

SEPT/OCT 2023 **VOLUME 5**



10TH ANNUAL CLAY BIRD SHOOT AND FUNDRAISER

ASSOCIATION

It almost felt scripted as the morning rain showers tapered off and sunny skies took over for the 10th Annual Clay Bird Shoot. As grateful as we are for the beautiful weather, the Young Executives of SITE (Y.E.S.) would like to thank everyone who volunteered, sponsored, or participated in this year's sold-out event. Besides the 14 shooting stations, participants were treated to four bonus challenges: Flurry, Axe Throw, Bow + Arrow, and Nailed It. However, the candy corn count is always a humorous moment of contention between team members.

This is the only fundraiser held by Y.E.S., and the proceeds are used to help offset the cost of their annual networking event, field trips, and special projects, such as the park renovation they completed in 2020. If you or someone at your company is under the age of 40 and looking to learn more about the construction industry to advance themselves, consider joining the Young Executives of SITE.

ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

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MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

SITE's membership continues to grow, and we have reached a new peak for the Association! As of October, SITE's membership totaled 253 members (136 Contractor members and 117 Associate members). Thank you to all of our current members for spreading the word.

The compiled results of the recent Membership Needs Assessment demonstrated an overall 98 percent satisfaction with the Association! We want to thank those who participated in the assessment as those efforts determined the Board's focus for 2024 during its Annual Fall Board Meeting in September.

SITE would like to Welcome its Newest Members:



Vision Civil Construction

12555 Grandview Forest St. Louis, MO 63127 (314) 445-2020 Julie VanCardo



ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Contractor Solutions

15211 S Hwy 71 Grandview, MO 64030 (618) 610-9331 Wayne Reed



ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Missouri Employers Mutual

101 Keene Columbia, MO 65201 (573) 289-5990 Mark Woodward



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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S COLUMN

JEREMY BENNETT

Can you believe that fall is already here? The months continue to roll by quickly in 2023, and for Cardinals baseball that's probably a good thing. Hard to see our hometown redbirds sitting dead last in the NL Division but on a positive note, we did witness the end of an incredible pitching career for Adam Wainright. Cementing 200 wins is quite an accomplishment. Congratulations, Adam! St. Louis is shining quite the spotlight for MLS soccer. What an incredible start for a new franchise! STL City SC has grown to be a fan favorite in a very short time. Of course we can't forget about our St. Louis Blues with their season just beginning. Lots of happenings here this time of year.

While it's fun to tune in to St. Louis sports, it's been more enjoyable watching SITE members thrive with tremendous workloads this year. I can't remember a year where contractors have chewed through their backlogs going into the months of October and November, which was mainly attributed to dry weather during the typically wet spring months. July looks to be the wet month this working season...who would've thought? Work hours are up almost an average of 8 percent across the basic trades over the same time last year. There are plenty of jobs out there to bid; it's the question of available workforce and skilled labor.

SITE's board of directors recently met for its annual Fall Board Meeting in late September at the Lake of the Ozarks. There was great discussion about next year's focus as an Association and important initiatives to get behind. With the purchase of a new training facility and hopeful spring completion, there will be plenty of opportunities for members to increase their professional development skills, enhance technical skills, and sharpen their

knowledge with just about any topic related to construction--all happening in a first-class space our members can call their own.

Other important takeaways that will impact next year are 2024 membership-level options (more to come on this) and private project prompt pay legislation being pushed at the state capitol. Cash flow continues to be a struggle, with many examples of contractors not being paid or payment being held over 100 days. With more out-of-town owners and GC's working in the state, more examples are coming to light about delayed payments. Also with SITE's endorsement of Mike Kehoe for Governor, extra efforts will be made to help his campaign as he fights hard to win the Governor's race.

I hope to see many of you at our upcoming joint general membership meeting with APWA on Oct. 26. This lunch meeting should be an informative one as Scott Colbert, the executive vice president and lead economist from Commerce Bank, discusses trends in the national, local, and construction economies. Is there a recession looming or is there enough infrastructure and construction work ahead? Scott will be sure to enlighten the participants...hopefully with good news.

SITE is hosting an MBE/WBE event on November 1 and our Holiday Happy Hour on December 13. These should be some nice events as we close out 2023.

Please keep all world leaders and those impacted by violence in the Middle East in your prayers. It's hard to imagine what terror, grief, and sadness people are experiencing. Whatever happened to the respect for human life?

I wish everyone a fun and safe Halloween and of course safe and fruitful hunting season to all the deer and duck hunters out there.





LEGISLATIVE REPORT

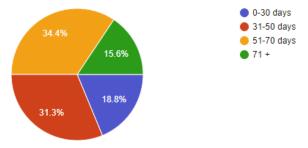
BY AARON GRIESHEIMER

SITE Improvement Association has joined with other stakeholders to create a partnership called the **Building Better Business Coalition.** Collectively, the coalition hopes to highlight the need for legislative reform on private projects. Together, we plan to file legislation to help even the playing field for all parties on the contract on private construction projects.

You may recall during the last legislative session that State Representative Bill Falkner (R-St. Joseph) filed House Bill 1090. This bill required prompt payment on private design or construction work. However, the bill died without receiving a committee hearing.

Ultimately, the coalition is committed to improving the construction industry. It's become such a burden as some contractors have faced financial challenges to meet their payment obligations to their workers and suppliers. SITE even surveyed its contractor members about the issue.

What is the average amount of days your company receives payment from the owner on private jobs?

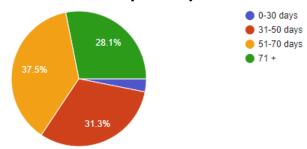


Current Missouri statute states that payment on private construction projects between the owner, general contractor, subcontractor(s) and suppliers is dictated by the contract agreement. In many cases a "pay-when-paid" or "paid-if-paid" clause is included in the contract agreement. This type of



clause is the prime contractor or higher-tier contractor informing the lower-tier contractor(s) that they will pay them after they've been paid. However, this unfairly shifts the risk down the line to subcontractors who can't see the disbursement of funds.

What is the average amount of days your company receives payment from the general contractor on private jobs?



Under the coalition's proposal, owners must pay the general contractor within 40 days of receiving an invoice and the completion of satisfactory work. Also, a higher-tier subcontractor must pay a lower-tier subcontractor within seven days of receipt of payment from the general contractor. There are many other provisions included in the proposal too.

In the coming months, the coalition will be meeting with other potential stakeholders to grow the initiative. We will continue to keep our group's members posted as we approach next year's legislative session. However, if any SITE member would be willing to provide testimony on behalf of your company, please contact SITE's office.

IMPROVE I-70 MEETING

It was a packed training room on September 12! SITE hosted an informational meeting with MoDOT to help contractors interested in bidding the construction project, learn how to get involved in the process. Eric Kopinski, Improve I-70 Program Director, highlighted the overall goal of the project and explained how the project will be bid and split into different sections.



Here is the tentative schedule:

<u>Locations</u>	<u>Date</u>
Warrenton to I-64	Mar. 2024
Blue Springs to Odessa	Oct. 2024
Warrenton to Kingdom City	Apr. 2026
Odessa to Marshall	Oct. 2026
Marshall to Columbia	May 2027

This year, the Missouri General Assembly passed its FY2024 budget which was supported by Governor Parson and included \$2.8 billion in general revenue to reconstruct approximately 200 miles of Interstate 70 from Blue Springs to Wentzville. This includes the addition of a third lane in each direction.

Currently, MoDOT has received Statements of Qualifications (SOQs) from teams interested in competing for the contract to design and construct the Columbia to Kingdom City phase of the project. This is a 20-mile stretch of I-70 between U.S. 63 and U.S. 54. MoDOT plans to issue the Request for Proposal this month!

JOINT SITE/ASA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Last month, SITE Improvement Association and ASA (American Subcontractors Association) combined forces at Orlando's in Maryland Heights for a joint general membership meeting. The speaker was Dan Lester, Director of Field Diversity, Inclusion & Culture at Clayco. With construction busting at the seams and current workforce issues, attendees related to Dan's topic on "Chill Zone-Taking the Heat Out of Burnout." Dan was energetic and informative on the definition and signs of Burnout, Mental Health/Suicide data, Work/Life Balance and Psychological Safety. Burnout and Suicide are real! If you are experiencing these, there is help out there, so please get help and don't end up being a statistic.



JOINT SITE/APWA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Join both members of SITE Improvement Association and the St. Louis Branch of the American Public Works Association (APWA) for a joint lunch meeting on Thursday, October 26, 2023 at Orlando's. Registration and networking begin at 11:30 a.m. with lunch being served at 12:00 p.m.

Scott Colbert, Executive Vice President at Commerce Bank, will give an in-depth view of economic indicators and projections for the region, construction industry, and national economy. Scott does a wonderful job con-

necting the audience to the topic, and his passion and energy are sure to keep you on the edge of your seat. Every business owner and leadership team should be attending this one! The cost is \$25 to attend. Register at sitestl.org.





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Asphalt Paving Division

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Thank you to all of the sponsors!











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James M. Jesuit

Vice President/ General Manager St. Louis Division

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SITE APPRECIATES THE SUPPORT OF THESE COMPANIES





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Additional Ad Space Available - contact Leah (314) 966-2950

FOUNDATIONS FOR SAFETY LEADERSHIP

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2023 8:00 A.M. -12:00 P.M.

FIRST AID / CPR / AED

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2023 8:00 A.M.-2:00 P.M.

OSHA 10

NOVEMBER 28, 2023 8:00 A.M.-4:00 P.M. NOVEMBER 29, 2023 8:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M.

EXCAVATION COMPETENT PERSON

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2023 8:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M.

CONFINED SPACE

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2023 8:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M.

ADVANCED WORK ZONE / FLAGGER

TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 2024 8:00 A.M.-4:00 P.M.

OSHA 30

JANUARY 23, 2024 8:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M. JANUARY 24, 2024 8:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

MORE INFO 34

JANUARY 25, 2024 8:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M. JANUARY 26, 2024 8:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

SILICA COMPETENT PERSON

TUESDAY, JANUARY 30, 2024 8:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M.

FALL PROTECTION

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2024 8:30 A.M.-11:00 A.M.

CONFINED SPACE

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2024 8:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M.

EXCAVATION COMPETENT PERSON

TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 2024 8:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M.

OSHA 10

MARCH 26, 2023 8:00 A.M.-4:00 P.M. MARCH 27, 2023 8:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M.

FOCUS 4 CONSTRUCTION HAZARDS

TUESDAY, APRIL 9, 2024 8:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M.

QUALIFIED RIGGING & SIGNALING

TUESDAY, APRIL 23, 2024 9:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M.

DOT COMPLIANCE SEMINAR

On October 12, SITE Improvement Association hosted a DOT Compliance Seminar. This was a two-part informative session covering both the internal and external elements of compliance. Lisa Lamons, Training and DOT Director with Concrete Strategies, covered how to correctly fill out the necessary paperwork associated with pre-trip and post-trip files along with maintenance documents.



Officer Tom Noble, with the St. Louis County Police Department, performed a mock walk around inspection of a truck and lowboy trailer with equipment. He shared techniques on load securement and answered questions regarding violations.

If your company is interested in having Officer Noble conduct an individual inspection at your shop, feel free to reach out to his office at TNoble@stlouiscountymo.gov.



COMMUNITY RELATIONS

SITE had a productive and impactful first week of October, engaging in various community events that contributed to the growth of the construction industry and the workforce.

On October 3, 2023, SITE sponsored and participated in the 8th Annual Construction Career Diversity Initiative (CCDI) Golf Tournament. CCDI is committed to improving workforce development in the construction industry by partnering with local contractors, providing training and development at its academy, offering scholarships for students interested in the construction field, and providing resources such as transportation to job sites and tools required for their respective trades.

The following day, October 4, SITE attended the Construction Forum's event titled "Development in North St. Louis: How? and Why?" A panel of key stakeholders discussed the importance of new development in St. Louis and its potential to lead the region back to a state of vitality and growth. The event also emphasized the need for collaboration and partnership among the construction community in the St. Louis Region to ensure sustainability for the future.

On the same day, SITE sponsored and participated in the "Build My Future" construction career expo at St. Louis Community College - Florissant Valley. SITE engaged with students for half a day, educating them about skilled trades and SITE's role in the construction ecosystem. SITE also showcased its remote excavator, allowing students to pick up candy, and whatever they picked up, they got to keep. This hands-on activity helped to generate interest among students and encouraged them to consider a career in the construction industry.

See a few pictures from the various events on the right.









SITE TO AWARD SIX \$5,000 SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarship applications for high school seniors and/or college students will be available Monday, December 4. Applicants must be the child or step-



child of a full-time employee or officer of a SITE contractor or associate member in good standing. Such employee or officer shall be employed at the employer's facility located within the St. Louis metropolitan area. Applications for scholarships and the 2024 Eligibility Rules & Application Process will be mailed and emailed to all member companies and will be available at www.sitestl.org on the front page listed under 2024 Scholarship Information. Contact Leah at (314) 966-2950 should you have any questions.

LABOR REPORT

CONTRACTOR WAGE SURVEYS

SITE continues to urge contractors to submit their work hours to Missouri's Department of Labor contractor wage survey site. Contractors continue to do a wonderful job submitting their labor hours year after year. Because of all your efforts, contract total package rates in the collective bargaining agreements are very close to the Missouri Prevailing Wage rates posted in the five surrounding counties. If contractors continue to submit hours consistently, the contract total package rate will continue to be competitive in the area. As a reminder, all hours for 2023 must be submitted by the end of January.

To help refresh contractors or maybe you have hired new payroll personnel, attached is a link for contractor wage survey "how-to" videos. These videos should help answer questions on what information needs to be reported for each trade. https://stlouisconstruction-cooperative/prevailing-wage/
Please do not procrastinate submitting your hours!

LOOKING AHEAD

The SITE Agreement with Laborers covering heavy/ highway, commercial, and residential work in the counties of Eastern Missouri expires on March 1, 2024. SITE's Laborers' negotiating committee will be meeting during the month of October and November to prepare for this upcoming expiration. Do not be surprised if negotiating sessions with the Laborers start earlier than January of 2024. Potentially late November/early December 2023 meetings may be arranged.

LOCAL UNION MANHOURS REPORT

Manhours reported through September were up 8 percent compared to last year, which is no surprise. Although contractors love the dry weather, finding skilled labor continues to be a challenge. Below I included the current levels of employed workers within the St. Louis union trades. All trades are at full employment of their members. However, there are still apprentices who are looking for opportunities. Also don't forget about the importance of retention! I encourage contractors to put forward their best efforts to grow the new generation of construction workers.

99% Operators	99% Plumbers & Pipefitters
99% Laborers	99% Electricians
99% Cement Masons	99% Sheet Metal Workers
99% Teamsters	99% Carpenters
99% Iron Workers	99% Sprinkler Fitters
99% Insulators	99% Painters
99% Brick Layers	95% Boiler Makers



FROM THE SAFETY SIDE

If your employees chip, cut, drill, or grind concrete and are exposed to airborne silica dust, beware! The U.S. Department of Labor announced in September that its Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has launched a new initiative directed at companies whose workers are at risk of silica exposure.

It was announced following the release of a study conducted by the American Medical Association. The study strictly focused on 52 patients who worked for a stone countertop fabrication company in California. The exposed workers were primarily young Latino immigrant men. The study concluded that 20 patients suffered progressive massive fibrosis, 11 needed lung transplants and 10 died due to their exposures. While the report doesn't highlight the fabrication companies' safety logs, it does note that 23 or (45 percent) reported use of water suppression for dust mitigation



Silica dust poses very serious health hazards in the construction industry if inhaled over a period. Respirable Crystalline Silica exposure at hazardous levels can lead to lung cancer, silicosis, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, and kidney disease. Whether it's silica dust or anything else that employees are being overexposed to, you want to control the problem.

Have a plan!

Therefore, for the safety of your employees and to comply with OSHA's standard, have a plan. First, conduct a job site assessment to determine if any employees are at risk. At risk is determined as any expo-

sure above 25 micrograms per cubic meter of air over an 8-hour time weighted average. Where there is risk of exposure to Silica dust, verify employees are properly trained and are provided appropriate PPE when conducting such work.

Here are a few examples of silica exposure control methods:

Handheld saws (outdoors)

- Use a saw equipped with an integrated water delivery system that continuously feeds water to the blade.
- Respiratory protection with a minimum APF 10 rating if used for more than four hours

Dowel Drilling Rigs (outdoors)

- Use shroud around the drill bit with a dust collection system.
- Dust collector must have a filter with 99 percent or greater efficiency and a filter cleaning mechanism.
- Use a HEPA-filtered vacuum when cleaning holes
- N95 mask must be worn regardless of hours

Large Drivable Milling Machines (outdoors)

- Use machine equipped with exhaust ventilation on drum enclosure and supplemental water sprays designed to suppress dust.
- Operate and maintain machine to minimize dust emissions.
- No required respiratory protection

As part of the newly adopted initiative, OSHA will be sending affected employers and stakeholders information on the initiative, including fact sheets on dust control methods and safer work practices. However if your company does not already have a Silica Exposure Control Program, be sure to visit SITE Improvement Association's website (www.sitestl.org) and click on the Safety Resources page. Members can access and download the 2023 Accident Prevention Safety Manual.



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WWW.SITESTL.ORG

UPCOMING EVENTS & TRAINING

Tues., Oct. 24	FOUNDATIONS FOR SAFETY LEADERSHIP SITE Improvement Association - Training Room
Thur., Oct. 26	JOINT SITE/APWA MEMBERSHIP MEETING Orlando's - Maryland Heights
Wed., Nov. 1	A NEW NORMAL NETWORKING EVENT Schlafly Tap Room
Tues., Nov. 15	FIRST AID/CPR/AED TRAINING COURSE SITE Improvement Association - Training Room
Nov. 28-29	OSHA 10 Course SITE Improvement Association - Training Room
Tues., Dec. 12	EXCAVATION COMPETENT PERSON COURSI
Wed., Dec. 13	HOLIDAY HAPPY HOUR

Visit sitestl.org for future event updates or to register for upcoming events.

Bogey Hills Country Club