Just days after the Laborers’ International Union of North America [LIUNA] formally endorsed Hillary Clinton as our candidate for U.S. President in 2016, General President Terry O’Sullivan and General Secretary-Treasurer and New England Regional Manager Armand E. Sabitoni traveled to Boston, Massachusetts to kick-off a rally for Hardhats for Hillary, a coalition to organize the millions of working families who have members in the construction and building trades. The event was hosted by Boston Mayor Martin J. Walsh, a member of LIUNA Local 223 and former President of the Boston Building Trades.

A crowd of more than 1,000 tradesmen and women, along with other supporters packed historic Faneuil Hall, while many more watched the event on television screens outside the venue.

General President O’Sullivan gave a rousing speech recognizing Mayor Walsh for his commitment to working people and reiterating LIUNA’s endorsement of Secretary Clinton for President of the United States, “The strong, proud and united members of LIUNA will be on the frontlines of the 2016 elections; on the streets, knocking on doors, making calls and encouraging family, friends, and neighbors to elect Hillary Clinton.”

In addition to General President O’Sullivan, several other International Union Presidents were there to lend their support: Ken Ringmaiden, General President, International Union of Painters and Allied Trades; Eric Dean, General President, International Association of Bridge, Structural, Ornamental and Reinforcing Iron Workers; Douglas McCarron, President of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America and Sean McGarvey, President of North America’s Building Trades Unions.

Walking into the historic meeting place accompanied by General President O’Sullivan, General Secretary Sabitoni turned to wave to the cheering crowd, “It is a great feeling to look out into a ‘Sea of Orange’. There is nothing better than to see my New England Region LIUNA brothers and sisters, wearing the orange, coming out in force to support Hillary Clinton and a working families agenda for 2016.”

Mayor Walsh, escorted Hillary Clinton to the podium and gave his full endorsement, “It’s time we stopped talking about having a woman for President. It’s time we make it a reality! Where are my fellow tradeswomen and tradesmen? Get your sledgehammers ready, because we have a glass ceiling to demolish!”

The focus of the rally was Clinton’s plan to structure her economic development plan on assisting working families. Noting that trickle down economics has not worked, she offered the first phase of her plan to re-build the nation by investing in the modernization of our nation’s infrastructure. LIUNA is in full agreement, believing this investment is prudent, not only because the state of our overall infrastructure is in dire need of an upgrade, but also because an improved infrastructure would create millions of family supporting jobs.