

**INCLUDES HEAVY CONSTRUCTION, PAVING AND EXCAVATING CONTRACTORS**

January 22, 2019

Greeting,

**Associated  
Contractor Members:**

Civil Contractors, Inc.

Curnyn Construction  
Co.

General Constructors,  
Inc.

Kraemer North  
America

Langman  
Construction

McCarthy  
Improvement  
Company

McCleary Excavating

Miller Trucking &  
Excavating

Phoenix Corporation  
of the Quad Cities,  
Inc.

Toppert Jetting  
Service

Treiber Construction

Tri City Blacktop, Inc.

Valley Construction  
Company


Walter D. Laud, Inc.

We, members of the Associated Contractors of the Quad Cities, appreciate the opportunity to express our support for the representatives to the Bi-State Regional Commission's Quad Cities, Iowa-Illinois Metropolitan Planning Area Transportation Policy Committee from the Davenport City Council to opt-out of the Iowa Department of Transportation's Federal-Aid Swap Program. Our organization, and the businesses for whom we represent, has serious concern that the consolidation of projects in Scott County to include federal requirements will negatively impact our businesses' ability to compete and be awarded work within your jurisdiction. We acknowledge our members' long-standing relationships with the City of Davenport and have appreciated the many occurrences when infrastructure dollars from the City have been awarded to our members after fair competition. However, whether via academic analysis or anecdotal experience many of our businesses have experienced already in Scott County, when projects are no longer subject to the federal Davis-Bacon Act, public infrastructure dollars are increasingly awarded to non-local businesses.

In addition to the loss of a living wage baseline for area construction workers, a host of other negative factors that impact the local business community occur when projects are "swapped." Some of our businesses are women-owned; federalized projects often include incentives to encourage the hiring of this sector of historically discriminated against businesses. Moreover, every member of our association funds and participates in US Department of Labor-approved apprenticeship programs, which is one of the key methods by which we ensure the Quad Cities has a quality workforce to grow our economy; de-federalizing projects removes the incentives put in place to encourage the private sector to fund these programs. Whether it be these reasons, or the loss of requirements to buy American (or Davenport, in many cases) made steel, protect our environment or others, we implore your delegation to the MPO to opt-out of the Iowa DOT's Federal-Aid Swap Program.

Our membership is made up of the highest caliber of construction contractors in the Quad Cities. Not only do we employ thousands of Quad Cities residents, providing good-paying wages and benefits to be spread throughout the community, we also, as individuals, are major contributors to area philanthropic, civic and social endeavors. We understand this decision must be considered from many perspectives, but we hope that you will conclude that participating in the swap program is not in the best interest of the Quad Cities.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Matthew J. DeCap  
President