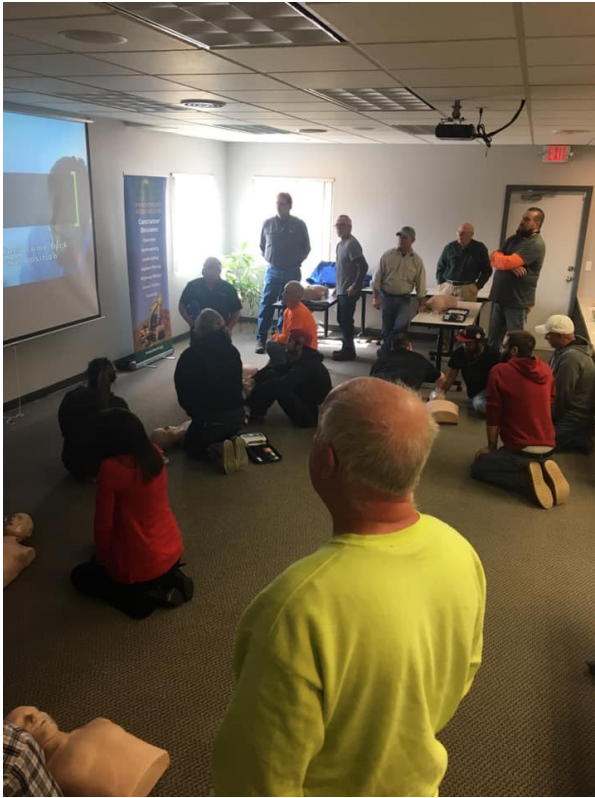


For the construction industry, the consolidating of all public works/streets departments under a centralized government structure and controlling all planning and zoning and permit issuance under one unit of government would have major implications.

SITE's staff will continue monitoring the status of the consolidation proposal and inform members on it.



# Saving Lives with SITE



SITE's training room was filled with office managers and field employees for the First Aid/CPR/AED course in March. Attendees learned how to use AEDs (automated external defibrillators), how to properly perform CPR thru chest compressions and breathing techniques, and how to apply first aid to injured persons. "All people should learn how to apply these basic life-saving techniques," mentioned Jeremy Bennett. "The course can be applied outside the work environment, at home and anywhere you go. You never know when you might need to help a stranger, coworker or loved one." The class was instructed by the St. Charles County Ambulance District and is offered once to twice a year through SITE.



## RECORD CLASS OF LABORER APPRENTICES GRADUATE

Attempting to meet the future needs of workers in the construction industry, the Eastern Missouri Construction Craft Laborers Training Center (High Hill) graduated its largest class of apprentices into journeymen recently. A total of 127 apprentices are now journeyman working for a variety of SITE contractors and other contractors throughout the region. Twenty-five SITE contractors sponsored Laborer apprentices in this class of graduates.

Apprentices usually finish the program in 30-36 months. To graduate, apprentices complete 4,000 hours of on-the-job training, and between 296-376 hours of vocational skills classes at the Training Center located off Interstate 70 in High Hill. The new journeymen provide a variety of services in nearly every division of construction work associated with SITE.

Since 1986, more than 11,600 workers have taken course work at the training facility.



**Pictured:** SITE contractor Tom Kelpé, Kelpé Contracting, Inc., shown second from the left, was beaming at the graduation of one of the apprentices Kelpé Contracting sponsors, Dillan West. Dillan is shown holding his diploma. Others in the photograph from left to right are Patrick Pryor, secretary/treasurer of the Eastern Missouri Laborers District Council, Kelpé, Don Wiley, business manager of Laborers' Local 110, Dillan West, and Kendra Santa, project manager for Alberici Constructors and a member of the Joint Apprenticeship Committee.



# CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY PICKS UP SO MUCH IT CAUSES DELAYS

If you think construction work has picked up lately, you would be right. A good indicator of just how busy contractors are becoming is the number of calls received by Missouri One Call, the agency responsible for operating the Missouri statewide notification center where any citizen can call and request a locate of underground facilities in an area scheduled for digging.

John Lansford, executive director of Missouri One Call System, said last week (April 8 thru April 13), One Call had four of the five largest days for calls ever recorded in the 34 years since it was established. This was across the entire state, not just the St. Louis Metro area. Lansford attributed the increased volume of calls to “pent-up demand” brought on by the harsher than normal winter the region just went through and construction not being able to begin.

That pent-up demand has also resulted in delays in responding to contractors’ requests for utility locates. The law states that underground utility owners must, after receiving a notice from Missouri One Call about the intent to excavate, locate and mark on the surface, the location of their underground facilities within two working days. The two-day period begins at 12:00 a.m. following the receipt of the locate request. Contractors may extend the two-day period longer if they are not starting the job soon.

Many of the local underground utility companies—Spire, Laclede Gas, Ameren Missouri and Missouri American Water, to name a few—all report delays in meeting the locate requests. Those companies or the firms that contract with the utilities to perform locates have requested delays from contractors because of the surge in calls. And this doesn’t just impact the contractors. The utility companies themselves are being delayed making improvements to their systems by this surge in requests.

This information came to light during one of the SITE Utility Locate Working Group meetings. Dur-

ing the past four years, SITE contractors and staff have been meeting with utility company representatives, underground locate service providers and generally any party that had an interest in excavation safety as it pertains to notifying and marking underground utility lines.

“The association initially convened a meeting of contractors who were experiencing a large number of problems with the utilities and owners of underground lines about hitting their lines and public safety,” said SITE executive director Terry Briggs. “While the first couple of meetings may have been sessions for contractors to just get things off their chests, during the last couple of years, the discussions have been about how each of us—contractors and utility owners—can help one another out and keep the public safe.”

Nearly all the St. Louis area underground utility owners—Spire, Ameren, Missouri American Water, AT&T, Charter and others—have at one time or another attended the meetings, which are held quarterly at SITE’s office. The topics range from timely locates, mismarks, no-marking of utility lines, financial responsibility for paying repairs to damaged lines, and improving the One Call System to be more user friendly to everyone and others.

“I believe the utility companies have found the meetings to be just as helpful as the contractors do,” said Briggs. “I really would like to thank the utility companies for committing their time and energy toward attending the meetings and trying to resolve the issues that are discussed.”

After attending the meetings, contractors have often commented how helpful the information they receive has been in performing their jobs. The answers may not always be what the contractor wants to hear, but at least they are getting the information. SITE member companies who have an interest in participating in the Utility Locate Working Group meetings should contact the SITE office and get your name on the list for notifications about meetings, which are held quarterly.

# SITE APPRECIATES THE SUPPORT OF THESE COMPANIES




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# Labor Update

## Upcoming 2019 SITE Wage/Fringe Benefit Increases

SITE/Operating Engineers Local 513 Agreement - \$1.50/hour effective May 6, 2019

Allocation of the \$1.50/hour increase is as follows: \$1.40/hour increase to the hourly wage rate and \$0.10 to welfare.

Operating Engineer's Wage Sheets were emailed out the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of April.

If any contractors would like the apprentice wages for the Laborers, Operating Engineers or Cement Masons, please contact Jeremy Bennett at SITE's office.

## Current Pension Funding Percentage Updates:

Operating Engineers Local 513: 73 percent funded

Cement Masons Local 527: 86 percent funded

St. Louis Laborers: 95 percent funded

St. Charles/Outstate Laborers: 94 percent funded



## Current Man-Power Reports:

Operating Engineers Local 513: 93 percent members are employed

Cement Masons Local 527: 95 percent members are employed

St. Louis Laborers: 95 percent members are employed

St. Charles/Outstate Laborers: 95 percent members are employed

## Operating Engineer Retiree hour restriction lifted

Operating Engineers Trustees decided to lift the 40-hour per month restriction on working retirees due to the increased workload. Retirees of regular retirement age (62) will be able to work up to and including 480 hours without jeopardizing their pension. The change would be effective May 1, 2019. Any hours worked from January 1, 2019, through May 1, 2019, would not be counted.





## From the Safety Side



Wear some **orange for SAFETY!** The 2019 National Work Zone Awareness Week took place during April 8–12. SITE encourages membership to take time during the month of April for a special meeting or toolbox talk with your employees to discuss the hazards in and around work zones.

The motto for this year's week is "Be your own hero - Buckle Up, Phone Down". Take a minute to put yourself in a worker's shoes and wonder what it would be like to dive over a barrier to avoid a car, or watch cones get hit as people lose their attention. Every driver, bystander and worker should be taking extra precautions around work zones.

### Safety Tips for Driving in Work Zones

**Plan ahead.** Work zones account for an estimated 10 percent of overall congestion and nearly 24 percent of unexpected freeway delays. Expect delays, plan for them, and leave early to reach your destination on time. When you can, avoid work zones altogether by using alternate routes.

**Obey road crews and signs.** When approaching a work zone, watch for cones, barrels, signs, large vehicles, or workers in bright-colored vests to warn you and direct you where to go.

**Slow down.** Look for signs indicating the speed limit through the work zone. Keep a safe distance from the vehicle ahead of you and follow the posted speed limit.

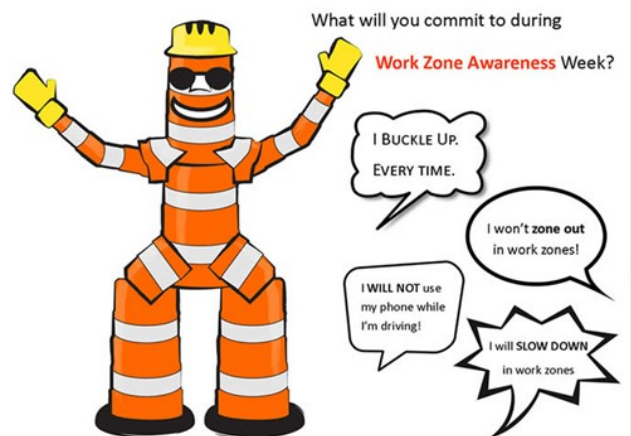
**Move over.** Most state move-over laws apply when passing work crews and official vehicles parked on the shoulder with flashing warning lights.

**Avoid distractions.** Keep your eyes on the road and off your phone.

**Watch for sudden stoppages.** In 2017, 25 percent of fatal work zone crashes involved rear-end collisions.

**Watch for large vehicles.** Don't make sudden lane changes in front of trucks that are trying to slow down. In 2017, 50 percent of fatal work zone crashes involving large trucks or buses occurred on rural roadways. Between 2013 and 2017, fatal work zone crashes involving large trucks increased by 43 percent.

Source: ATSSA



Distracted Driving Awareness Month in April is a united effort to recognize the dangers of and eliminate preventable deaths from distracted driving. Join SITE to help save lives. Every day, at least nine Americans die and 100 are injured in distracted driving crashes. Cell phones, dashboard touchscreens, voice commands and other in-vehicle technologies pose a threat to our safety. The consequences of those distractions are not worth the convenience they offer. Ignore the distractions and #justdrive to keep us all safer on the roads.

SITE has plenty of Phone Down-Slow Down Safety Cone Bumper Magnets available for our members. The magnets are great awareness messages for drivers and can easily be placed on vehicles without any sticky mess. Please inquire with Leah at SITE's office about the magnets.





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**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| Wed., May 22   | <b>GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING</b><br>Syberg's - Dorsett                       |
| Mon., Aug. 19  | <b>39TH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT &amp; DINNER</b><br>Norwood Hills Country Club |
| Thur., Oct. 10 | <b>YES CLAYBIRD SHOOT</b><br>Black Hawk Valley                                |
| Thur., Dec. 5  | <b>HOLIDAY HAPPY HOUR</b><br>Bogey Hills Country Club                         |