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LABOR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE TO HOST 2009 CONSTRUCTION & DEVELOPMENT FORECAST

***Event to Feature U.S. Congressman Jerry Costello and Chief Economist
for The Associated General Contractors of America Ken Simonson***

Edwardsville, IL., December 24, 2008 ... The Labor Management Committee of the Leadership Council Southwestern Illinois today announced details for its **2009 Construction & Development Forecast** set for Friday, January 16, 2009 from 7:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. at the Gateway Center in Collinsville, Ill. The event will provide insight into the national and regional economy, while spotlighting the impact it is expected to have on varying sectors in our local communities. The cost is \$40 per person or \$300 for a table of eight. Individuals and organizations can register online at www.gatewaylabormanagement.org.

“Our region has \$6.2 billion under construction and \$9.4 billion in our development pipeline,” stated Marv Finkelstein, Executive Director of the Labor Management Committee. “This coupled with the fact that four of the largest construction projects in the metropolitan area are underway in our region, means that the expected long-term economic impact on our region could be tremendous. We encourage everyone interested in getting vital information about the future development of Southwestern Illinois to attend our event to learn more about this unprecedented level of development activity and what it means for our labor market, infrastructure, housing and more.”

The event will feature opening remarks by U.S. Congressman Jerry Costello; a keynote address by nationally-renowned speaker Ken Simonson, Chief Economist of The Associated General Contractors of America; and panel discussions by local experts including Mike Carrigan of the Illinois AFL-CIO, Bruce Holland of Holland Construction Services, Inc., Dale Stewart of the Southwestern Illinois Building & Construction Trades Council, Glyn Ramage of the Twelve Counties, Southwestern Illinois District Council of Laborers' International Union of North America, AFL-CIO and Tadas Kicielnski of Iron Workers International District Council of St. Louis & Vicinity, who will address topics relative to industry, infrastructure and commercial and residential development. Breakfast will be served.

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**2009 Construction & Development Forecast
First and Final Add**

To obtain a registration form or take advantage of sponsorship opportunities log-on to www.gatewaylabormanagement.org or call the Leadership Council office at 618-692-9745. The registration deadline is Monday, January 12, 2009.

The Labor Management Committee was formed in 1983 by the Leadership Council Southwestern Illinois and exists to represent business, labor, industry, education and government organizations that foster labor-management cooperation. The committee provides a forum for communication, as well as access to training and resources in order to promote a successful business climate and growth in Southwestern Illinois.

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