



The Future of Colorado is Ours to Build!

By Randy DeMario, 2010 AGC Colorado President



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This simple insight is the guiding vision behind all our work at AGC. AGC's 2010 leadership team is more focused than ever on the need to join with state leaders to plan wisely for the future. AGC is also actively promoting the growth of infrastructure to boost your business and create jobs.

Funding Essential Infrastructure

AGC is actively involved in WIN-Colorado, which was launched in early February. WIN stands for Water, Infrastructure and Network, and is a coalition of key groups pursuing water infrastructure funding from local, state and federal sources. The outcome for you likely will be access to more projects. This is just one example of how AGC's vertical infrastructure initiative is working for you.

Legislation That Affects You

SB116 – Change orders

At the statehouse, AGC is working to influence legislation that will impact your bottom line. Let me explain the first legislative bill by telling a quick story.

While constructing a facility for a Front Range municipality, the owner decided they wanted wood flooring instead of carpet. The owner's next statement was one many of us have heard before. "Go ahead. Make the change, and we'll settle up at the end."

Like you, Heath Construction often serves as a "bank" for owners. When a change order occurs, we often pay suppliers and subcontractors early. But we don't get paid by the owner for weeks, months, or – in the case of state or other public entities – even a year. This places an unfair burden on contractors and drives up costs.

Fortunately, Colorado legislators are considering a bill that would speed payments to contractors who work on public projects.

AGC has been working on your behalf to get this bill passed by meeting with legislators, testifying before committees, writing letters and more.

HB1012 - Workers' comp costs

In other legislative action, lawmakers have introduced bills to alter the structure and direction of Pinnacle Assurance, the company that provides workers' compensation insurance for many of us. If these bills pass, including HB 1012, workers' comp insurance costs almost certainly will go up.

We need your help to make sure these workers' comp bills are defeated and that legislation beneficial to contractors passes. Contact AGC Executive Director Michael Gifford at mgifford@agccolorado.org for key points to include in letters or phone calls to legislators. Or check the AGC Website's Legislative/Take Action section at www.agccolorado.org to learn how to easily e-mail your legislator on key issues. Your voice is critical in our efforts at the statehouse.

If we stay close, come together and stay as one, we can improve the future of Colorado's construction industry – and enhance the economic vitality of the entire region.

The future of Colorado is ours to build. Join us!



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