



For Immediate Release

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The Lower Manhattan Construction Command Center (LMCCC), Building Trades Employers Association (BTEA), and Borough of Manhattan Community College (BMCC) Launch a Construction Project Job Scheduler Training Program

(12/11/06 New York, NY) – Charles J. Maikish, Louis J. Coletti, and Antonio Pérez today launched a new Construction Project Job Scheduler Training Program intended to encourage minority, female, and veteran participation in the construction sector and rebuilding effort downtown. The program is aimed at preempting the shortage that the construction industry may face of skilled labor, management personnel, and entry-level employees, at a time when the pace of construction in New York City, particularly lower Manhattan, is increasing considerably.

Funded by a grant from the Lower Manhattan Construction Command Center’s Opportunity Downtown Program, this course will help men and women begin careers within the construction sector in an administration capacity, and prepare men and women who have worked in the sector to advance up their career ladder into an administrative capacity.

Charles Maikish, Executive Director of the Lower Manhattan Construction Command Center said, “Lower Manhattan is in the midst of an exciting period of rebirth and revitalization, and is about to experience what we expect will be one of the biggest construction booms in our city’s history. During the next four years, over 59 major construction projects in less than one square mile of Manhattan will generate many new jobs, and we want to make certain that these jobs are filled with skilled New Yorker’s, especially minorities, women, and veterans returning from war”.

“New York City is thriving and lower Manhattan is a large part of that economic success,” said Deputy Mayor for Education and Community Development Dennis Walcott. “To ensure that all New Yorkers have an opportunity to share in that success, this program will provide valuable training in construction and most importantly, access to jobs. Working alongside the Mayor’s Commission on Construction Opportunity, it will encourage minority, female and veteran participation in an industry that is growing in all five boroughs. As the City continues to grow, we want all New Yorkers to be able to benefit and participate in that economic success.”

Antonio Pérez, President of the Borough of Manhattan Community College said, “Opportunity Downtown enables BMCC to assist in providing the technical skills and economic opportunity to New Yorkers in downtown construction sites, especially minorities, women and veterans returning from war. We are a proud partner in this groundbreaking program”.

Louis J. Coletti, President and CEO of the Building Trades Employers' Association said, "The Building Trades Employers' Association is pleased to collaborate with the Borough of Manhattan Community College and the Lower Manhattan Construction Command Center in addressing the many workforce training needs of the New York City construction industry. I hope that this job scheduler training program represents the first of many training programs to be offered to our construction contractors in partnership with BMCCC and LMCCC".

Into the future, we project that the new Construction Project Job Scheduler training program will be conducted twice annually, with one session being held during the Spring term and a second held during the Fall. These first participants began their training on Monday, November 27, 2006, and their instruction will conclude on Wednesday, April 4, 2007

Topics to be covered during Program:

- Critical Path Method (CPM theory and applications will be the core of this program)
- Cost and Revenue Management (Budget Administration)
- Contracting and Legal Issues
- Blue Prints and Technical Specifications
- Technical Writing, Communications Skills and other “Soft” Skills
- Industry specified software (Primavera)

Recruitment for students to participate in the program involved the support and participation of many organizations across the city, including the BMCC Alumni Office, the BTEA Membership, Helmets to Hardhats, Non-traditional Employment for Women program (NEW), Legal Momentum, Consortium for Worker Education, Competitive Edge Committee, several State & City Agencies involved in rebuilding of Lower Manhattan, and a wide array of Community Based Organizations.

The Lower Manhattan Construction Command Center was established by Governor George E. Pataki and Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg via joint executive order on November 22, 2004 as a division of the Lower Manhattan Development Corporation and charging it with coordination and oversight of all Lower Manhattan construction projects south of Canal Street, river to river. The Command Center will take steps to minimize the impact of ongoing construction on residents, businesses, and workers in Lower Manhattan and will bring together private developers, public agencies, utilities, businesses, and residents in one location. In addition to its oversight and coordination responsibilities, the LMCCC and its director provide a forum for expeditious and consistent decision-making on disputes among agencies. The Executive Director reports directly to both the Governor and the Mayor

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