

MARBA MATTERS

GRIEVANCES AND ARBITRATIONSⁱ

Mid-America Carpenters Regional Council Arbitrations

MARBA received no arbitration demands in the month of May.

Laborers Joint Grievance Committee

The Laborers JGC did not meet in May. The June JGC is in the process of being scheduled. It will be held at the Laborers offices in Burr Ridge.

Operating Engineers Joint Grievance Committee

The Operating Engineers JGC met on May 1, 2024, at the Local 150 offices to hear two (2) grievances. The first grievance alleged that a contractor subcontracted out work to a subcontractor that was not signatory to the 150 CBA. The contractor failed to appear at the JGC and the JGC issued an award in favor of the Union based on the testimony/evidence presented by the Union. The second grievance involved an allegation that a member (owner/operator) not in good standing with the Union was operating bargaining unit equipment. The member failed to appear and the JGC issued an award in favor of the Union based on the testimony/evidence presented by the Union.

The next Operating Engineers JGC will be held on July 10, 2024, at the Operating Engineers office in Countryside. There is currently one (1) grievance set to be heard.

Teamsters Joint Grievance Committee

The Teamsters JGC did not meet in May. The next regularly scheduled JGC is set for June 27, 2024, at the MARBA office, provided there are any grievances set to go forward.

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING/LABOR ISSUES

Negotiation Update

As of today's date, there is only one trade in the Chicago area that has been listed in the weekly Negotiation Update that has not yet been settled. The agreements Local 150 has with MARBA, Excavators, and CAWGC (respectively) are set to expire tonight at midnight. MARBA, Excavators, CAWGC, and Local 150 are scheduled to meet today. Information concerning the status of today's meeting will be sent out later today once there is something to report. The most recent Negotiation Update with information concerning other trades and the various settlements can be found by clicking [here](#).

Teamsters LMCC Owner-Driver Remittance Form Posted to MARBA Website

The MARBA/Teamsters agreement negotiated in 2023 has language in it relative to hiring of “Owner/Drivers.” This language can be found under Article 3 “Subcontracting.” Pursuant to the language in Article 3, contractors that need to subcontract out work should be aware of the new process in the CBA as the need for the use Owner/Drivers arises. Article 3 can be accessed by clicking the agreements tab at the top of the MARBA website. Information concerning the Owner/Driver requirements can be found by clicking [here](#).

If you have any questions about this process, please contact Aaron Janik at ajanik@marba.org.

INDUSTRY NEWS

Passing of Tom Rakow

Tom Rakow, former President and Chairman, of IHC Construction Companies, LLC, passed away on May 21, 2024. Tom was very involved in the industry and served on the MARBA Board of Directors from 2003 -2017 representing the Underground Contractors Association (of which he was previously President). During his time on the MARBA Board of Directors he served as Secretary (2003-2008) and Treasurer (2009-2017). MARBA and its current Board of Directors extend our condolences to Tom’s family and friends on his passing.

Information regarding his services can be found by clicking [here](#).

IL Legislature Passes Budget

The Illinois Legislature went into overtime earlier this week to pass its 2024-2025 budget. The record spending plan calls for significant tax increases. As part of the spending plan the legislature authorized \$150 million dollars to be redirected from the Road Fund and \$50 million from the Leaking Underground Storage Fund. The \$200 million was diverted to public transit. This diversion was opposed by both labor and management. Despite the diversion the budget allocated \$3.5 billion for infrastructure investment. This amount was \$500 million more than what the Governor initially advocated for. Local municipalities will receive \$400 million for local projects. Additionally, Republican Representative Davidsmeyer (Jacksonville) contended Democratic Senators and Democratic Representatives will each receive \$3 million and \$1.5 million respectively for infrastructure projects in their districts. Republican legislatures were not awarded any money for capital projects located within their districts. The budget is set to go to Governor Pritzker’s desk for his signature.

STATE OF THE ECONOMY

Economic Indicators

Unemployment Rate	April 2024 U.S. 3.9% (March 3.8%), Illinois 4.8% (47 th tied)
Labor Participation Rate	April 62.7%, March 62.7%, February 62.5%, January 62.5%

CPI All Urban Consumers	April 2024 over April 2023 = 3.36%
CPI Chicago All Items	April 2024 over April 2023 = 3.01%
CPI Midwest All Items	April 2024 over April 2023 = 2.76%
Union Membership	2023 = 10.0% (Private Sector 6.0%) 2022 = 10.1% (Private Sector 6.0%) 2021 = 10.3% (Private Sector 6.1%)
Unionized Construction Workers	11.4% (2023), 11.7% (2022), 12.6% (2021), 12.7% (2020)
30 Year Fixed Mortgage	As of 5-23-24 6.94%, up 0.37% over the prior year. Annual Average 5.34% (2022), 2.96% (2021), 3.11% (2020)
15 Year Fixed Mortgage	As of 5-23-24 6.24%, up 0.27% over the prior year. Annual Average 4.58% (2022), 2.27% (2021), 2.61% (2020)
Brent Crude Oil Price	\$83.86 per barrel (as of May 28, 2024, 2 p.m.) \$145.61 per barrel all time high July 2008 \$2.23 per barrel all time low May 1970
Privately Owned New Housing Building Permits	3.0% below March rate 2.0% below April 2023 rate
Privately Owned New Housing Starts	5.7% above revised March rate (+/-11.0%) 0.6% below April 2023 rate (+/-12.3%)
GDP	Q1 2024 (Adv) +1.6% Q4 2023 +3.4%
DJIA	38,715.15 as of May 28, 2024 (1:30 p.m.) 38,075.64 as of April 30, 2024 (11:00 a.m.) 39,574.06 as of March 27, 2024 (1:00 p.m.)

JANIK'S J.D. – AN UPDATE ON LABOR/CONSTRUCTION LEGAL ISSUES
AARON JANIK- EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MARBA

Illinois Legislature Passes Captive Meeting Legislation

The Illinois legislature passed a bill which is now headed to Governor Pritzker’s desk in which employers would be prohibited from requiring their employees to attend meetings where political or religious messages unrelated to their job performance would be shared. These types of meetings are often referred to as “captive audience” meetings. The bill entitled, the Illinois Worker Freedom of Speech Act, prohibits employers from threatening, disciplining, firing, or otherwise retaliating against any worker for their refusal to attend a meeting where religious or political matters are expressed. A political matter would include union issues (including organizing efforts). Typically, in these meetings Employers provide

their perspective on a wide variety of matters. The legislation is headed to Governor Pritzker’s desk for his signature (which is expected). Illinois would join five other states in banning these types of meetings once the bill is signed. The legislation can be found by clicking [here](#).

UPCOMING SEMINARS AND EVENTS

CAGC SCHOLARSHIP GOLF OUTING

JOIN THE CAGC FOR THEIR SCHOLARSHIP GOLF OUTING FUNDRAISER

DATE: WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26, 2024
TIME: 10:00 A.M. SHOTGUN START.
LOCATION: ST. ANDREWS COURSE
2241 ILLINOIS RTE 59
WEST CHICAGO, IL 60185
COST: \$300.00 FOR INDIVIDUAL GOLFERS, SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE
CONTACT: EMAIL [STACEY KELLY](#) OR REGISTER BY CLICKING [HERE](#)

CALENDAR

JUNE 24	4:00 P.M.	ALL TRADES EXECUTIVES MEETING (OAKBROOK)
JUNE 27	9:00 A.M.	TEAMSTERS JGC (MARBA)
TBD	TBD	LABORERS JGC (BURR RIDGE)

¹ Information for MARBA Matters was obtained from the following sources: BNA Construction Labor Reports, Crain’s Chicago Business, Northwest Times of Indiana, Chicago Tribune, and Sun-Times, CDQ, and the BLS, as well as various websites and other publications.

Did You Know?

On June 17, 1966, the City of Chicago adopted the chrysanthemum as the official flower of the city.

NBA FINALS START JUNE 6



NHL STANLEY CUP STARTS JUNE 8

