

AGC of Minnesota Update to All Members for the Week Ahead (January 16, 2012)

Governor Announces Transportation Funding Advisory Group

Governor Mark Dayton has directed Mn/DOT Commissioner Tom Sorel to establish a Transportation Finance Advisory Group. The group is charged with examining ways to improve Minnesota's deteriorating transportation infrastructure and making recommendations to the Legislature for consideration during the 2013 legislative session. Noting that Minnesota's highways, roads, bridges, and public transit systems have suffered decline, the Governor cited the need for Minnesota's transportation systems to meet the needs of a growing population and how investments in transportation infrastructure support an environment in which Minnesota businesses can continue to grow and the state can continue to be an attractive location for companies looking to expand.

The Advisory Group will identify investment opportunities to support a thriving economy and a high quality of life for Minnesotans over the next 20 years, identify and analyze the potential of various revenue sources and non-traditional approaches to transportation financing, as well as opportunities for public-private partnerships to invest in transportation improvements, and help develop a strategic marketing plan to obtain public support for the investment plan and any additional steps needed to obtain the funding. The Advisory Group will prepare a written report of its recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature by December 1. A copy of the Governor's letter to Sorel calling for creation of the group can be found at <http://mn.gov/governor/images/Memo-to-Sorel.pdf>.

Second Mn/DOT Spec Book Review Session

A second full-day workshop is scheduled for AGC members to finish our task of providing a coordinated and comprehensive review of the recently released new Mn/DOT Standard Specifications for Construction. At the January 10 meeting, we completed a cursory review of the 1000 series administrative specifications and touched on a few of the 2000 series technical discipline specifications. On **January 19**, we will re-cap our comments on the 1000 series and complete the balance of our review task. The meeting will be held from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm in the AGC conference room. An agenda will be distributed prior to the meeting. Lunch will be provided. Please RSVP your attendance to tworke@agcmn.org.

Remote Computer Access Participation Available:

Remote online access providing full computer screen document viewing and audio communication will be provided. Follow the instructions below to use the computer connection/audio portal and join the meeting:

Dial: Conference Phone Number: 1-877-885-3221, Participant Code: 2615601

Computer: To join the meeting on your computer, click the following link: <http://agcmn.adobeconnect.com/specbook/>

Notice to All Members – Amendments to Articles of Incorporation

At the Annual Meeting on January 25, the Board of Directors and general membership will be asked to approve amendments to the association's current Articles of Incorporation. Please see the attached for a summary of the proposed changes and the proposed new Articles.

93rd Annual Meeting

Mark your calendars now for the AGC of Minnesota 93rd Annual Meeting, to be held Wednesday, **January 25**, at the Minneapolis Marriott Southwest. The opening keynote speaker will be Steve Siemens, CSP, a behavioral speaker and author. Learn more about Steve and his dynamic presentations at www.thepeoplebuilder.com.

How can you support your association's most important event of the year?

- Attend – registration information is attached
- Sponsor – sponsorship information, not just for the Annual Meeting but for all of 2012, is attached
- Donate items to the silent auction – information is attached
- Exhibit – **SOLD OUT**

HAZWOPER Refresher Training

On **January 25**, AGC will host an 8-hour HAZWOPER refresher course to comply with the requirements under 29 CFR 1926.65 and 1910.120. For details and to register, see the attached registration form or contact Dan Hannan, 651-796-2192 or dhannan@agcmn.org.

How Can You Streamline Your Entire Preconstruction Process?

Over lunch on Thursday, **January 26**, find out what's new with iSqFt and how it can make your life easier. There is no charge for the session, but please register in advance. Registration/information is attached.

Are You Up for Some Friendly Competition?

The Construction Leadership Council (CLC) 5th annual Bowling Tourney is Tuesday, **January 31**, at Tuttle's in Hopkins. There will be prizes for top team and individuals, door prizes, food, and great networking. \$30 covers everything except beverages. If you are looking for some friendly competition, join us! No full teams accepted, all attendees will be mixed between bowling teams – a great way to meet new people. Registration and sponsorship forms are attached. Sponsor companies will have their names on the bowling shirts. Contact Jane Sanem (jsanem@agcmn.org or 651-796-2187) for details.

AA/EEO Training – Staying Compliant

Affirmative Action and Equal Economic Opportunity have become very important issues, especially in the construction industry. AGC of Minnesota, in partnership with other industry organizations, will offer a helpful and informative seminar on Wednesday, **February 1**, from 7:30 am to 10:00 am at the Radisson Hotel Roseville. Registration information is attached.

BIM Training in Duluth

Building Information Modeling (BIM) is changing the way projects are constructed. AGC of America has created the BIM Education Program, a four-part series designed to prepare general and specialty contractors to confidently implement BIM on projects. Completion of all four parts and successfully passing an assessment exam will result in a Certificate of Management –

Building Information Modeling (CM-BIM). On **February 13**, we will offer part one of the series: BIM 101 – An Introduction to Building Information Modeling. Take just this introductory course to learn the essential concepts of BIM or plan to take the entire certificate program. Information about the complete CM-BIM program and a registration form for BIM 101 are attached. We have applied for CEU accreditation for this session from the USGBC and AIA.

STP Coming to Duluth

Unit 1 (Leadership and Motivation) of the Supervisory Training Program (STP) will be offered in Duluth in a two-day format. Day one will be **February 13** at the Holiday Inn and day two will be **February 23** at the DECC, as part of the Professional Development Conference. Hours both days are 7:30 – 5:00 and attendance at both days is required to receive credit for the class. Registration information is attached. Because attendees will need to do some reading in preparation for the February 13 class, registrations must be received no later than January 30.

Help the Next Generation - Mock Interviews at Summit Academy

Summit Academy OIC (935 Olson Memorial Highway) conducts mock interviews with the carpentry students to prepare them for graduation. Please consider participating in these mock interviews on Thursday, **January 26**, beginning with a breakfast at 8:30 am and interviews at 9:00 am. This is an opportunity for you to become acquainted with these students and to provide feedback in how they can improve their soft skills. Summit Academy aspires to graduate all students to become the best candidates so your workforce will be the best it can be. There are approximately 29 students participating in the interviews and, depending on the number of interviewers, each interviewer could have up to five students to meet with. Summit Academy is willing to provide questions to ask or you may bring your own. After the interviews, you will be asked to give students and Summit staff your feedback and critique on how the students did.

If you are interested in participating, contact Michael West, job placement counselor at Summit Academy, at 612-278-6575 or mwest@saoc.org.

TERRA Pavement Conference

The Transportation Engineering and Road Research Alliance (TERRA) will hold its 16th annual Pavement Conference on **February 9**, at the Continuing Education and Conference Center on the University of Minnesota St. Paul campus. Information is available at <http://www.terreroadalliance.org/events/pavementconf/2012/index.html>.

Intelligent Compaction Workshop

The Federal Highway Administration is hosting an Intelligent Compaction National Workshop at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Bloomington on **May 3**. Registration for this workshop is free; however, only 75 seats are available on a first-come, first-served basis. The direct link to the brochure and online registration is: <http://www.intelligentcompaction.com/index.php?q=node/264>.

Arland "Swede" Anderson Retires as Trustee

After 40 years of dedicated service to the industry as a trustee of the Minnesota Cement Masons Health and Welfare committee, Arland Anderson has retired. "Guys like Swede Anderson don't come along very often. His level of commitment, passionate concern for working men and women, and years of dedication to Minnesota's construction industry set the bar high for all of us who aspire to Build a Better Minnesota." (Dave Semerad)

AGC Bookstore Monthly Featured Products – Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices

Through its on-line bookstore, AGC of America offers monthly featured products, available at a discount to AGC members. A link to the bookstore is available through our home page, www.agcmn.org, or at <http://store.agc.org?AffiliateId=AGCO254>.

All contractors are required to know and meet specifications issued by the Federal Highway Administration. Order this manual to ensure that your team is prepared and compliant. From regulatory signs to pedestrian and worker safety, this manual is comprehensive and easy to navigate.

This item is available at a 25% discount through January using coupon code WeeklyFeature.

Projects in the AGC of Minnesota Internet Plan Room (IPR), Powered by iSqFt, on January 13, 2012

Planning: 666, Bidding: 173, New Projects in the last 7 Days: 66, Projects with Plans: 379

Project details, plans, and specs are available at www.isqft.com. Ask for a free trial – **AGC members get a discount!** For a list of 173 bidding projects posted on January 6, use this link: <http://www.agcmn.org/files/This%20Week's%20Bidding%20Projects.pdf> or go to www.agcmn.org.



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