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Sheila de la Guerra

Public Comment

From: Bill Baker <Bill@ibew413.org>
Sent: Monday, March 9, 2026 3:03 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Comment to the Board Item D6
Attachments: SB County CWA.pdf



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See attached comment on item D-6 for March 10, 2026 Board meeting.

Thanks,

Bill Baker
Business Manager/Financial Secretary
IBEW Local 413
Email: bill@ibew413.org
Office: (805) 688-8083
Cell: (805)331-6026

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union No. 413

100 THOMAS RD.
BUELLTON, CA 93427



PHONE: 805/688-8083
FAX: 805/688-7144

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
105 East Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

March 9, 2026

Subject: Support for the Community Workforce Agreement (CWA)

Dear Supervisors,

I am writing to express my strong support for the Community Workforce Agreement (CWA) and the positive impact it has had within Santa Barbara County. CWA's have proven to be an effective tool for strengthening our local workforce while ensuring that public construction projects are completed efficiently, safely, and responsibly.

One of the most significant benefits of the CWA is the creation of apprenticeship opportunities for local residents. By prioritizing workforce development and training, CWA's help open doors for individuals in our community to enter the skilled trades. Apprenticeship programs provide a pathway to stable, well paying careers while addressing the growing demand for skilled tradespeople needed to build and maintain our county's infrastructure.

These agreements also ensure that local workers receive high quality training through established apprenticeship programs that emphasize safety, craftsmanship, and accountability. As a result, projects benefit from a highly trained workforce capable of delivering quality work while maintaining strong safety standards on the jobsite.

In addition, CWA's have consistently demonstrated their ability to keep projects on schedule and within budget. By establishing clear work standards, coordinating multiple trades effectively, and preventing costly delays or labor disruptions, CWA's create stability and predictability for public construction projects. Numerous studies and completed projects across the state have shown that these agreements can help control costs while delivering high quality results for taxpayers.

Santa Barbara County continues to grow, and the need for skilled workers in the construction trades will only increase. The CWA helps ensure that local residents have access to training and career opportunities while providing the county with the reliable, professional workforce necessary to successfully complete important public works projects.

For these reasons, I encourage the Board of Supervisors to continue supporting the Community Workforce Agreement and the opportunities it provides for local workers, apprentices, and the broader community.

Thank you for your time and your continued commitment to the residents of Santa Barbara County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill Baker". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "B".

Bill Baker
Business Manager
IBEW Local 413