

To the members of Local 290 from Business Manager Lou Christian

Update on the Coronavirus (COVID-19) April 25th, 2020

Sisters and Brothers,

We are beginning to see the high-tech sector of our work plan to ramp up. Hiring is to increase soon from 10 to 100 new hires a week. Plans are being put in to place to maintain social distancing in the hiring ramp up and on the jobsite.

[Interim Guidance for Oregon OSHA Related to COVID-19](#)

[OSHA COVID-19 Guidance for the Construction Workforce](#)

We will get projections for manpower needs from our contractor labor managers in the coming week.

A large commercial project in a Beaverton campus had two confirmed cases of COVID-19 this week. Each worked in different areas, one outside the building the other inside. The project was shut down and a deep clean was done. The Job site has been reopened.

Updates from the UA

- **General President McManus** sent a letter regarding water quality testing prior to startup of stagnant water systems. Training is working on implementing classes online for Members and Contractors to get certifications to provide these services. The membership will be notified when classes become available.
- [Cancellation of Instructor Training](#)
- **UA requesting information** from each local on the number of members with COVID-19, the number of unemployed and also on furlough from COVID-19 at the end of the month.

Local Union Updates

- Monday UADC meeting held via Remote. Plans for Diamond law training discussed. Planning for online training possibilities ongoing.
- Continuing to work on pay checks and a boot policy issues.
- Special Executive Board and Officers meeting next Wednesday the 29th at 6 pm via Zoom. I will be updating the officers on the impacts of the Pandemic along with discussing when to make the decision to proceed with or cancel the May 15th Membership meeting.
- Training is working with NITC for Braze continuity extensions. [NITC COVID-19 Extension of Braze Continuity](#) Notice for Journeyman training on this to be released next week.

Unemployment

- Friday Governor Insley announced Washington state construction planning to restart with strict social distancing plans being required.
- Oregon's Governor released a framework for restarting public life and business.

[Framework Presentation](#)

- Unemployment conflicting reports we have members waiting 4 weeks and haven't received checks and some filing 4-2 have received them.

[Oregon Employment Department Initial Claims and Additional Unemployment Benefits in Oregon](#)

[Oregon Employment Department COVID-19 Related Business Layoffs, Closures, and Unemployment Insurance Benefits](#)

[Washington Unemployment COVID-19](#)

[California Unemployment COVID-19](#)

Oregon State Building and Construction Trades Council

- C-19 Task Force we continue to meet with all stakeholders including Oregon OSHA. The task force will be visiting more jobsites next week. [OSBCTC C-19 Task Force Press Release](#)
- Participated in a webinar with Congresswoman Suzanne Bonamici. [Bonamici Conference Call](#)
- Congressman Kurt Schrader conference call we emphasized the need to keep labor standards in the stimulus bills i.e. prevailing wage registered apprenticeships. I also suggested help for COBRA payments when members run out of their dollar banks and also for more testing be made available for COVID-19. Our nation is way behind other countries dealing with this pandemic using testing.

We wish everyone continued good health and safety during this pandemic by using best practices. I want to thank our Assistant Business Manager Joe Neely for spending Saturdays with me focusing on these reports to update our membership.

In Solidarity,

Lou A. Christian