

Key, Lori

From: David Grau <dv.grau@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 8, 2020 7:41 PM
To: ClerkoftheBoard
Subject: Read at Meeting

Re: Agenda Item 42 November 10, 2020 Board of Supervisors

Ventura County Taxpayers Association urges that you reject outgoing Supervisor Zaragoza's rushed proposal to negotiate six separate PLA's as fiscally irresponsible and an unnecessary waste of taxpayer dollars.

Recently, the Board of Supervisors was told that a proposed CWA would increase project costs \$75 million over the next five years and recommended the Board reject the proposal.

Staff told the Board, in addition to increasing costs, the County should expect project time extensions of 4 to 6 weeks with a CWA and the Board's desire to mandate a certain local labor content was simply an aspirational goal.

Now, to support his rushed PLA proposal, Supervisor Zaragoza suggests developing some vague after-the-fact cost study to evaluate "the benefit of a possible a future CWA".

But evaluate against what?

Because each of the six projects are to be bid only as PLA's, any after the fact cost study tells you nothing.

We propose a modification that all Supervisors as stewards of public funds, should support:

For each project, Staff will send two request for bids, first as a PLA and also, separately as a non-PLA. Requiring two bids for each project allows the county a true comparison. The Board will then approve or reject each bid based on its merit and taxpayer value.

VCTA urges the Board to adopt this modification to Supervisor Zaragoza's recommendation, which provides open access to all public construction projects and fosters robust competition that favors the wise use of public funds.

David Grau
President - Ventura County Taxpayers Association