

**Santa Clara Valley Water District
Capital Improvement Program Committee Meeting
Information on Project Labor Agreements**

April 17, 2019

SPEAKER NOTES

David Bini, SC/SB Counties Building and Construction Trades Council

(Track 29, 03:50 – Track 30, 04:05)

- Every district within Santa Clara County that has entered into a PLA agreement has been satisfied with the results, and has extended or renewed PLAs for subsequent terms
- The Building and Trades Council represents up to 75% of each of the individual construction industry crafts, locally
- Contractors with work forces up to 2,500 are not impacted by PLA's as alleged by Mr. Christen; as even on the largest jobs, rarely are more than 100 workers assigned, and at that it is only for a temporary portion of peak construction
- The SC/SB Counties Building and Construction Trades Council, and the Associated Builders and Contractors Northern California Chapter train 30,000 and 500 respectively
- Minorities are more highly represented in union construction trades
- PLA's deliver labor harmony

Cherie Cabral, SC/SB Counties Building and Construction Trades Council

(Track 30, 04:15 – Track 33, 00:27)

- Use of PLA's across the state has increased by 500% since 2008, have been in use since the 1930's, and were used for Hoover and Coulee Dams
- PLA's ensure tax payer dollars are spent locally
- The City of Selma Police Station Project came in over budget because the original engineers estimate did not include critical components such as security cameras and a fenced area for patrol car parking and officer access to the facility
- Patterns of bids being over engineer estimates are resulting from estimates being established 5-6 years before projects bid, and the state of the economy at that time
- As of 2019, reports show that there are 850,000 construction workers, and 82,000 apprentices, in the State of California. The Building and Trades Council represents an excess 400,000 construction workers, and 80,000 apprentices.
- Non Union apprentices represent 1% of the apprentices total apprentices in California, and have a 0-30% annual graduation rate.
- Public agencies within the State of California have no way to stipulate their PLAs as union only agreements. This violates Public Contract Section 2500.

Frank Biehl, SC/SB Counties Building and Construction Trades Council

(Track 33, 00:50 – Track 34: 00:30)

- Information on results from a study of 88 California Community Colleges, and the opinion of College of Marin regarding their 3 PLA vs. 4 non-PLA experiences, as sited in Attachment 9, shows that using PLAs resulted in more bidders per project, than non-PLA projects, and resulted in more frequent receipt of bids below engineer's estimate
- In 2010 the Building and Trades Council spent \$230 million to produce 15,200

apprenticeships, while non-union agencies spent \$28 million to produce 420 apprenticeships. A total of 72,400 union, and 2,050 non-union apprenticeships were produced between 2010 and 2015.

- Most PLA's are private agreements between Building and Trade agencies and contractors, and not public agreements