

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers
Local Union No. 413

#3

100 THOMAS RD.
BUELLTON, CA 93427



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

April 8, 2019

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
Clerk of the Board
105 E. Anapamu Street, Room 407
Santa Barbara, California 93101

Dear Chairman, Lavagnino and Members of the Board,

My name is Chuck Huddleston Business Manager/Financial Secretary for I.B.E.W. Local Union 413 for Santa Barbara County. I'm writing this letter in support of the Community Workforce Ordinance for the County of Santa Barbara. Community Workforce agreements have proven to be very successful in many areas throughout California.

Please find five recent letters of support from elected officials in Southern California, who have actually experienced the community benefits of project labor agreements for the construction of their facilities:

- Mayor André Quintero, City of El Monte
- Al Austin II, City of Long Beach
- Dr. Irella Perez, Whittier School District Board of Trustee Vice President
- Steven F. Veres, 2nd V.P. Board of the Los Angeles Community College District
- Kelly Candaele, former Trustee and President of the Board of Los Angeles Community College District.

Sincerely

Chuck Huddleston,
BMFS IBEW LU 413

Email: chuck@ibew413.org

Phone: (805) 688-8083



11333 Valley Boulevard
El Monte, CA 91731
(626) 580 - 2001
aquintero@elmonteca.gov
elmonteca.gov

November 30, 2018

To Whom it may Concern:

I have been fortunate to work with the Building Trades on two PLA's. First at Rio Hondo College where I served on the Board of Trustees. Secondly, in the City of El Monte where my current position as the Mayor has given me a direct perspective on the impact of a PLA.

When both PLA's were proposed, opponents claimed that costs would escalate and the number of bidders would be greatly diminished. I have found both of those claims to be untrue. My experience has been that the use of PLA's has been beneficial including bringing projects in on time and on budget. Another benefit is that we have created many jobs on these projects for local residents.

PLA's are a tool that helps us build buildings and the communities that they are in. That is why I am writing you to support the PLA that is being proposed. Should you have any questions, please call me at (626) 536-7371. Thank you for your consideration.

Mayor André Quintero

City of El Monte



AL AUSTIN II
COUNCILMEMBER, EIGHTH DISTRICT
CITY OF LONG BEACH

CITY HALL: (562) 570-6685
DISTRICT OFFICE: 570-1326

November 26, 2018

To Whom It May Concern:

My position as a City Councilmember in the City of Long Beach has given me a firsthand knowledge of Project Labor Agreements for my residents. We have a citywide policy in place in our various departments and standalone policies at our Harbor Department and Airport. One of the reasons we sought PLA's for our community has been to link our workforce investment policies with real world work opportunities.

By having this PLA policy in place, the apprenticeship programs of the Building Trades have hired Long Beach residents to work on projects in their own community. Our local contractors are also participating in the PLA in great numbers as well. I found our positive experience with our PLA to be in direct contrast to the messaging of people opposed to the policy. The claim that the policy will limit bidders or drive up costs has not been our experience.

The PLA we had in place has been beneficial during the current construction boom. Our access to highly trained workers is important, especially when projects must be completed on time or when skilled construction labor is in short supply. This is especially true of journey level positions. As these positions are filled, there are entry level opportunities for good paying careers in the trades.

I highly recommend you consider a PLA policy at your agency. If I may provide any additional information, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

AL AUSTIN II
Councilmember, Eighth District

City Hall: 333 West Ocean Boulevard, 14th Floor, Long Beach, CA 90802
District Office: 4321 Atlantic Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90807
district8@longbeach.gov



Whittier City School District

Students First. Every Decision – Every Day.

Office of the Superintendent

7211 S. Whittier Avenue • Whittier, CA 90602-1189 • Main: 562-789-3075 • Fax: 562-698-6534 • www.whittiercity.k12.ca.us

December 3, 2018

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Vice President

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Member

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Maria Martinez-Poulin, Ed.D.

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Dr. Irella Perez I am a Board Member in the Whittier City School District. At my school district we are always striving to do more with the limited resources that we have. That is why having a PLA on our organization's construction projects is so important. One of the greatest benefits from working with the Building Trades is that the PLA has put a number of local parents to work in the district. Many of our parents that work in construction must drive long distances to get to work and some of them go through periods of underemployment. But having a PLA with local hire goals we can solve those issues and make the homes of our children a better place to live and learn.

Because resources are limited we must make every penny count. When we heard the PLA opponents claim that projects would be 30% over budget and we would not be able to get responsible bidders we found this information to be troubling. But after several years of working under the PLA this simply has not been the case. Our building program has been a success and a large part of that has been that the PLA has delivered great quality work, good contractors, on time on budget projects and a local workforce just as advertised. In conclusion, I would recommend that you use a PLA as a project management tool on your construction program.

Working under a PLA will also elevate the quality of work. Our projects are done well and on time. I am very proud of all the work that we have accomplished and the products that we are offering to our students and community. I highly recommend that you give it serious consideration and decide to move forward with your PLA. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me via e mail or my personal cell phone.

Believe In The Power Of Education!

Sincerely,

Dr. Irella Perez
Whittier City School District
Board of Trustee, Vice President
(562) 556-8268 Cell/text
drirellaperez@yahoo.com

OUR MISSION

WHITTIER CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

The mission of the WCSD is to partner with students, parents, and the community to ensure learning so every student reaches his/her optimum potential and has a positive impact on a global society.



LOS ANGELES COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

CITY • EAST • HARBOR • MISSION • PIERCE • SOUTHWEST • TRADE-TECH • VALLEY • WEST

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

STEVEN F. VERES

Second Vice President of the Board

December 2018

Subject: Project Labor Agreements

Dear Sir or Madam:

As you consider and evaluate the benefits of a Project Labor Agreement (PLA), I wanted to share my experiences as a Councilmember with the City of San Fernando and a Trustee with the Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD) with the Building Trades and Project Labor Agreements.

The City of San Fernando is a small general law City with a population of 25,000 people. It has a water division and typical public works projects that it engages in. We developed and approved a Project Labor Agreement for all of our public works projects. In our agreement, the City desired a structured local hire component and an overarching conflict resolution mechanism. Both were implemented and highly successful for the city.

The working relationship with Building Trades and PLA's continue here at LACCD. LACCD is the largest community college district in the nation and currently manages the most extensive facility modernization effort in the State of California. We have successfully built 662 projects under a PLA. The value of our four separate bonds is over 10 billion dollars. As a trustee, I take my obligation to bring the best value and return on investment to my constituents very seriously. Having a PLA in place has greatly enhanced our ability to bring projects in on time and budget. The pool of contractors we partner with on our projects is excellent. Finally, the number of people that have worked on our projects from the local community has been a great added benefit of partnering with the trades and their respective apprenticeship programs. Since starting the Build LACCD program, our campuses have been significantly improved and would not have been as successful without our partnership with the Building Trades.

I would highly recommend your agency adopting a PLA Policy as a tool to make your building program bring as much value as possible to you and your constituents.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steven Veres".

Steven F. Veres
Board of Trustees

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

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STUDENT MEMBER

KELLIE N. WILLIAMS

November 29, 2019

Members of the Santa Barbara City Council
City Hall
735 Anacapa Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Honorable Members:

My name is Kelly Candaele and I was raised in Lompoc, a place that I still refer to as the *Valley of the Flowers*. My mother was a professional baseball player in the 1940s and my father was an electrician who worked on projects throughout Santa Barbara County.

After I graduated from college, which included graduate studies at the University of California, Santa Barbara, I moved to Los Angeles and began a career as an educator and elected official. I served four terms – sixteen years – on the Board of Trustees of the Los Angeles Community College District.

Like yourselves, I came into office with firm values and ideas. My primary goal was to improve the educational opportunities and life prospects for our 100,000 students and to improve the communities that surrounded our colleges.

One of the accomplishments I am most proud of was the rebuilding of what were run down and neglected campuses, the product of years of neglect. Our board initiated and passed – by a vote of the citizens – \$6 billion in construction bonds to rebuild every one of our nine campuses. If you visit any of those campuses today you will see new science and math buildings, nursing facilities, workforce centers and countless other places of learning that are now the jewel of our state community college system.

Before we passed our bonds, we made the decision to enter into a partnership with our building trades in Los Angeles to construct our buildings under the auspices of a Project Labor Agreement (PLA). The vote of our board was unanimous and we made this decision for a number of strategic reasons.

We wanted to make sure that the work was done with highly trained and productive craftspeople that brought to their work a pride in their work and a dedication to safety. The workers on our projects were either apprentices or journeymen and journeywomen who had come out of the most sophisticated training programs in our county.

We wanted to make sure that there would be no work stoppages during the decade of work that would take place during construction. And we were concerned that we secured a diverse workforce that represented the makeup of our increasingly diverse communities.

And most importantly, we developed a robust program of local hire with the building trades to make sure that young men and women – some of whom came right out of our own colleges – had opportunities to work on these projects and build a career. I focus on this word “career” because the trades provided long-term work at livable wages and benefits where a family could be taken care of. These were sustainable careers and are not merely “jobs.”

Our decision to enter into this PLA was one of the best decisions we made as a board. Hundreds of young men and women now have life sustaining work and have been able to buy homes, raise families and send their own children to college.

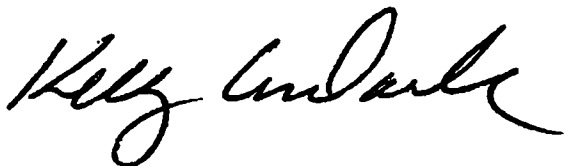
I encourage you to enter into a PLA with the local trades in Santa Barbara. But I would encourage you to do as we did – make this decision a true partnership and not merely a “deal.” Make demands upon the trades that are beneficial to the city and you will find a willing and enthusiastic partner.

I believe that your facilities will be built to the highest standards, the work will be done with the highest standards of safety, and the good union wages that are paid will benefit the local economy and local businesses.

As a former elected official, I know how much serious thought you give to your deliberations and your decisions. You are upholders of the public trust and of taxpayer’s money.

Santa Barbara is a beautiful city and I believe that through a well-structured PLA, you will be serving the best interests of the residents, the voters and the taxpayers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kelly Candaele". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "K" and a long, sweeping underline.

**Kelly Candaele
Former Trustee and President of the Board
Los Angeles Community College District**