

Building & Construction Trades Council of Greater New York and Related Companies Announce Historic Accord

NEW YORK, March, 7, 2019 -- The Building and Construction Trades Council of Greater New York (BCTC), and Related Companies have announced an historic accord that was ratified at a BCTC Executive Board meeting held today. This progressive partnership is a new model of collaboration between the development community and skilled workforce and is a tangible step forward in restoring long-term, sustainable peace and stability between Related and the BCTC.

Gary LaBarbera, President of the BCTC, said: “Today is the start of a new era of collaboration between the development community and unionized construction industry. Together we have put aside our differences and come to an historic agreement that will benefit the city’s economy and our workforce with good, middle class construction jobs for years to come. Throughout a relationship that has spanned decades, Related has employed more of our tradesmen and women than any other private developer and together we proudly built Phase I of Hudson Yards. This new agreement is a win-win and the start of a renewed partnership to move the industry forward with joint commitments to modernization and competitive models. We welcome the opportunity to build more transformative projects and will work with Related and each member union to facilitate modern efficiencies, good wages and benefits, safe working conditions and an opportunity for individual and collective advancement.”

Bruce Beal, Jr., President of Related Companies said: “We are pleased to have reached an agreement with the BCTC. The agreement is a win-win and reflects our shared values and commitment to good paying jobs with great benefits, skills training, and expanded opportunities and diversity, and will continue the great tangible legacy of commitment, quality and craftsmanship evidenced at Hudson Yards. It also is an important step forward in modernizing the industry with creating greater transparency, and offers the potential for even more New Yorkers to join this great industry.”

Both Gary LaBarbera and Bruce Beal, Jr. expressed great appreciation to Mario Cilento, president of the New York State AFL-CIO, for his leadership in facilitating a dialogue among both parties.

The collaboration is borne out of a shared commitment to ten principles, which will be advanced through agreements with the trades:

- safety;
- training;
- professional culture;
- drug and alcohol free workplace;
- diversity;
- productivity/efficiency;
- pre-apprenticeship programs;
- labor-management/industry collaboration;
- economic competitiveness of each trade; and
- accountability of each trade.

In furtherance of this important collaboration; Related and the BCTC agreed not to participate in protests, demonstrations, adversarial campaigns, and all litigation by and between these parties will be withdrawn.