

**Key, Lori**

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**From:** John Hamo <jhamo@safewaybsi.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 15, 2020 6:55 AM  
**To:** ClerkoftheBoard  
**Subject:** Opposition to Community Workforce Agreement (otherwise known as a PLA) --Please read during the meeting

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Dear Members of the Board:

I am writing regarding the Community Workforce Agreement (CWA) study submitted by your public works staff. Your staff examined this Item and came up with some notable findings:

1. Cost's would go up under a CWA.
2. Local workers would be shut out in favor of union workers from LA, Santa Barbara, and San Luis Obispo Counties.
3. Ventura County Apprentices trying to get their on the job training would be prevented from working under the proposed CWA.

Bottom line, CWA's increase costs, keep local non-union companies like ours, from bidding on projects, restrict the use of a contractor's core workforce, prevents local Apprentices from working on the site, and reduces competition. I strongly urge your Board to reject the use of a CWA.

Best regards,



**DESIGN.BUILD.SERVICE**

**JOHN HAMO** | *Director of Special Projects*

D 909.547.7894 | O 909.824.6075

jhamo@safewaybsi.com | safewaybsi.com

**SERVING SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA SINCE 1980**

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## Key, Lori

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**From:** Christopher Billig <cbillig@bergelectric.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 14, 2020 3:36 PM  
**To:** ClerkoftheBoard  
**Subject:** Opposition to Community Workforce Agreement (otherwise known as a PLA) --Please read during the meeting

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
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Dear Members of the Board:

I am writing regarding the Community Workforce Agreement (CWA) study submitted by your public works staff. Your staff examined this Item and came up with some notable findings:

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2. Local workers would be shut out in favor of union workers from LA, Santa Barbara, and San Luis Obispo Counties.
3. Ventura County Apprentices trying to get their on the job training would be prevented from working under the proposed CWA.

The bottom line, CWA's increase costs, keep local non-union companies from bidding on projects, restrict the use of a contractor's core workforce, prevents local Apprentices from working on the site, and reduces competition.

As a resident of Ventura County (4011 Cliffrose Ave, Moorpark), I strongly urge your Board to reject the use of a CWA.

Best regards,

**Chris Billig**

*Vice President*

**p:** 747-222-8410

**a:** 5142 Clareton Dr., Suite 140 Agoura Hills, CA 91301

**w:** [www.bergelectric.com](http://www.bergelectric.com) **e:** [cbillig@bergelectric.com](mailto:cbillig@bergelectric.com)



**Key, Lori**

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**From:** Clay <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 14, 2020 3:32 PM  
**To:** ClerkoftheBoard; Bennett, Steve; Long, Kelly; Parks, Linda; Supervisor Huber; Zaragoza, John  
**Subject:** Opposition to Community Workforce Agreement (otherwise known as a PLA) --Please read during the meeting

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Dear Members of the Board:

I am writing regarding the Community Workforce Agreement (CWA) study submitted by your public works staff. Your staff examined this Item and came up with some notable findings:

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Bottom line, CWA's increase costs, keep local non-union companies from bidding on projects, restrict the use of a contractor's core workforce, prevents local Apprentices from working on the site, and reduces competition. I strongly urge your Board to reject the use of a CWA.

Best regards,

Clayton Spangenberg  
Ventura County Resident



## R. A. ATMORE & SONS, INC.

Db. Foothill Weed Abatement & RA Cattle Co.  
2977 Sexton Canyon Road Ventura, CA 9300  
Phone (805) 644-6851 Fax (805) 642-2127

Sept. 14, 2020

Ventura County Board of Supervisors  
800 S. Victoria Avenue  
Ventura, CA 93009-1940

### **RE: Opposition to Community Workforce Agreements (Please read at the meeting)**

Dear Board of Supervisors:

As a Merit Shop Contractor with many successfully completed Ventura County contracts, I am writing regarding the item on Community Workforce Agreements (CWA) on the Ventura County Board of Supervisor related to a referral by Supervisor Zaragoza. As a specialty contractor who actively bids on County projects, I am **strongly opposed to CWAs and urge you to vote NO on this item.**

CWAs go by other names and are commonly referred to as Project Labor Agreements (PLAs) and they discriminate against 83% of the California construction workforce that are non-union, including our family business. PLAs keep local non-union contractors from working on local projects.

These discriminatory agreements have four things in common:

1. Require contractors to run all labor through the union hall, including a contractor's existing employees.
2. When a non-union contractor is required to use union labor, it forces the contractor to invite workers onto the job site that may not be familiar with the contractor's safety protocols and processes.
3. Require contractors to pay into union health and retirement plans for non-union workers. This means the contractor is often paying double the health benefits and retirement contributions, when employee's will never benefit from the benefits under the union.
4. Prevents other local Apprenticeship programs from dispatching apprentices to the worksite, even if the contractor is already affiliated with an Apprenticeship program.

These four items found in every PLA, mean that our family company may not bid on some projects if a PLA is put in place. Our employees would have to surrender their personal information to the union hall, our core workforce would be prevented from working on the job even if they are local, our apprentices wouldn't be allowed to be dispatched to the site, and we would have to pay twice into union programs. All of these requirements make it hard to compete and discourage local contractor participation.



Richard Atmore  
President  
R. A. Atmore & Sons, Inc.  
2977 Sexton Canyon Rd.  
Ventura, CA 93003  
Tel. (805) 644-6850  
Rich@raatmore.com

**Key, Lori**

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**From:** Heather Spangenberg [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** Monday, September 14, 2020 3:41 PM  
**Subject:** Fwd: Favor

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Opposition to Community Workforce Agreement (otherwise known as a PLA) --Please read during the meeting

Dear Members of the Board:

I am writing regarding the Community Workforce Agreement (CWA) study submitted by your public works staff. Your staff examined this Item and came up with some notable findings:

1. Cost's would go up under a CWA.
2. Local workers would be shut out in favor of union workers from LA, Santa Barbara, and San Luis Obispo Counties.
3. Ventura County Apprentices trying to get their on the job training would be prevented from working under the proposed CWA.

Bottom line, CWA's increase costs, keep local non-union companies from bidding on projects, restrict the use of a contractor's core workforce, prevents local Apprentices from working on the site, and reduces competition. I strongly urge your Board to reject the use of a CWA.

Best regards,

Heather Spangenberg  
Ventura County Resident



**J. Noble Binns**  
**Plumbing Co. Inc.**  
Lic. # 481544

3529 Pegasus Drive  
Bakersfield, CA 93308  
(661) 615-6101  
Fax (661) 615-6108

September 14, 2020

Ventura County Board of Supervisors  
800 S. Victoria Avenue  
Ventura, CA 93009-1940

**RE: Opposition to Community Workforce Agreements (Please read at the meeting)**

Dear Board of Supervisors:

I am writing regarding the item on Community Workforce Agreements (CWA) on the Ventura County Board of Supervisor related to a referral by Supervisor Zaragoza. As a contractor who would likely bid on County projects, I am **strongly opposed to CWAs and urge you to vote NO on this item.**

CWAs go by other names and are commonly referred to as Project Labor Agreements (PLAs) and they discriminate against 83% of the California construction workforce that are non-union, including my company. PLAs keep local non-union contractors from working on local projects.

These discriminatory agreements have four things in common:

1. Require contractors to run all labor through the union hall, including a contractor's existing employees.
2. When a non-union contractor is required to use union labor, it forces the contractor to invite workers onto the job site that may not be familiar with the contractor's safety protocols and processes.
3. Require contractors to pay into union health and retirement plans for non-union workers. This means the contractor is often paying double the health benefits and retirement contributions, when employee's will never benefit from the benefits under the union.
4. Prevents other local Apprenticeship programs from dispatching apprentices to the worksite, even if the contractor is already affiliated with an Apprenticeship program.

These four items found in every PLA, mean that my company will not bid on this project if a PLA is put in place. My employees would have to surrender their personal information to the union hall, my core workforce would be prevented from working on the job even if they are local, my apprentices wouldn't be allowed to be dispatched to the site, and I would have to pay twice into union programs. All of these requirements make it hard to compete and discourage contractor participation.

Also, PLAs raise costs on projects by as much as 18%. As a taxpayer, I think we should be doing all we can to increase competition and lower costs on the taxpayer. Any government contractor, as well as the government itself, has a responsibility to the taxpayer to be fiscally responsible.

Bottom line, PLA's increase costs, keep local non-union companies from bidding on projects, restrict the use of my core workforce, require payment of benefits my employees will never get to see, prevents local Apprentices from working on the site, and reduces competition. I **strongly urge your Board to reject the use of PLA's.**

Best regards,



Don Schimnowski, President

## Key, Lori

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**From:** David Grau <dv.grau@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 15, 2020 10:31 AM  
**To:** ClerkoftheBoard  
**Subject:** Agenda Item 40 - PLEASE READ AT MEETING

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Last week Ventura County Taxpayers emailed Supervisors expressing concern over a CWA supported by Supervisor Zaragoza and Bennett.

We believe the CWA will result in:

1. **Fewer local hires.** CWA expands definition of “Local Residents” to include Los Angeles, Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo counties making it likely a majority of workers come from outside Ventura County
2. **Less competitive bidding.** CWA restricts use of local non-union Contractors to three Core employees even if the Contractor’s entire workforce is local. The balance must be chosen “exclusively from the hiring hall out-of-work list”. The result will be fewer bids from local Contractors, resulting in less “competition” and higher taxpayer costs.
3. **Higher construction costs.** CWA’s increase cost and 15 percent is not uncommon. Due to CWA requirements and limited bidding, \$745 million of County capital projects could easily be burdened by \$100 million in unnecessary costs over the next five years.

The CWA is a clear “this for that” contract.

In exchange for the no-strike agreement offered by the Council of Trade Unions, hundreds of jobs will be lost to qualified Ventura County construction workers while taxpayers foot the bill for \$100 million dollars of avoidable construction costs.

The clear losers are workers and taxpayers in Ventura County and the winners are unions and workers from Los Angeles, San Louis Obispo and Santa Barbara counties.

Why would two Supervisors who are leaving office soon propose such an obviously bad deal?

VCTA urges a NO vote.

David Grau  
President - Ventura County Taxpayers Association



## Key, Lori

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**From:** Jeremy Goldberg <Jeremy@centralcoastlabor.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 15, 2020 9:24 AM  
**To:** ClerkoftheBoard  
**Subject:** READ AT MEETING Email Comments on Item 40 - Community Workforce Agreement

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

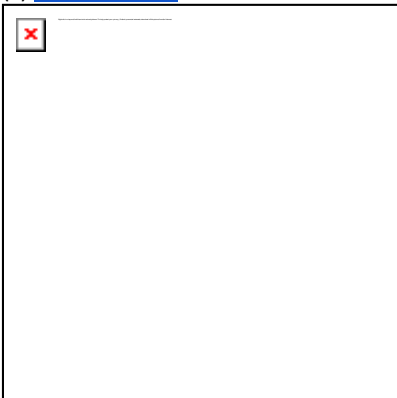
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My name is Jeremy Goldberg and I'm the Executive Director of the Central Coast Labor Council - a coalition of local unions with members ranging from construction workers to government employees, teachers, nurses, grocery store workers and postal workers. We represent over 70,000 workers on the central coast and we support the passage of a Community Workforce Agreement.

This is an important moment for Ventura County. Is there a better time for us to do this? Riddled by a global pandemic, economic volatility and sky high unemployment, a vote FOR this CWA is a clear statement of principles: Ventura County is addressing the real economic stresses of our day by making sure that good, sustainable local jobs go to local workers.

There has never been a more important time to invest in Ventura by creating jobs, lifting up workers and growing our middle class.

Jeremy Goldberg, Executive Director  
Central Coast Labor Council  
816 Camarillo Springs Rd Suite N  
Camarillo, CA 93012  
[jeremy@centralcoastlabor.org](mailto:jeremy@centralcoastlabor.org)  
(o) [805-987-0101](tel:805-987-0101)  
(c) [805-660-3815](tel:805-660-3815)



**Key, Lori**

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**From:** Randy Wetmur <Randy@ironworkers416.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 15, 2020 10:24 AM  
**To:** ClerkoftheBoard  
**Cc:** Vidal Zambrano  
**Subject:** #40 CWA SUPPORT

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

PLEASE READ AT MEETING;

My name is Randy Wetmur,  
Ironworkers local 416 Business agent for Ventura County, A member of 416 for 30 years. I'm writing this on behalf of my Union brothers that are Ventura County residents that have to make the drive out of Ventura County to work every day in Los Angeles and surrounding counties for a decent wage to be able to afford to live in Ventura county. One thing about a Union Tradesmen is the pride of ownership of the project that you built knowing it was done correctly, on time, and on budget with pride. The problem I see with the Non union projects that are in Ventura county you get unskilled workforce coming in from out of town cutting corners to complete the project no pride of ownership at all, not even a living wage for the workers. The wages they do earn end up being spent where they live not in Ventura. Skilled Union workers build the local economy in the County that the reside by spending it with their local businesses. UNION IRONWORKERS SUPPORT A VENTURA CWA.

Randy Wetmur  
Ironworkers local 416  
Business agent  
LA/Ventura counties