



CISCO

CONSTRUCTION NEWS BRIEFS

Construction Industry Service Corporation - www.cisco.org - 630.472.9411 - Dan Allen, Executive Director

COMMUNITY-OWNED GROCERY COMES TO DUPAGE COUNTY

The first community-owned grocery store - Prairie Food CO-op - is under construction in Lombard, Illinois.

To date, nearly 1,600 people and organizations have invested more than \$200 to become Owners, and over 500 have contributed even more including a whopping \$125,000 investment from the Laborers Local 68, bringing the total amount raised to \$2.785 million of the \$4.4 million goal.



The project is projected to create/generate the following:

- 50 new full time jobs,
- \$5 million in annual sales,
- \$8 million in local economic activity,
- Healthy foods accessible to low income residents,
- Eight to 12 micro-businesses spawned,
- Sales and growth to existing local DuPage County businesses.

One of the volunteers advocating on behalf of the project is Professor Robert Bruno, Director, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Labor Education Program.

"When local businesses, volunteers, workers and their families join forces, communities are strengthened in countless ways," Bruno said. "This is the case with the Prairie Foods CO-op."

"Skilled union workers and union



contractors from the area will build this new community-based co-op, benefiting the workers who build it, who work at the store and who shop at it. Local businesses will provide most of the produce, and food, and the entire local economy will benefit."

"Labor support for Prairie Foods is in the best tradition of workers and co-ops historically partnering for social good," Bruno added.

The project is being built 100% with union contractors and union building trades members.

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT

There are several contribution options. Becoming an Owner, buying Preferred Shares, or making a donation or Owner Loan are among the many ways to help Prairie Food CO-op open.

Becoming an Owner is a one-time \$200 investment. Preferred Shares are \$1,000 each and have the potential to earn a 3 - 5% dividend.

In terms of a donation, anyone, anywhere and in any amount can donate. There are tax benefits for the current year.

In terms of Owner Loans, this option is for amounts of \$10k or greater.

Sponsorship naming rights for a 10-year term is also an option for

areas of the grocery store, section (deli, bulk bins) or for the Outdoor Terrace and other locations.

"This project is a perfect example of union contractors, skilled union workers, local businesses and community members all working together for the benefit of their families and the entire community. This template is one that all construction projects should follow



as unions provide fair wages, safe working conditions and a win-win for all," said CISCO's Dan Allen.

Prairie Food Co-op shoppers and Owners are not just helping Lombard, but it is part of a bigger movement in the Chicagoland area to improve the resiliency of our local foodshed. In addition to this store, the movement is on pace to triple the number of stores from two in Cook County to six, and add one store each in Kane and McHenry County.

For more information about Prairie Food CO-op, visit www.prairiefood.coop/cip_docs to preview all the required legal documents or www.prairiefood.coop/donate.

Community Investment Coordinators are available to answer your questions at invest@prairiefood.coop or call Jessica Buttmer at 630-446-0010.

More news and photos on the back page.

CISCO ON THE MOVE

CISCO ANNOUNCES SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM UNDERWAY FOR 2022



CISCO has begun to accept applications for its long-standing Annual Scholarship

Awards Program. The applications for these different categories can be found on CISCO's website/homepage at www.cisco.org.

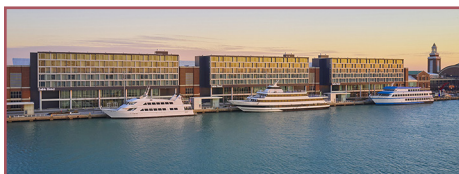
The three scholarship program categories are: **1) Four-year college scholarships for high school seniors; 2) Two-year awards for seniors planning on attending a community college; and 3) Two-year continuing education awards to union members or contractor employees.**

The deadline to submit the applications is Friday, February 18, 2022. Interested students may email the completed applications, or send in the mail. For more information, call CISCO at (630) 472-9411.

APPLICATION DEADLINE - DEC. 3RD FOR PROJECT OF THE YEAR RECOGNITION PROGRAM

The deadline for applications for CISCO's Project of the Year Award is 5:00 p.m. Friday, Dec. 3, 2021.

CISCO is currently accepting applications for some of the best construction projects of the past 18 months (May 2020 – Dec. 2021).



New Construction Chicago winner in 2020 - Navy Pier Hotel & Rooftop Venue.

The award gives general contractors, owners, engineers and architects a chance to submit projects in six different categories that include the areas of new construction, renovation/rehabilitation, residential construction and infrastructure.

The application form for the program can be found on CISCO's website/homepage at www.cisco.org. For more information, contact Gary Karafiat, Director of Communications & Public Affairs at 630.472.9411 or via email: gary@cisco.org.

CISCO ANNUAL MEETING SET FOR FEBRUARY 11, 2022

CISCO's Annual Meeting will return to its regular annual time-frame and be held on Friday, February 11, 2022. The event will also return to a familiar venue - Maggiano's Little Italy restaurant in Schaumburg, 1901 E. Woodfield Road. Invitations will be sent out in December, so members should watch their mailboxes, email boxes, social media and other outlets for the official notice.



Last year's Labor Advocate of the Year, State Rep. Marcus Evans Jr.

have made positive impact on the union construction industry. Those individual recognitions include Educator of the Year, Public Body of the Year and Labor Advocate of the Year.

The Board of Directors also chooses (in December) top construction projects in six different categories to round out the awards - The 2021 Projects of the Year.

These awards highlight top-quality projects built by union contractors across Northeastern Illinois.

Winners are selected based on the projects' design, quality of construction, safety record, and impact on the surrounding community. Stay tuned for event details in December.

In addition, the event will feature the presentation of CISCO's Pride in Construction Awards - now in its 17th year. The awards recognize three individuals who

CISCO PRESENTS TO UCA EMERGING LEADERS PROGRAM

CISCO's Executive Director Dan Allen provided members of the Underground Contractors Association's Emerging Leaders Program an overview of CISCO from the organization's creation in 1988 through all of CISCO's major programs and annual events.

The Emerging Leaders Program meeting was held at the Jardine Water Filtration Plant in Chicago. The event included other organizational presentations and a tour of the Plant.

The Program, now in its 4th year, and its sessions include site visits, training presentations, student presentations, networking, and a Springfield/D.C. lobbying trip.

ILEPI - 5TH ANNUAL FUNDRAISER



The Illinois Economic Policy Institute (ILEPI) will be holding its 5th Annual Fundraiser Monday, February 7, 2022 from 6:00 - 8:00 pm at the Banquet Hall located at 6240 Joliet Road in Countryside.

There are many sponsorship levels available to consider. **Contact ILEPI at (708) 375-1002 or info@illinoisepi.org**

In order to protect the health of all attending, ILEPI is asking that all attendees show proof of vaccination or a negative COVID test within the previous 72 hours. **For more information, go to www.illinoisepi.org/fundraiser**

