

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1303

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS
COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE

February 2, 2006

Dear City Council Member / Village Board Member,

I am writing to extend my support of a comprehensive *Responsible Bidder Ordinance* for all public works construction contracts issued by your municipality.

As you know, it is important to protect the well being of our local economies and worker force within them. A comprehensive Responsible Bidder Ordinance protects local economies through the employment of expertly trained, local tradesmen. Contractors who meet the responsible bidder standards ensure complete compliance with all laws required for doing business in Illinois and that their employees have access to training as defined by the United States Department of Labor Bureau of Apprenticeship Training for each of the trades of work contemplated under the awarded contract.

Additionally, better trained workers offer increased awareness of safety which largely decreases liability for the taxing body and ensures the highest quality product for the taxpayers.

This Responsible Bidder Ordinance will assure the hiring of contractors with a strong history of compliance with Illinois contracting laws and a commitment to training, safety, and sound labor relations. This Responsible Bidder Ordinance would provide our communities with high-quality options in hiring contractors.

I urge you to consider adopting a Responsible Bidder Ordinance for the increased benefit that it would bring to the taxpayers and the countless public works projects they fund within their communities.

Sincerely,



Daniel Lipinski
Member of Congress