

Family-Supporting Project Labor Agreements

Good Jobs Building America On Time and On Budget

Family-supporting Project Labor Agreements, otherwise known as Community Workforce Agreement or PLAs, are a tried and true way of building the basics of America from the Hoover Dam to the Washington Nationals baseball stadium. These agreements benefit working men and women, contractors, communities and taxpayers by ensuring projects are completed on time and on budget, requiring employee training, and encouraging that public investment benefits local communities.

Project labor agreements save taxpayers money.

- With PLAs, contractors, sub-contractors, communities and workers agree to working conditions, ensuring coordination for smooth project completion. Training requirements, coupled with fair compensation, save taxpayers money by ensuring on-time and on-budget completion of projects.
- PLAs discourage unscrupulous contractors from betraying the public trust through inflated profits, low-ball bids, cutting corners or abusive employment practices.

PLAs helped build America with the world's most impressive construction and engineering feats.

- PLAs helped build the Hoover Dam, Disney World and the Trans-Alaska Pipeline. More recently, the Woodrow Wilson Bridge in Maryland proves the PLA difference. Built with a PLA, the Maryland side of the bridge was built six months ahead of schedule and on budget – while the Virginia side, built without a PLA, was delayed at the expense of taxpayers.
- The PLA difference is seen in major projects from the Toyota Assembly Plant in San Antonio to the Port of Oakland to the Washington Nationals Stadium, which was built faster than any Major League stadium – on budget and using local workers.

PLAs prevent major public investment from driving down local standards, and bring a steady stream of jobs to local workforces.

- Agreements set a wage floor based on what prevails in a community, ensuring that an influx of taxpayer construction investment doesn't drive down – or inflate – local wage standards. And workers receive benefits such as healthcare and pensions, preventing a burden on local services.
- Workers have access to free union training programs which help open the doors for advancement and new opportunities. Wages and benefits quickly circulate in local economies.

PLAs establish rigorous safety standards that save time and lives.

- For example, workers on the new Hoover Dam Bypass Bridge received training which helped them to practice their crafts and complete the 19,000-foot bridge enduring high winds nearly 1,000 feet above the surface.

The members of LIUNA – the Laborers' International Union of North America – are on the forefront of the construction industry, a powerhouse of workers who are proud to build America. For more information on PLAs, visit www.LiunaBuildsAmerica.org/project-labor-agreements-work.