



NOVEMBER 2011

LIUNA!

Congress Hears LIUNA and Protects Highway Jobs for Now

LIUNA members spent the summer fighting for good jobs building our nation's highways and bridges—and Congress listened. After hearing from nearly 8,000 LIUNA activists through phone calls, letters and personal visits, Republican members of Congress backed off a plan for jobs-destroying cuts and helped pass a bipartisan extension of highway funding that will protect jobs.

Plus, some House Republican leaders still want to see America cut transportation investment by one-third, eliminating 630,000 jobs—including 490,000 highway jobs.

However, as the successful fight over the highway bill extension showed, when LIUNA members speak up and

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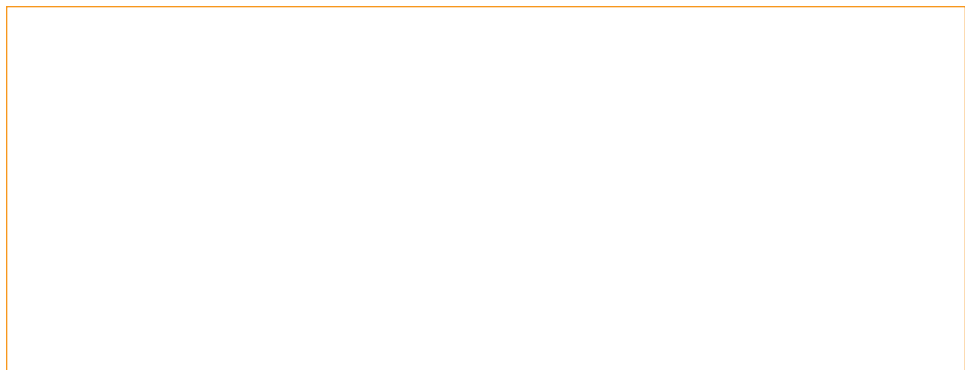
But the fight isn't over. Our country's roads and bridges are still in desperate need of repair, the extension passed by Congress will expire in March, and too many construction workers—more than 1.2 million—are unemployed.



Fighting for Good Jobs, Energy at Keystone Hearings

The TransCanada Keystone XL pipeline will help reduce our dependence on oil from the Middle East and create thousands of good union construction jobs. The State Department has exhaustively reviewed the project, however, some environmental groups continue to oppose the project. In a series of hearings held by the State Department, hundreds of LIUNA members turned out in Kansas, Texas, Nebraska, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Montana and Washington, DC. LIUNA members rallied outside of each hearing and also delivered testimony in support of unlocking good jobs at a time when they are desperately needed. You can send your message of support through the Nebraskans for Jobs and Energy Independence website at www.JobsandEnergy.org.

Thank you for making a difference with
I BUILD AMERICA



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ISSUE INFO FOR LIUNA ACTIVISTS ACROSS THE COUNTRY



Road to Ruin?

Our economy depends on a safe, efficient transportation system—10 percent of America's gross domestic product is tied to moving goods and people. Yet according to the U.S. Department of Transportation, our roads and bridges are in a state of crisis.

- Nearly a fourth of our roads—66 million miles of them—are in poor condition. More than one in four bridges are structurally deficient or functionally obsolete.
- Our bridges are typically built to last 50 years. The average U.S. bridge is 43 years old, according to the American Society of Civil Engineers. Time is running out.
- Traffic congestion costs commuters and businesses \$170 billion a year due to 4 billion hours in delays, the DOT's chief economist has determined. Congestion also wastes 4 billion gallons of gas every year.

LIUNA activists are making the case for jobs by joining events and rallies nationwide including Pittsburgh, Scranton, Boston, and in Gary, New Albany, and South Bend, Indiana—that highlight bridges in need of repair.

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fight for good jobs, they win. That's why members have continued to mobilize against members of Congress supporting devastating cuts to transportation investment.

In Indiana, members in Congressman Todd Young's district placed dozens of calls into his office urging action on highway investment after the I-64 Sherman-Minton Bridge in Young's district was shut down. The bridge, a high-traffic artery for commuters and commerce in the region, was closed indefinitely on Sept. 9 after inspectors deemed it unsafe.

This continued activism from LIUNA members is already making an impact, with some House Republican leaders signaling they may back a plan that would protect good jobs rebuilding our country for years to come.

LIUNA is ready to push for a long-term Highway Bill and send the message to Congress that it's time to put one and one together—matching men and women who need work with the work that America needs to have done.

Keep an Eye on Right Wing Front Group—ABC—the Assoc. Builders and Contractors

Associated Builders and Contractors, also known as ABC, is a corporate front group that pushes a right wing agenda to increase its own members' wealth at the expense of hard working men and women, communities, and honest businesses. A fringe organization, ABC falsely claims to be the voice of the construction industry even though in most states, less than one-half of 1 percent of contractors join the organization. ABC has led

successful campaigns to ban Project Labor Agreements, fought against Davis Bacon prevailing wage rates and sought to undermine basic workplace protections. While ABC represents only a minority of contractors, they are aggressively working in dozens of communities across the United States. LIUNA will be looking to counter their efforts in the coming months by arming LIUNA members with the tools to fight back.

Occupy Wall Street Continues to Grow Across U.S.

Occupy Wall Street movements continue to grow across the U.S., rallying members of LIUNA and other unions in New York City, Boston, Minneapolis, Nashville, Chicago, St. Louis and other cities to stand united against the corporate control that caused the economic crisis and destroyed jobs for tens of thousands of LIUNA members and millions of other Americans.

"The workers who build America—the half-million men and women of LIUNA—are united behind the fight against corporate tyranny and for economic prosperity for all," LIUNA General President Terry O'Sullivan said.

Follow the movement and share news and photos on the LIUNA Facebook page.

STAY IN TOUCH

Update your contact information to get important messages by phone, email and text message by going to: www.LiunaBuildsAmerica.org/stayintouch.