



WILL YOU BUILD AMERICA?

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR UNION



Turner

SOUTHBRID
FOOTBALL

“There’s plenty of work that needs to be done and plenty of people who need work.

All that’s missing are the jobs.”

*EDITH M. JOHNSON, LIUNA member
Miami, Florida*

America is shutting down. It's time to get our country moving again and by building America, we can do it.

The unemployment rate in the construction industry has soared—nearly one of five workers in the industry are unemployed. More than 2 million men and women who build America are looking for jobs. That's more than in any other industry.

Decline in Construction Jobs by State

Alabama	-19,700
Alaska	-1,900
Arizona	-100,000
Arkansas	-2,400
California	-274,900
Colorado	-27,500
Connecticut	-16,600
District of Columbia	-700
Delaware	-7,300
Florida	-254,200
Georgia	-43,100
Hawaii	-5,700
Idaho	-14,600
Illinois	-44,800
Indiana	-24,600
Iowa	-8,900
Kansas	-8,700
Kentucky	-15,100
Louisiana	-1,300
Maine	-4,800
Maryland	-31,700
Massachusetts	-24,500
Michigan	-51,200
Minnesota	-38,100
Mississippi	-6,600
Missouri	-19,300
Montana	-7,100
Nebraska	-3,100
Nevada	-46,400
New Hampshire	-7,000
New Jersey	-25,400
New Mexico	-7,800
New York	-23,400
North Carolina	-56,900
North Dakota	-1,800
Ohio	-47,100
Oklahoma	-3,600
Oregon	-25,200
Pennsylvania	-25,300
Rhode Island	-6,200
South Carolina	-23,200
South Dakota	-1,400
Tennessee	-26,100
Texas	-60,200
Utah	-26,700
Vermont	-4,800
Virginia	-53,200
Washington	-30,500
West Virginia	-4,600
Wisconsin	-24,400
Wyoming	-2,500

Loss of construction jobs from 21st century peak

"I'm proud of my work, but we need to be doing more of it—fixing our schools, building our highways, and keeping people working."

MARK KELLEHER, LIUNA member, Chicago, Illinois



“It’s not the rich who fight traffic every day or spend hours waiting for a bus or train to get to work. Let’s take care of the real America for a change.”

*JOSE GOMEZ, LIUNA member,
Alexandria, Virginia*

Years of neglect have left the basics of our nation crumbling. It’s time to build America so America works.

The American Society of Civil Engineers gives our country an overall “D” grade when it comes to taking care of our basics and estimates \$2.2 trillion is needed over the next five years to bring America back up to standards.

- We spend 4.2 billion hours a year stuck in traffic on our highways.
- At least 26 percent of our country’s bridges are structurally deficient.
- More than a quarter-million school children crowd into temporary classrooms every day because our school buildings haven’t kept up.
- Across America there are more than 4,000 unsafe dams.

Taking Care of America’s Basics Means More than 8 Million Jobs a Year

Industry	Total Investment Needed Annually	Total Jobs Created/Supported
Roads and Bridges	\$203 billion	6,105,428
Schools	\$32 billion	448,000
Energy	\$15 billion	210,000
Public Transit	\$21.6 billion	302,000

Source: <http://www.infrastructurereportcard.org/>
 Note: All of these jobs were calculated with the conservative estimate of \$1 billion = 14,000 jobs, except for roads and bridges, which was calculated with \$1 billion = 30,076 jobs. Calculation: <http://www.epi.org/publications/entry/pm132/>, http://www.asce.org/pressroom/news/grwk/event_release.cfm?uid=5051.

Where does our country stand in the world?

As China, India and other nations race ahead, we're in danger of falling behind.

The United States invests 2 percent of its economy in fundamentals—compared with nearly 10 percent for other nations.

As a percent of their economies, other nations invest more in their transportation and energy systems

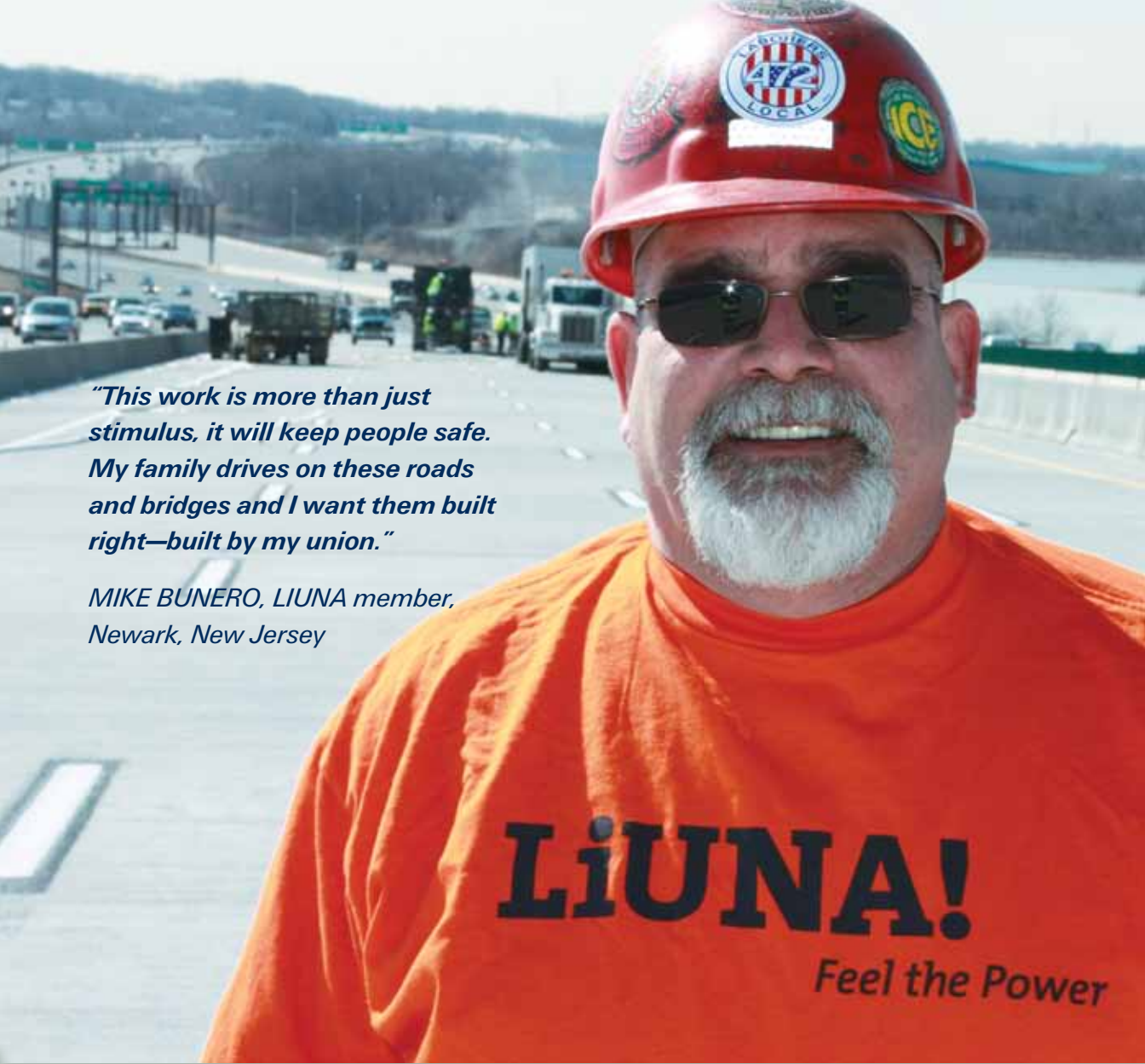
Country	% of Economy
China	12%
Brazil	8%
India	7%
Russia	6%
European Average	5%
U.S.	2%

Source: Merrill Lynch, Money Morning Research, 2008; Economist magazine, 2008

"I see rusting railways every day while tractor trailers are stuck in traffic. It's time we did what makes sense for our country."

*RUBEN GARCIA, LIUNA member,
San Diego, California*





“This work is more than just stimulus, it will keep people safe. My family drives on these roads and bridges and I want them built right—built by my union.”

MIKE BUNERO, LIUNA member, Newark, New Jersey

Building America is good for our country— and our paychecks.

The needed investment to fix our transportation systems, energy systems and schoolhouses would create or support nearly 3 million jobs every year. And they’re good jobs: according to the U.S. Department of Labor, a construction laborer building the basics of America has a \$5,000-a-year pay advantage compared with construction workers overall.

And these kind of build America jobs are more likely to be union jobs, meaning better healthcare, more secure retirement prospects and a voice on the job.

Construction Labor Mean Wages by Sector

Overall Construction	\$31,690
Construction of Buildings	\$31,690
Residential Building Construction	\$29,800
Heavy & Civil Engineering Construction	\$33,430
Highway, Street & Bridge Construction	\$35,300
Other Heavy & Civil Engineering Construction	\$31,770
Masonry Contractors	\$33,180
Roofing Contractors	\$25,940

May 2007

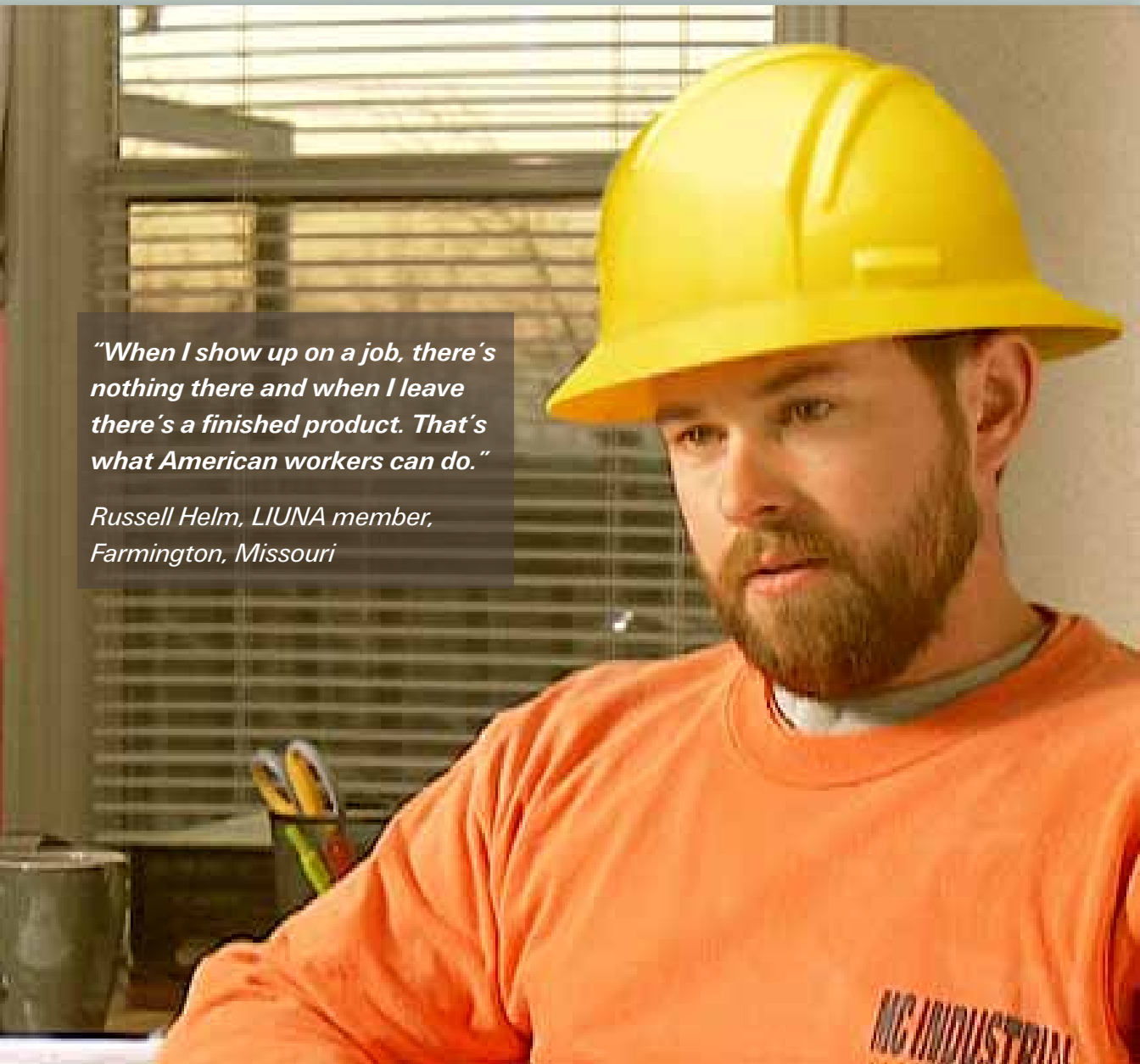
Annual wages have been calculated by multiplying the hourly mean wage by 2,080 hours; where an hourly mean wage is not published, the annual wage has been directly calculated from the reported survey data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

We can build an America free from foreign oil

Being a slave to foreign oil hurts America. We can build the energy systems of tomorrow, rebuild existing systems and increase energy efficiency, while putting men and women back to work doing the job.

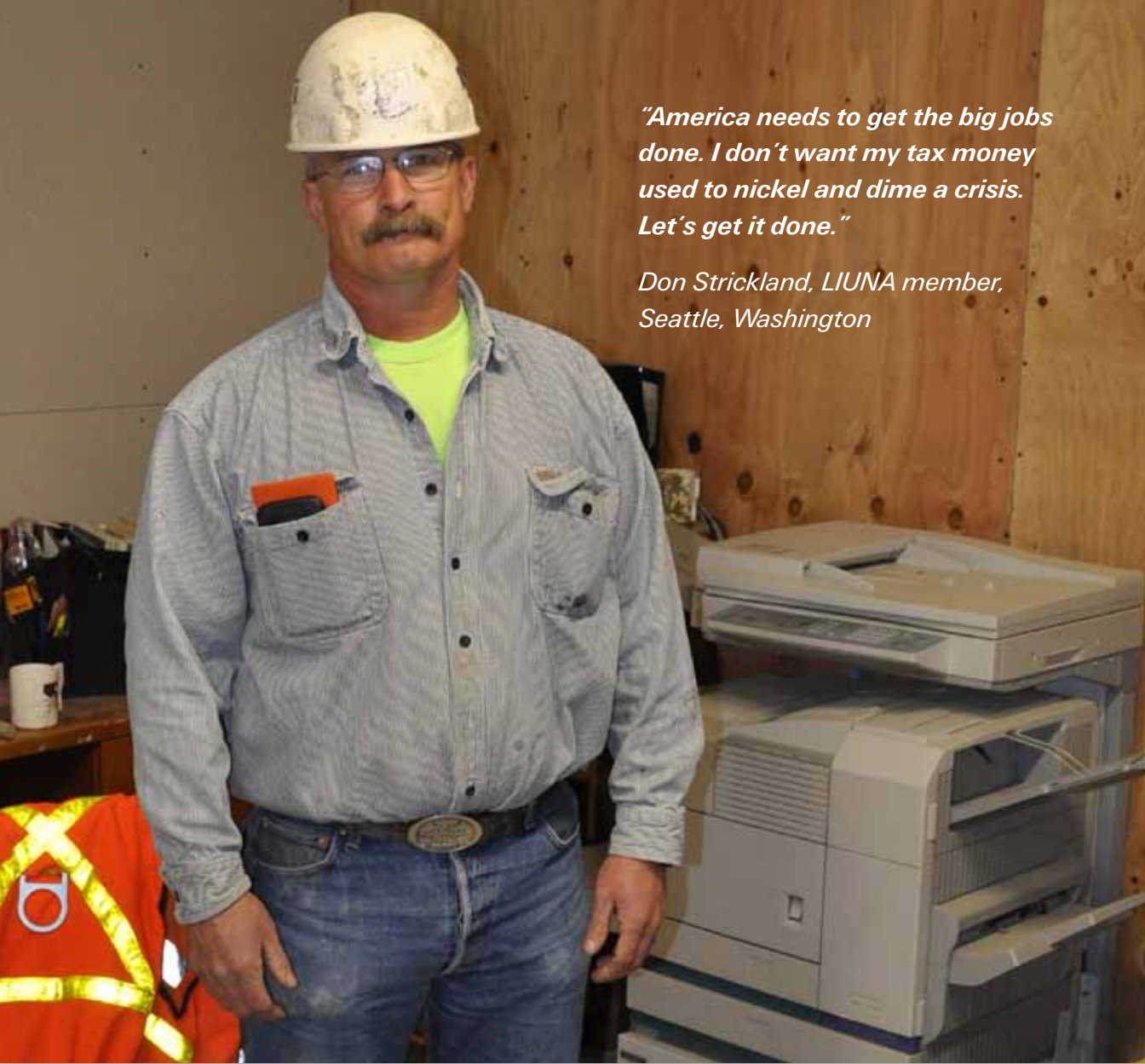
- Every million homes weatherized to reduce energy consumption creates 78,000 jobs and saves 3 million barrels of oil.
- Overall investment in building new energy systems—such as wind and solar power—creates 20,000 jobs for every \$1 billion invested, and reduces global warming.

LIUNA members have the skills and training centers to build the America of the future. We must continue to fight for investment to make it happen.



"When I show up on a job, there's nothing there and when I leave there's a finished product. That's what American workers can do."

*Russell Helm, LIUNA member,
Farmington, Missouri*



"America needs to get the big jobs done. I don't want my tax money used to nickel and dime a crisis. Let's get it done."

*Don Strickland, LIUNA member,
Seattle, Washington*

Will you **Build America?**

Barack Obama pledged to LIUNA that he would be the build America president. But he can't do it alone. It's up to us to make sure that our tax dollars are used to build our country and create good jobs.

- Nearly \$150 billion of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act is for building America—our transportation systems, energy systems and schoolhouses. We have to make sure that states use that investment to create good jobs.
- The biggest piece of build America legislation is the Surface Transportation bill. As it is debated, we have to make sure Congress provides adequate investment.
- Investment in water resources—from drinking and waste water to management of locks and dams—can build our country and create good jobs.
- Freeing America from foreign oil—through new energy systems and making our buildings more efficient—can create jobs, but we will have to fight to make them good jobs.
- The family-supporting Davis-Bacon Act—which makes sure that contractors don't drive down living standards by cutting our pay on federal projects and pocketing the difference as profit—is under attack. We must defend it.

Take a stand so you can say, “I Build America!”

Now more than ever, we need to build America and create good jobs. It won't happen on its own—we'll get what we fight for.

Be someone who makes the difference by becoming part of *I Build America*, a LIUNA effort to unite members in the fight for jobs. It will take work and a commitment to get involved once a month. You'll reach out to elected officials, participate in events and help fellow members join the effort.

And you'll be able to prove it. I Build America members will receive recognition with special stickers, union gear and invitations to build America events.



Every dollar invested in the basics of our country puts people to work building things America needs and can get our economy back on track.”

Debra Smith, LIUNA member, Providence, Rhode Island



It's the way to win good jobs.

Involvement helps build LIUNA and our country:

- During Election 2008, LIUNA members called more than 100,000 co-workers and more than 20,000 members clad in LIUNA orange volunteered to help elect the President.
- In just one week in 2009, members made more than 5,000 personal calls to their members of Congress with one message—create good jobs building America—and helped increase economic stimulus investment in construction projects.
- In states across the U.S., members have participated in events, made calls and written letters to create good jobs, protect health care and restore retirement security.

Get I Build America details at
www.LiunaBuildsAmerica.org.

If you can't get online, call 202-942-2246, or contact your Local Union.

*"It's time to fight
for investment
in America for a
change—to build
America so America
works."*

*Terry O'Sullivan,
General President*

LIUNA!

905 16th Street NW | Washington, D.C. 20006

