Construction Association Expresses Frustration with Infrastructure Project Shutdown

EDISON, NJ – Jack Kocsis, CEO of Associated Construction Contractors of New Jersey (ACCNJ), today expressed disappointment and frustration with the Governor's shutdown of state-funded infrastructure projects while the Legislature works to find a sustainable solution to re-establish the Transportation Trust Fund.

"The shutdown has caused major delay in repairing a transportation system that desperately needs restoration," said Kocsis. "But even more devastating is the economic injury. The shutdown dramatically increases costs for these infrastructure projects. Thousands of New Jersey craftworkers, who expected to make the bulk of their income during this construction season, are now out of work and collecting unemployment. Our contractor members, who always plan efficiently to get as much work as possible completed during the season, have been forced to idle valuable employees and reconfigure their budgets and schedules.

"We recognize both houses of the Legislature have agreed on a solution for the TTF," Kocsis continued. "But it is up to the Governor to lift the suspension of projects. Every day the shutdown is in effect, costs go up, a charge ultimately borne by the taxpayers of New Jersey, and one we will never recover."

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About ACCNJ

ACCNJ represents union general building contractors, construction managers, and heavy, highway, site development and utility contractors in New Jersey. Members are responsible for billions of dollars in commercial, industrial, heavy, highway, utility and institutional construction projects annually and employ tens of thousands of skilled union craftworkers statewide. The Association is committed to raising the standards of construction in New Jersey through quality, integrity, skill and responsibility.