

# Urgent! Put Your Idle Equipment to Work for LICA's Construction Convoy to Send Loud Message on January 12th

The next several months will decide whether our industry lives or dies. And no one is going to race to our rescue unless we make our own case before the press, the public and the politicians.

The grim reality is unless we act NOW, the federal economic recovery plan will not translate into work or income for our region.

Your Association is moving to take dramatic steps to generate media awareness, project a sense of genuine urgency and create broad based political support among every voter who drives a car and every business that depends on a truck.

LICA is planning an unprecedented "Construction Convoy" along the Long Island Expressway connecting the offices of two key supporters of our efforts, Congressman Steve Israel and Senator Chuck Schumer. It will take place on **Monday, January 12th** between 10:00 am and 1:00 pm.

DID YOU KNOW...

When reading the
LICA e-Gram with Adobe
Reader, you can zoom in and
out of the pages by holding ctrl
(or apple) and pressing + (to
zoom in) and - (to zoom out)?

LICA is calling upon you to provide three to five

(more if possible) pieces of idle heavy equipment—
backhoes, concrete mixer trucks, dozers,
graders, pavers, rollers, ten-wheelers,

(continued on next page)

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tractor trailers, a literal catalog of what we use to build Long Island. This rolling convoy will send a powerful message to Long Island and New York based media and the politicians who monitor their coverage.

We intend to put your idle equipment to work to speak for an industry. We intend to create a powerful message that will be heard in Washington, Albany, Hauppauge and Mineola. We intend to launch a convoy whose political presence will be felt long after these pieces of heavy equipment are placed back in the yard.

## **Reminder: LICA Safety Seminar Thursday**

The annual LICA Safety Seminar will be held this **Thursday**, **January 8th**, **8 am – 12 noon**, at the Long Island Sheraton at Smithtown. If you have not already done so, please make your reservations now!

You may **click here** for a copy of the Safety Seminar's reservation form. The completed form can be faxed immediately to LICA at 631-231-4291.

Based on feedback from members, the program this year will be condensed to only a morning session. Last year's program was the first time PDH credits were available. PDH credits are available for this program in accordance with the Professional Development Hours guidelines.

Here is the morning's agenda:

8:00 am - Registration

8:20 am - Welcome - Marc Herbst, LICA

8:30 am – DOT Field Office Specification Sec. 637 and Work Zone Safety, Byron Alford and Tom Melander, NYSDOT

10:00 am - Break

10:15 am - OSHA's Construction Mobility VPP, Maureen Moynihan-Fradkin, OSHA

10:45 am – Legal Case Study – Andrew Richards, Esq. and Regina Faul, Esq., Kaufman Dolowich & Voluck

11:15 am – NYS Insurance Fund Workers' Compensation Safety Group, David Stevenson and John Blackmore, Allied North America

11:45 am – Closing Remarks

Please call LICA Executive Director Marc Herbst at 631-231-LICA to find out how you can help.

We will also respond favorably to requests to continue providing presentations that are eligible for PDH (professional development hours) credits for engineers.



# Governor Releases Federal Project Wish List, LI's "Economic Stimulus" among the missing

At the end of 2008, New York State Governor David Paterson sent a letter to President-elect Barak Obama and Vice President-elect Joseph Biden calling for federal dollars to New York for "shovel ready" projects. That letter indicated that New York has 1,900 projects statewide ready to go. The estimated worth of listed infrastructure projects is \$300 billion.

New York has been slow getting out of the starting blocks with its project list. Other states, such as Utah, immediately advanced projects worth more than \$10 billion, while New York submitted only 40 projects worth about \$550 million.

LICA is very concerned with New York's latest listing, however. The devil is in the details. A close look at the proposal reveals that the request amounts to 334 statewide traditional highway and bridge projects, amounting to \$1.83 billion. Focusing more locally, there are 17 projects slated for Long Island, with total construction costs amounting to about \$290 million.

The 17 Long Island projects on the wish list are jobs that were already set to take place this construction season, before the State halted the program, or during the next fiscal year.

Therefore, you can easily conclude that the so-called "stimulus package" is simply a financial bail-out for the State so it can conduct business as usual. New York is asking the federal government to pick up the bill for projects planned by the State and then revoked. Rather than act as an economic stimulus, creating infrastructure projects crucial to our future, the State has chosen to plug its own budget gap with federal dollars. Long Island, with its nearly 3 million people, comes out as a virtual afterthought on the Governor's list of funding requests. If allowed to stand, LICA members will suffer greatly, but not as much as the region's businesses, commerce and economy.

# 1010 WINS. All News. All the Time. This Traffic Report Brought to You by LICA

LICA has launched a public information campaign that seeks to enlist motorists throughout New York's downstate region in the fight to obtain crucial infrastructure dollars for public works. Leading up to the Presidential Inauguration, LICA is sponsoring messages adjacent to commuter traffic reports on local radio stations so that the full implication of federal infrastructure funds can be immediately understood by every listener sitting on local roads and bridges.

LICA Executive Director Marc Herbst stated, "It is not enough for a trade association to advocate on behalf of the State's public infrastructure. We need a grass roots campaign in which the voter is empowered by information to join forces with everyone who uses a road, drives over a bridge, crosses a street or waits for a truck to deliver their products. There is a lot at stake in the national competition for federal infrastructure funds and, to date, New York has failed to aggressively pursue its fair share or allocate dollars for projects on Long Island."

Herbst says listeners are directed to a new web site – **www.FixThisLIRoad.com** - where they are encouraged to become directly involved by writing to their Congressmen, Senators and State elected officials to ensure that politicians know this issue has become a priority for their constituents.



## LICA to Have Stronger, More Effective Message

"LICA's leadership has already stated publicly the stark reality facing its members. Public works are coming to a screeching halt in the face of one of the worst economic retreats in recent history, and government is responding by "zeroing out" its infrastructure budget. For LICA, how it responds to this threat will define the organization for years to come. Traditional marketing and reactive media strategies will not alter public policies and proposed budget allocations. This is no longer about newsletters, logos or membership events. This is about survival."

This opening statement grabbed the immediate attention of LICA's independent consultants and internal screening committee as both reviewed submittals from firms seeking to handle LICA's communications for 2009. Based on the screening committee's recommendation to the LICA Board, Rubenstein Associates is being retained for the upcoming year to assist LICA with its public outreach message. The above stories about a construction convoy, radio public affairs messages and the new web site www.FixThisLIRoad.com that enlists voters in LICA's crusade for infrastructure dollars demonstrate that Rubenstein is wasting no time in helping us get out the message.

Privately owned, Rubenstein Associates is based in New York, but enjoys a reputation as being the largest public relations agency on Long Island. Long involved in public affairs, their clients include real estate developers, hospitals, law firms, energy companies, retailers and business associations. Most of their professionals come to the agency with many years of prior experience in government, media, or a combination of both, to ensure that they create and execute effective public affairs strategies.

The LICA board also accepted the screening committee's recommendation to renew its agreement with PriMedia, Inc. of Garden City for marketing services. PriMedia is responsible for LICA's web site as well as production of newsletters, directories and other promotional documents.

LICA appreciates the screening committee's dedication and commitment to its task. The committee, chaired by LICA Board Member Paul Posillico, was comprised of representatives of each of LICA's three membership classes, staff and legal counsel. For their service, we thank Pat Ahern (Edward Ehrbar), Paul Posillico (Posillico), Sal Rinaldi (LICA), Tom Tornee (GE Capital), and Richard Ziskin (Ziskin Law Group).

#### **LICA Plans for 2009**

What are you doing on April 20th? How about July 23rd? Or December 16th?

These dates are already set for some of LICA's premier social events – our annual golf outing, evening cruise and holiday party, respectively. In fact, LICA has its calendar set for all 2009. Our members have asked for advance notice of events so that they may plan their schedules accordingly. We have responded. Please **click here** for LICA's 2009 Calendar of Events.



## MLK, Jr. Holiday Schedule

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day falls on Monday, January 19th this year. Please note that some collective bargaining agreements may designate this day as a holiday. In preparing your payroll for that week, we suggest you **click here** to review the LICA union holiday schedule and **click here** for the GCA holiday schedule.

### **2008 Holiday Reception**

As part of its mission to allow members to professionally network with industry colleagues, public officials and business leaders who recognize the role of a strong infrastructure in the region, LICA hosts a variety of events throughout the year. As part of its online "2008 Year in Review" LICA's web site visitors will find many of the images that captured Long Island leaders at LICA events.

We invite you to click on **www.licanys.org** and go to the photo gallery to see the strength of this important organization and its role in bringing together the people who are helping rebuild Long Island and its economy. The latest update includes photos from the organization's 2008 holiday reception.

#### **Bid Results**

Bid Date	Project Name	Owner	Contractor	Bid Amount
12/22/08	West Harbor Dr. traffic calming	Village of Bayville	J Anthony Enterprises	\$ 273,480
			Ferran Development	\$ 292,565
			Corazzini Asphalt	\$ 314,423
12/23/08	Reconstruction of CR 16, Portion rd. phase 1	Suffolk Co. DPW	Alternate A	
			Pratt Brothers	\$ 21,915,987
			ALAC Contracting	\$ 22,088,888
			Intercounty Paving	\$ 22,502,126
			Bove Industries	\$ 23,132,927
			Posillico Civil	\$ 25,205,896
			Kings Park Industries	\$ 25,698,048
			Alternate B	
			Pratt Brothers	\$ 21,997,667
			ALAC Contracting	\$ 22,152,152
			Intercounty Paving	\$ 22,669,300
			Bove Industries	\$ 23,301,497
			Posillico Civil	\$ 25,288,556
			Kings Park Industries	\$ 25,899,978
			Alternate C	
			Pratt Brothers	\$ 22,515,193
			ALAC Contracting	\$ 22,556,556
			Intercounty Paving	\$ 22,989,344
			Bove Industries	\$ 23,621,745
			Posillico Civil	\$ 25,809,566
			Kings Park Industries	\$ 26,276,878
1/5/09	Water main installations on Beach rd & Crampton ave	Great Neck N. WA	Bancker Construction	no bid results
			G&M Earth	available
			Merrick Utility	
			Roy Wasner	