



Teamsters Local Union No. 396

Package and General Utility Drivers

Affiliated with the

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS

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May 17, 2018

To: Hon. Sheila Kuehl, Chair, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors
Hon. Janice Hahn, Chair Pro Tem, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors
Hon. Hilda L. Solis, Supervisor, First District, Los Angeles County
Hon. Mark Ridley-Thomas, Supervisor, Second District, Los Angeles County
Hon. Kathryn Barger, Supervisor, Fifth District, Los Angeles County
Mark Pestrella, Director of Public Works, Los Angeles County

RE: **Safe, Clean Water Program**

Dear Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and Director Pestrella,

I write in support of the County's efforts to build a strong water future for LA County residents, and in support of a Safe, Clean Water Program that creates good quality jobs building and maintaining projects that improve water quality and supply. Because this measure would be funded by taxpayers, the County must protect taxpayers' investment with high standards for workers and accountability on how the public's money is spent.

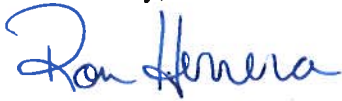
Teamsters Local 396 represents nearly 11,000 members throughout Southern California. We are a Labor union that works hard for protections and benefits for our members, including protecting their quality of life and community health. Our members live in neighborhoods and work in industries that, too often, expose them to pollution and dangerous conditions. We have been at the forefront of blue/green alliances with environmental advocates, fighting to ensure that job quality and environmental protection go hand in hand. Our members need access to safe and clean water that is reliable and affordable, and investments in local projects that also provide benefits like shade and open space.

We support our brothers and sisters who have the expertise and skills to build and maintain these projects, and to be able to support their families while doing so. Within our Teamster family, Locals work across the County in industries that can help tackle this issue, from Local 986's expertise in transporting rock, sand and gravel, to Local 911's commitment to public sector workers throughout the County.

To have the strongest possible program, the County must take steps for strong worker and project standards. In recent years, the County has a track record of protecting workers and lifting up the local economy, and the County's contracting requirements should apply to any funds from this measure. A Community Workforce Agreement should be in place for any project over \$2.5 million that receives funding from this measure, and the County should support the workforce development programs needed to train a new workforce for these jobs. The public sector has the experience and commitment to properly maintain and operate complicated stormwater projects spread across the County, which won't be possible if that work is contracted out to the lowest bidder.

We want our members to have the best possible quality of life – both at work and at home with their families. A healthy workplace and a healthy environment is a huge part of that quality of life. We look forward to supporting the Safe, Clean Water Program and working with the County if these key provisions are included.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ron Herrera". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "R".

Secretary-Treasurer
Teamsters Local Union No. 396