# **SLC3 Construction Update**



December 2021

## The National Construction Market

- "Expected to rise 6%, following a 12% increase in 2021"
  - "Residential will continue to grow ending the year 14% higher than in 2020, with a more modest 3% bump in 2022
  - Multifamily starts are up 16% in 2021 with another 2% in 2022
  - Commercial starts dropped 20% in 2020, increased 15% in 2021, followed by an additional 12% jump in 2022
  - Retail gains 10% in 2021 with another 14% in 2022
  - Warehouses lead the way with a 36% increase in 2021 and 13% in 2022
  - Hotels plummeted 51% in 2020, declined another 18% in 2021 and are expected to recover by 24% in 2022
  - Industrial is up 5%
  - Education is flat
  - Healthcare is up 8%"

<sup>\*</sup>Reference Dodge: Overall Growth Will Continue, But at a Slower Place in 2022 as published in ENR by Alisa Zevin, November 3, 2021

#### **National Market Conditions**

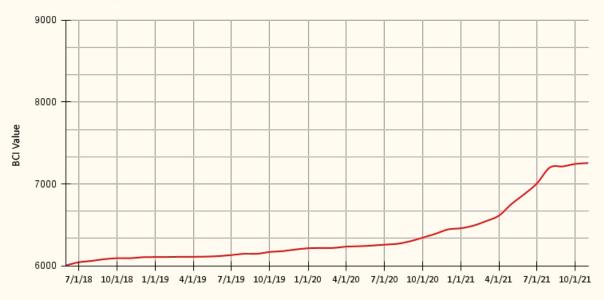
- All time highs on material costs
  - On average, materials are up 30% in last 12 Months
  - Certain materials are up as much as 400% (steel, sprinkler pipe)
- Supply chain volatility has created labor and schedule inefficiencies
- Transportation and freight costs are up 200%+
- Construction is in high demand after 2020 slowdown

<sup>\*</sup>References AGC of America, Dodge Data & Analytics, Engineering News Record, St. Louis Business Journal, FMI, Construction Forum and S. M. Wilson National Peer Group

# **National Market Conditions**

#### **Engineering News - Record**

Building Cost Index - 20 City Average



#### **National Market Predictions**

- The volatile market will remain through 2023
- Inflation escalation is expected to continue
- Prices are not expected to return to pre-2021 levels
- Construction demand is expected to increase

<sup>\*</sup>References AGC of America, Dodge Data & Analytics, Engineering News Record, St. Louis Business Journal, FMI, Construction Forum and S. M. Wilson National Peer Group

# Overcoming Current Challenges

- Continued Escalation
  - Speeding up submittal process to lock in material prices
  - Purchasing and storing materials in bonded warehouses
  - Sharing escalation risk with Owners via allowances until prices are locked in - funds not spent are moved to Owner's contingency
- Schedule Impact
  - Delaying starts to avoid schedule gaps
  - Resequencing to offset delays

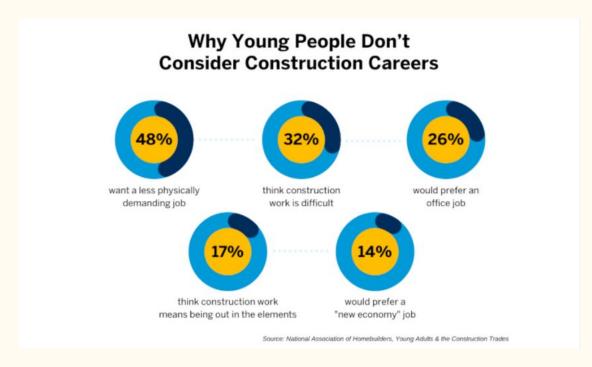
# Workforce

- "Construction's November unemployment rate rose to 4.7%, though, from October's 4.0%. But the industry's jobless rate fell sharply compared to the year-earlier level of 7.3%.
- Despite November's jobs increase, the industry's total workforce still remained 1.5% below its pre-pandemic peak of 7,648,000, recorded in February 2020."

\*Referenced ENR With Solid November Jobs Gain, Construction Workforce Nears Pre-Pandemic Level

## Workforce

Skilled Trades Shortage
"Four out of 10 U.S. construction
workers are expected to retire by
2031," ENR, June, 4, 2021



## **Workforce Retention**

- Skyrocketing Wages
- Talent Poaching
- Employee Retention is Key
  - Engagement
  - Value
  - Recognition
  - Culture of Care
  - DEI

# Messages to Owners and AECs

- The industry is on the rise
- Historical data prior to 2020 lacks accuracy
  - Bond referendum values, developer proformas, and fundraising goals
  - Using SF costs as a model
  - Schedules
- Owners, AECs and subcontractors need to partner and participate together in finding creative solutions
- Workforce recruitment is needed
- Employee value and retention is key

