August 3, 2010

Letter to Illinois Editorial Boards

Last year, the Illinois General Assembly approved and the Governor signed into law the first capital investment program approved in Illinois since 1999. Much of the program is moving forward, but there is one exception – local road funding. We encourage you to ask candidates for state constitutional and legislative offices to ensure full implementation of the capital program by approving additional, needed bond authorization to allow for local road grants.

Because the General Assembly originally approved only $4.6 billion of the $9.5 billion needed for the transportation portion of the 2009 capital program, the state, at this point, cannot move forward with local road funding and other aspects of the program without an increase in the bond authorization level. This requires a 3/5 vote of the General Assembly and approval of the Governor.

We hope you share our concern and will want candidates for State offices to answer the following question for you and your readers.

1. Will you vote in November to approve the additional bond authorization needed to fully implement the 2009 capital program?

Illinois citizens deserve the answers to these questions. Thank you for your interest.

Michael Kleinik  Douglas L. Whitley
Director, Chicago Laborers District Council-LMCC  President, Illinois Chamber of Commerce
TFIC Co-Chair  TFIC Co-Chair
(630) 655-9525  (312) 983-7103