

CCIA HIGHLIGHTS *of the week*

A weekly information bulletin for members of the Connecticut Construction Industries Association

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GOVERNOR MALLOY this week [issued](#) a warning on the status of the state's Special Transportation Fund (STF) following the release of a new report showing that the solvency of the fund is in growing jeopardy. The report lays out numerous state transportation projects in towns and cities across Connecticut that would be at risk of cancellation or deferral if the state does not take corrective action to support the STF. Follow this [link](#) to watch the governor's press conference.

CONNECTICUT'S CASH-STARVED transportation program would need to suspend 40 percent of planned capital projects, defer major highway rebuilds like the Hartford viaduct, scrap some rail services, and drive up fares in order to remain solvent over the next five years, Gov. Malloy's administration has told Wall St, as reported in an [article](#) this week in *CT Mirror*. As Connecticut prepares for a major bond sale next month to finance transportation improvements, projections sent recently to bond-rating agencies show the new state budget won't prevent the Special Transportation Fund from falling into a series of annual deficits starting in July, 2018, or from reaching insolvency by mid-2020. ConnDOT estimates that to avert this crisis with revenue alone would require a 14-cents-per-gallon increase in gasoline taxes, at least until tolls could be fully implemented by 2024.

STRONG INDUSTRY ATTENDANCE is needed at the first [Forum for Gubernatorial Candidates](#) on Dec. 15, 2017 at the Aqua Turf. This Forum will feature presentations by the Republican Gubernatorial Candidates. A second Forum will feature the Democratic Gubernatorial Candidates on Jan. 19th. CCIA is hosting the events with a broad group of transportation advocates. This is our opportunity to make sure the candidates understand that investing in transportation is a priority issue. Registration and breakfast begin at 8 am. Attendance is free; registration is required. Don't come alone; please bring as many people as possible.

THANK YOU to all CCIA members who attended, sponsored, or participated in the CCIA Annual Membership Meeting and Holiday Reception at the Aqua Turf Club on Wednesday. Approximately 600 members and guests attended the event. A special thank you to [program sponsors](#) Garrity Asphalt Reclaiming, H.O. Penn Machinery Co., Inc., O&G Industries, and United Concrete Products. Forty-one CCIA members received CCIA [Safety Platinum Level](#) and [Safety Recognition](#) awards. CCIA Community Service Awards were presented to five member firms. Photo gallery from Marinelli Photography is available at this [link](#).

CONGRATULATIONS TO the 2017 CCIA [Community Service Award Winners](#) who were honored at this week's CCIA Annual Meeting. Those recognized were: Loureiro Engineering Associates, Inc. for Loureiro's Community Service Project 2017; The Metropolitan District (MDC) for

Source to Sea Cleanup, Wethersfield Cove; O&G Industries, Inc. for O&G Safety Week Touch a Truck Event; The L. Suzio York Hill Companies for Two Level "Deck Dock" on Beavers Pond (Water Front, Camp Cuno); and WSP, Inc. for their Annual Community Service Program.

CONNECTICUT'S RAINY DAY Fund of \$213 m. may need to be tapped to abate the projected mid-year \$202 m. budget gap for fiscal 2018, according to a [report](#) issued last week by Moody's Investor Service. A newly projected revenue shortfall is a major contributor to the \$202 m. budget gap, said state officials last week. The gap is large enough to trigger procedures for implementing a deficit mitigation requiring legislative approval. Total general fund revenues are anticipated to fall short by \$227 m. in fiscal 2018 and by \$263 m. in fiscal 2019.

THE TOWN OF WINDSOR LOCKS is awaiting final approval on a \$200,000 ConnDOT grant, which will be used to study the Route 20 corridor for further development, the *Hartford Courant* [reports](#). The grant falls under the department's Surface Transportation Program, and was the sole municipal application filed by the Capital Region Council of Governments. The funding, if approved, will study traffic patterns, accessibility to developable parcels, and the design and construction of a bike path from Route 91 to the Bradley Airport area.

NEW HAVEN OFFICIALS are moving forward with a long-term plan to reinvent the city's Long Wharf business district, developing a "big picture" vision to advance responsible growth fronting New Haven Harbor, according to an [article](#) in *New Haven Biz*. The makeover is part of a nearly \$1 m. state grant the city received in 2016 to revitalize the District, which has already funded the state's first two-way cycle track and improvements to the Wharf's "Food Truck Paradise" area. Officials said the district's signature project, a \$30 m. Canal Dock Boathouse, is expected to be complete in 2018.

THE REGIONAL PLAN Association (RPA) of New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut has released its latest report on how to improve infrastructure throughout the tri-state area, according to an [article](#) on the WSHU website. In Connecticut, the [report](#) calls for major upgrades to Metro-North's New Haven line to reduce travel time between

regional hubs, more affordable housing, and for the state to take on a larger share of local school budgets in order to bring down property taxes and alleviate income inequality.

UNCERTAINTY ON CAPITOL Hill is growing over whether the Trump administration will immediately turn to an infrastructure package after Congress finishes tax reform, The Hill [reports](#). President Trump has promised to unveil his long-awaited rebuilding plan after taxes, but he may be eager to first revisit the health-care debate, according to a top Republican. “Well, he would love to get back on health care,” Sen. John Thune (R-SD), chairman of the Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee, told reporters. “I think a lot of it depends on when and if we have 50 votes for something. But infrastructure, I think, he wants to tee up right behind that.”

A CLEAR NEED TO STREAMLINE permitting and regulatory approvals exists, along with the need for more collaboration between the public and private sectors, according to a new [Forbes Insight Report](#). “Filling the Gap: A Realistic Look at Today’s Challenges and Opportunities in U.S. Infrastructure” found that 64 percent of surveyed global infrastructure executives and government officials believe the U.S. is underinvesting in its infrastructure, with 36 percent believing a crisis may emerge; 84 percent say inadequate infrastructure spending in the U.S. harms the middle and lower class disproportionately; and 69 percent say the public sector needs to do more to enable the sale or lease of infrastructure to the private sector.

CONNDOT BID RESULTS for December 6, 2017: [Proposal No. 0173-0451](#), Installation and Revisions of Traffic Control Signals in District 1. Installations and Revisions of Traffic Control Signal at a SLOSS Location in the City of Stamford: NY CONN Corporation: \$2,595,528.20; Ducci Electrical Contractors, Inc.: \$2,618,000.00; A.M. Rizzo Electrical Contractors Inc.: \$3,258,915.21. [Proposal No. 0173-0442](#), Guidedail Upgrade Along Routes 1, 59, 67 & 68 (Various District 3): Total Fence LLC: \$2,663,035.25; Atlas industrial Services, LLC: \$2,996,790.00; Mohegan Associates, Inc.: \$4,553,77.00. [Proposal No. 0174-0406](#), Horizontal Curve Treatments on Local Road (Various District 4): Discount Fence of Connecticut LLC: \$781,896.00; NY CONN Corporation: \$828,545.00; Hi-Way Safety Systems, Inc.: \$833,507.50.

ARTBA HAS RELEASED its [economic forecast](#) for 2018, anticipating the U.S. transportation infrastructure market to rebound slightly next year after a 2.8 percent drop in 2017. The 2017 market drop was largely driven by the overall national decline in state and local highway and bridge spending, which is expected to be down 6.4 percent and 7.7 percent, respectively. The 2017 market performance is expected to come in at \$247.1 b., with markets forecast to grow in 20 states and Washington, D.C., slow in 23 states, and remain the same in 7. Federal highway funding of state DOT programs provided by the 2015 FAST Act will continue to show inflationary growth

in 2018, providing a degree of market stability in every state.

THE DANGER OF CARBON monoxide (CO) was [highlighted](#) in the November edition of CONN-OSHA Quarterly, offering a series of safety precautions employers can take to prevent CO poisoning. CONN-OSHA recommends: installing an effective ventilation system to remove CO from work areas; maintaining equipment and appliances (e.g. water heaters, space heaters, boilers) that can produce CO in good working order; prohibiting the use of gasoline-powered engines or tools in poorly ventilated areas; providing personal CO monitors with audible alarms if potential exposure to CO exists; and educating workers about the sources and conditions that may result in CO poisoning.

SCOTT MUGNO, the nominee for the position of assistant secretary for OSHA, is featured in a [story](#) in *Business Insurance*. Mr. Mugno is currently vice president of safety, sustainability, and vehicle maintenance at FedEx Ground, a unit of FedEx Corp., and previously was managing director for corporate safety, health and fire protection at FedEx Express in Memphis, TN.

OSHA HAS FILED AN APPEAL to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit seeking to preserve the agency’s multi-employer citation policy, according to a [report](#) in JD Supra. Under this policy, OSHA maintains that it has the authority to issue citations not only to the employer whose employees are exposed to a hazardous condition but also to employers who create, correct, or control the worksite even if its own employees are not exposed to the hazard. However, this doctrine was recently challenged and invalidated in *Acosta v. Hensel Phelps Construction Co.* U.S. Labor Secretary Alexander Acosta has filed an appeal seeking to reserve the order and to obtain a decision affirming the multi-employer doctrine.

APPLICATIONS ARE NOW being accepted for the Annual AGC of America Construction Safety Excellence Awards (CSEA), sponsored by Willis Towers Watson. The CSEA has been an ongoing and evolving effort by AGC to recognize companies that have developed and implemented excellent safety and loss prevention programs achieved through management committees, employee training and participation, and program innovation. For more information about the CSEA and to access the application, please visit this [link](#). The deadline for application submittal is Dec. 15, 2017.

FLIERS INCLUDED IN HIGHLIGHTS, 12/8/17: 1) [Republican Gubernatorial Candidate Transportation Forum](#); 12/15; 2) [YCF Annual Holiday Get-Together](#), 12/14; 3) [2018 AGC/CT Build CT Award Application](#), Due 12/15.

FROM THE INTERNET: On December 8, 1776, George Washington’s retreating army in the American Revolution crossed the Delaware River from New Jersey to Pennsylvania.