

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Nareit Hawaii Donates \$20,000 in Face Masks to Operating Engineers, Local 3, to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19

HONOLULU – Aug. 10, 2020 – Nareit Hawaii is helping the 3,500 members of Operating Engineers, Local 3, to stay healthy and avoid COVID-19 by donating \$20,000 worth of face masks to be used on the job and in the community. **(Link to photos: <https://imgur.com/a/IEAHxMh>)**

Members of Operating Engineers, Local 3, work on large-scale public and private projects statewide using heavy construction equipment, which includes bulldozers, excavators, road pavers, cranes, and semi-tractor-trailer trucks.

Gladys Quinto Marrone, executive director for Nareit Hawaii, noted construction is recognized as an essential industry for Hawaii and has continued to do well this year while government and business leaders cope with the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the state's economy.

Marrone said, "We are very proud of this partnership with our local Operating Engineers union. It's vital that we help keep their members safe so that construction can continue to thrive in Hawaii. Wearing a face mask is an effective way to prevent the spread of COVID-19."

Ana Tuiasosopo, District Representative, Hawaii, Operating Engineers, Local 3, said the union's members are always focused on safety, including social distancing, on any project. The face masks from Nareit Hawaii provide an added layer of protection that makes members feel safer and more confident while performing their difficult jobs.

Tuiasosopo commented, "Our union is very grateful to Nareit Hawaii for its continued support of Hawaii's construction industry. Their generous contribution to purchase \$20,000 worth of face masks for our members will help protect them from COVID-19 while on the job and unintentionally spreading it within our community. Keeping our members safe and being able to work without worry is what's most important to our union. The thoughtfulness of Nareit Hawaii's concern for the health and welfare of our members during these trying times is appreciated by all of us."

REITs are big supporters of Hawaii's construction industry and have been the drivers behind a host of major projects that have kept construction unions busy, even during economic downturns. Examples of these projects include the redevelopments of Ala Moana Center and Pearlridge Center, and construction of the Hale Mahana college student housing, Hale Pwaa medical clinic building, and Moanalua Hillsides affordable housing.

Nareit Hawaii is the local office of Nareit, the worldwide representative voice for real estate investment trusts (REITs) and publicly traded real estate companies with an interest in U.S. real estate and capital markets. Nareit Hawaii represents the interests of REITs in Hawaii and their participation in civic, community, and policy initiatives to benefit residents statewide, while also supporting community and charitable organizations that address social issues of importance.

For more information about Nareit Hawaii and REITs in Hawaii, please visit www.nareithawaii.com.

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