



Approved by AGC Board of Directors – February 5, 2021

CORE POLICIES

BUSINESS AND TAX POLICIES

- Preserve SAIF and its reserve funds for the purpose of increasing worker safety and protecting injured workers' benefits
- Oppose gross receipts based taxes; when imposed, advocate for changes necessary to streamline compliance and advocate for equitable rates among different industries to mitigate increased construction costs to infrastructure and building projects
- Preserve small business reduced pass through entity tax rates for construction and Oregon's connection to the Federal Tax Code related to business taxes and deductions
 - Support pro-job-creating tax incentives
- Support a comprehensive approach to address the state's ongoing fiscal challenges to grow the economy, control costs, and provide new revenues for proven targeted education investments
- Preserve Oregon's nationally recognized workers' compensation system (as a result of the 1990 Mahonia Hall reforms) and limit changes to the workers' compensation system to those that benefit both workers and employers

PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENTS

- Preserve Highway Trust Fund and support adequate funding for new transportation capital improvements, including vehicle miles travelled and congestion pricing/tolling investments
 - Support infrastructure funding at the federal, state and local level (including water and sewer systems, education capital investments K-16)
- Advocate for a comprehensive transportation funding package to meet growing statewide maintenance, preservation and expansion needs, and mitigate congestion, and support multi-modal transportation investments
- Support the replacement of the Interstate Bridge and the appropriate bundling of project bids providing NW contractors the ability to compete

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT INVESTMENTS

- Advocate for full funding of High School Success (Ballot Measure 98), in particular expansion of Career Technical Education
- Support flexible and aspirational apprenticeship goals on large state-funded projects, in recognition of the limited existing apprenticeship programs in different geographic regions
 - Support comprehensive federal immigration reform featuring industry labor needs

COMPETITIVE PUBLIC WORKS CONTRACTING LAWS

- Support the use of CMGC, Design-Build, Public-Private Partnerships (P3) and other alternative contracting methods only when the public benefits have been verified and all contractors are able to compete on a level playing field
- Preserve marketplace competition and construct-by-contract principles and oppose government-mandated material and/or contractor preferences
 - Support aspirational diversity efforts focused on strengthening contractors' capacity to compete for work

Advocate for prevailing wage projects limited to true “public works” only

Oppose mandated project labor agreements

Oppose changes to Oregon’s prevailing wage system that inflate individual regions’ true and prevailing labor market wages

INDUSTRY SENSITIVE ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATIONS

Advocate an incentive-oriented approach that covers the full cost for emissions reduction equipment

Oppose California’s strict off-road emissions equipment rules

Oppose new environmental regulations that will impose a financial burden on the industry and/or the broader economy

Support investments and initiatives that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, only if they protect an already diminishing Highway Trust Fund’s ability to fund Oregon’s transportation infrastructure, and avoid imposing unfeasible procurement or labor mandates and costs

INDUSTRY STANDARDS AND PRACTICES

Licensure Standards: Preserve principle features of enhanced commercial licensure standards. Consider modifications aimed at reducing unnecessary costs for all contractors

Prompt Pay: Support strengthening existing laws to ensure prompt payment throughout chain of commerce- owner to General Contractor, to Specialty Contractor, to Supplier

Retention: Preserve retainage as industry practice to ensure accountability, predictability and stability throughout chain of commerce- owner to General, to Specialty Contractor, to Supplier

Preserve the Construction Contractors Board’s ability to effectively and efficiently serve our industry

Advocate for increased highway construction work zone safety measures that lead to reduced fatalities and serious injuries

EMPLOYEE-EMPLOYER RELATIONSHIP

Oppose unnecessary, “one-size-fits-all” government intrusions across business sectors

Oppose additional employer-paid mandates

Support a state preemption of local wage, hour and benefit mandates

Support stronger requirements to ensure payment of substantiated wage claims without shifts in an individual contractor’s wage liability

Oppose attempts to require accommodation of marijuana use in the construction workplace

Advocate for laws that maintain legitimate contractors’ use of true independent contractors

Oppose the imposition of new private rights of action into the employer/employee relationship