



Ron Herrera
President

Thom Davis
Chair

March 9, 2022

The Honorable Kathryn Barger
Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors
500 West Temple St. Room 869
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisor Kathryn Barger,

The Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO (The LA Fed) stands for protecting the rights of working people and improving the lives of our families and communities. On behalf of over 300 affiliated unions representing more than 800,000 workers in the County of Los Angeles, I present to you the attached resolution that was approved unanimously by The LA Fed's Executive Board. As a labor leader with over 40 years of experience, I have a profound understanding of how important a fair contract is, how it can fundamentally transform a worker's life, and how it can break generational cycles of poverty. It's because of this conviction that I stand with Unions United in their efforts for a fair and just contract.

Unions United is a coalition of unions representing approximately 85,000 Los Angeles County workers who have banded together for a fair wage. The members of Unions United are your employees who have been with you through thick and thin, cleaning our public streets, assisting with family services, and protecting our children during their most dire times. When circumstances called for it they sacrificed both their bodies and their wages, as evidenced during the pandemic when workers maintained adequate levels of service while accepting wage freezes. County workers also fought off a gubernatorial recall, volunteered their time and resources to feed tens of thousands of LA County residents who were without food during the pandemic, and supported striking essential workers across the region as they pushed for better wages and working conditions.

That's why the LA Fed is fully supportive of them in their quest for a better contract.

County employees need an appropriate wage increase. Since July 2020, the last time the vast majority of County employees received a raise, the cost of living in Los Angeles has risen by 7.6%. These are real costs that County employees must pay every day when they're buying groceries, paying for gas, or renting an apartment. The Producer Price Index, which is an accurate predictor of future inflation rates, is now rising at a rate of 9.7%, and oil prices continue to rise. Fed Chair Jerome Powell, who once referred to the rise in inflation as possibly transitory, now says "it's probably a good idea to retire that term."

I am fully committed to the coalition and the historic partnership and solidarity pact that has been formed to bargain for a fair contract for thousands of Los Angeles County employees. To that end, I offer myself and the entire LA Fed team to help bring an agreement to the table that settles these contracts. I will be joining Los Angeles County Unions United leadership and membership at the 2022 Worker's Congress on March 31st to strengthen our partnership and confront the issues that face our workforce, the community, and beyond. This is an opportunity to rally together around the fight for fair wages and I ask that you support the coalition's call for fair contracts for their workers.

In Solidarity,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Ron Herrera".

Ron Herrera
President

cc: All Los Angeles County Labor Affiliates