

**FW: 12/14/21 #3.7**

City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

Mon 12/13/2021 3:30 PM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

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**From:** Douglas Niko [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 13, 2021 12:09 PM  
**To:** City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>  
**Subject:** 12/14/21 #3.7

[REDACTED]

[External Email]

Dear Mayor Liccardo and Members of the San Jose City Council,

My name is Douglas Niko. I have been an ABC NorCal Electrical Apprentice for 3 years. I was giving the opportunity to join the program through my employer which they sponsored me into the program. ABC has helped me grow mentally and physically. I'm definitely grateful for this opportunity. ABC NorCal has been taking care of me for the past 3 years. Not too many chances are given. I live in San Jose my whole life. I came from nothing. I know the struggle. I work for Helix Electric. We have jobs here in San Jose. One of our busiest cities here in the bay area. If San Jose's Project Labor Agreement threshold is lowered from \$3,000,000 to \$1,000,000, I will not be able to work on a substantial amount of projects in the City. [IF YOU'RE AN APPRENTICE ADD "THE JOINT LANGUAGE EXCLUDES MERIT SHOP APPRENTICES SUCH AS MYSELF"] I will have a much longer commute having to work outside of my community and will have to spend more time in the car away from my family and their activities. Please, reject this misguided proposal.

Thank you , Douglas Niko

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# SILICON VALLEY CENTRAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

December 13, 2021

Mayor Liccardo  
City of San Jose  
200 E. Santa Clara St.  
San Jose, CA 95113

Re: Reject Agenda Item 3.7 21-2574 Project Labor Agreement Amendments

Dear Mayor Liccardo and Council:

On behalf of the Silicon Valley Central Chamber of Commerce (SVC Chamber) where workforce development is our number one priority, we strongly urge you to reject Agenda Item 3.7 that seeks to reduce the threshold of the current PLA policy and limit the use of state and federally approved apprentices. While we applaud the goal of the City to employ local, economically disadvantaged, pre-apprentice & entry-level hires, veterans, and women-owned businesses, we do not applaud the proposed policy that will do just the opposite and further deny the majority of diverse workers who live in the City the opportunity to earn prevailing wages by not being welcome to work on City projects.

Take one such recent example of a recent PLA project – the **Outfall Channel and Instrumentation Improvements Project at the San Jose-Santa Clara Regional Wastewater Facility**. Procurement staff sent bid invitations to 9,138 vendors, and documents were downloaded by 40 vendors, approximately nine of which were located within Santa Clara County and therefore local. The result? The contract was awarded to a contractor with zero percent of the listed subcontractors with a local business presence.

A second example is the **Pellier Park Project** that was bid without a PLA as it was under the \$3M threshold. QLM, Inc. from San Jose was the lowest responsive bidder with the bid coming in at twenty-one (21) percent under the Engineer's Estimate. An unrestricted, competitive bidding process levels the playing field. Taxpayer funds are used efficiently, and money is invested into the community.

All skilled and trained working construction professionals who build commercial, industrial, and affordable housing projects and who are enrolled in state & federally approved apprenticeship programs that connect students, women, those in underserved communities, reentering citizens, and veterans, among many others with rewarding careers in construction, should have the opportunity to work on City of San Jose projects.

In summary, lowering the threshold will discourage subcontractors and small emerging businesses who build quality projects from bidding. Furthermore, we should not limit opportunities for essential local skilled, trained journey workers and apprentices of diverse backgrounds to miss out on work in their backyard thereby being denied the opportunity to work to gain the invaluable on-the-job training experience that provides stability for them, their family, and their community.

Thank you for your consideration to reject the language before you today that will, as a result, increase barriers for hardworking San Jose taxpayers and residents. Please contact me at [President.CEO@SVCentralChamber.com](mailto:President.CEO@SVCentralChamber.com) with any questions.

Respectfully,



Christian D. Malesic, MBA, CAE, CMP, IOM  
President / CEO

Cc: Charles "Chappie" Jones, Vice Mayor  
Sergio Jimenez, Councilmember District 2  
Raul Peralez, Councilmember District 3  
David Cohen, Councilmember District 4  
Magdalena Carrasco, Councilmember District 5  
Devora Devora "Dev" Davis, Councilmember District 6  
Maya Esparza, Councilmember District 7  
Sylvia Arenas, Councilmember District 8  
Pam Foley, Councilmember District 9  
Matt Mahan, Councilmember District 10  
Matt Cano, Public Works Director

### Agenda Item 3.7 Reject Project Labor Agreement Amendments

David Karrick [Redacted]

Tue 12/14/2021 6:36 AM

To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

[Internal Email]

[Internal Email]

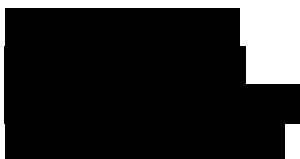
Mayor Liccardo and San Jose City Council:

My name is David Karrick. I am the Chief Operating Officer for Aegi Fire System, Inc. We have been performing fire protection work for and in the City of San Jose for 25+ years and employ a diverse workforce who will be impacted by the lowering of the threshold that will further exclude skilled and trained construction professionals and state and federally approved apprentices from working in their city. I have many employees that live in San Jose. All workers and apprentices want to build in their own community when possible. What you should be doing is raising the threshold to maximize opportunities for all qualified construction professionals. The Pellier Park Project was bid without a PLA as it was under the \$3M threshold. QLM, Inc. from San Jose was the lowest responsive bidder whose bid came in twenty-one (21) percent under the Engineer's Estimate which is a tremendous value for the dollars being spent. An unrestricted, competitive bidding process levels the playing field. Taxpayer funds are used efficiently and money is invested into the community. Please reject Agenda Item 3.7 that will result in increased barrier for hardworking San Jose taxpayers and residents. Please reject Agenda Item 3.7 to insure that tax dollars spent in San Jose get the most possible for the residents.

Thank you for your consideration.

**David Karrick**

Chief Operating Officer



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December 13, 2021

Mayor Liccardo  
City of San Jose  
200 E. Santa Clara St.  
San Jose, CA 95113

Re: Reject Agenda Item [3.7 21-2574](#) Project Labor Agreement Amendments

Dear Mayor Liccardo:

On behalf of the Silicon Valley Biz PAC, we strongly urge you to reject Agenda Item 3.7 that seeks to reduce the threshold of the current PLA policy and limit the use of state and federally approved apprentices.

All skilled and trained working construction professionals who build commercial, industrial and affordable housing projects and who are enrolled in state and federally approved apprenticeship programs that connect students, women, those in underserved communities, reentering citizens, and veterans, among many others with rewarding careers in construction should have the opportunity to work on City of San Jose projects.

While we applaud the goal of the City to employ local, economically disadvantaged, pre-apprentice and entry-level hires, veterans and women-owned businesses, we do not applaud the proposed policy that will do just the opposite and further deny the majority of diverse workers who live in the City the opportunity to earn prevailing wages by not being welcome to work on City projects. So the question for the City Council is, by lowering the threshold, is the goal to reduce the competitiveness on construction projects or to limit the work to union workers who make up 13% of the construction workforce.

Take one such recent example of a recent PLA project – the **Outfall Channel and Instrumentation Improvements Project at the San Jose-Santa Clara Regional Wastewater Facility**. Procurement staff sent bid invitations to 9,138 vendors, and documents were downloaded by 40 vendors, approximately nine of which were located within Santa Clara County and therefore local. The result? The contract was awarded to a contractor with zero percent of the listed subcontractors with a local business presence.

A second example is the Pellier Park Project that was bid without a PLA as it was under the \$3M threshold. QLM, Inc. from San Jose was the lowest responsive bidder with the bid coming in at twenty-one (21) percent under the Engineer's Estimate. An unrestricted, competitive bidding process levels the playing field. Taxpayer funds are used efficiently and money is invested into the community.

In summary, lowering the threshold will discourage subcontractors and small emerging businesses who build quality projects from bidding. Furthermore, we should not limit opportunities for essential local skilled and trained journey workers and apprentices of diverse backgrounds to miss out on work in their backyard and be denied the opportunity to work and gain the invaluable on-the-job training experience that provides stability for them, their family and their community.

Thank you for your consideration to reject the language before you today that will as a result, increase barriers for hardworking San Jose taxpayers and residents.

Sincerely,

Silicon Valley Biz PAC Board of Directors

Cc:

*Charles "Chappie" Jones, Vice Mayor*  
*Sergio Jimenez, Councilmember District 2*  
*Raul Peralez, Councilmember District 3*  
*David Cohen, Councilmember District 4*  
*Magdalena Carrasco, Councilmember District 5*  
*Devora Devora "Dev" Davis, Councilmember District 6*  
*Maya Esparza, Councilmember District 7*  
*Sylvia Arenas, Councilmember District 8*  
*Pam Foley, Councilmember District 9*  
*Matt Mahan, Councilmember District 10*  
*Matt Cano, Public Works Director*



### Agenda Item 3.7 Reject Project Labor Agreement Amendments

Petra Calderon [REDACTED]

Tue 12/14/2021 3:48 PM

To: City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>

[External Email]

[External Email]

Mayor Liccardo and San Jose City Council:

Re: Agenda Item 3.7 - Reject Project Labor Agreement Amendments

My name is Rod Rodriguez. I am the president of a painting and waterproofing company. We have been doing work for the City of San Jose for 20 years and employ a diverse workforce who will be impacted by the lowering of the threshold that will further exclude skilled and trained construction professionals and state and federally approved apprentices from working in their city. All workers and apprentices want to build in their community. What you should be doing is raising the threshold to maximize opportunities for all qualified construction professionals. The Pellier Park Project was bid without a PLA as it was under the \$3M threshold. QLM, Inc. from San Jose was the lowest responsive bidder whose bid came in twenty-one (21) percent under the Engineer's Estimate. An unrestricted, competitive bidding process level the playing field. Taxpayer funds are used efficiently and money is invested into the community. Please reject Agenda Item 3.7 that will result in increased barriers for hardworking San Jose taxpayers and residents.

Thank you for your consideration.

Rod Rodriguez

President

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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# Fw: Request Rejection the Lowering of Threshold for Project Labor Agreements

Gregory, Barbara <Barbara.Gregory@sanjoseca.gov>

Fri 12/17/2021 7:04 AM

To: Agendadesk <Agendadesk@sanjoseca.gov>

Thank You

*Barb Gregory*



**Analyst II**

**Office of the City Clerk**

**200 E Santa Clara St FL T 14**

**San Jose, C A 95112**

**408 535 1272 Fax: 408 292 6207**

**e mail: barbara.gregory@sanjoseca.gov**

**How is our service? [Please take our short survey.](#)**

**From:** Danh Lai [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Tuesday, December 14, 2021 9:52 AM

**To:** City Clerk <city.clerk@sanjoseca.gov>; CouncilMeeting <CouncilMeeting@sanjoseca.gov>

**Subject:** Request Rejection the Lowering of Threshold for Project Labor Agreements

[REDACTED]

[External Email]

Dear Mayor Liccardo and San Jose City Council:

Re Agenda Item 3 7 Reject Project Labor Agreement Amendment

My name is Danh Lai. I am the President for Elecco, a minority owned SBE Electrical Contractor company operating in Santa Clara County. We have been doing work for the City of San Jose for more than 5 years and employ a diverse workforce who will be impacted by the lowering of the threshold that will further exclude killed and trained construction professional and state and federally approved apprentice from working in their city. All worker and apprentice want to build in their community

What you should be doing is raising the threshold to maximize opportunities for all qualified construction professionals. The Pellier Park Project was bid without a PLA as it was under the \$3M threshold. QLM, Inc. from San Jose was the lowest responsive bidder whose bid came in twenty-one (21) percent under the Engineer's Estimate. An unrestricted, competitive bidding process levels the playing field. Taxpayer funds are used efficiently and money is invested into the community

Please reject Agenda Item 3.7 that will result in increased barriers for hardworking San Jose taxpayers and residents.

Thank you for your consideration

Danh Lai  
President



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