



BUILDING TRADES NEWS

VOLUME 28, NO.3 LOS ANGELES/ORANGE COUNTIES BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL, AFL-CIO  FALL 2023



IBEW Local 11 joins thousands of union members marching in the 44th annual Labor Day Parade in Wilmington.

ERNESTO MEDRANO LEADS TRADES

BY ANNE-MARIE OTEY

On Monday, July 24, delegates of the Los Angeles/Orange Counties Building and Construction Trades Council unanimously elected Ernesto Medrano as Executive Secretary to lead the Council.

Medrano succeeds Chris Hannan, who resigned on July 17 in order to become President of the State Building and Construction Trades Council of

California. Medrano is the first Latino leader of the Building Trades Council in its 120-year history.

The Council is an umbrella organization of 48 local unions and district councils, representing 150,000 skilled men and women in 14 Trades. More than half its union members are of Latino descent.

“The Building Trades are one of the

SEE MEDRANO PAGE 8



Ernesto Medrano and union members celebrate victory in Santa Ana.

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LA CITY NEWS

UNIVERSAL HILTON WILL EXPAND

Popular hotel to add new tower with 18 stories

An ambitious all-union hotel project that has been in the works for several years is moving forward.

The Hilton Los Angeles/Universal City, the largest hotel in the San Fernando Valley, is looking almost to double its number of guest rooms, as well as add a rooftop pool, luxury spa and public areas.

With 18 stories of new construction slated, the property manager says working with the Building Trades is the best way to get it done.

“We are proud to partner with the Los Angeles/Orange Counties Building and Construction Trades Council, with whom we have a signed Project Labor Agreement,” said Mark Davis, President and Chief Executive Officer of Sun Hill Properties, which manages the Hilton and several other hotels for owner and developer Hillcrest. “Working hand in hand, we are excited to bring this expansion to life.”



The hotel is the largest in the San Fernando Valley.

The project is expected to generate 1,000 construction jobs.

The hotel, built in 1984, currently has 495 rooms. A new tower will add 395 rooms. Set on 7.26 acres, the property will add three restaurants. Building Trades union members will also construct a 2,300-square-foot steel frame canopy with glass and



Building Trades unions also build attractions at Universal Studios Hollywood.

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The Hilton Los Angeles/Universal City will almost double its number of guest rooms.

steel design features above the main entrance of the new hotel building. An existing, undeveloped sub-basement in the southwest corner of the existing parking garage will house mechanical, engineering and plumbing equipment for the new tower.

Olympics Effort

Overall, the project will add approximately 299,088 square feet of additional floor area. It's sorely needed as LA gets ready to host the 2028 Summer Olympics.

“Right now, demand is at an all-time high,” Davis said. “Yes, as the largest hotel in the San Fernando Valley, our hotel is next door to Universal Studios Hollywood, but we are so much more

than that. We've been a staple of the Valley since 1984, hosting hundreds of annual special events, business conferences, weddings, and record numbers of visitors from all over the world.

“With the 2028 Olympics right around the corner, we can help the region be ready when the world comes to Los Angeles.”



The union-built Super Nintendo World opened in February.

In 2022, 46.2 million people visited Los Angeles, spending \$21.9 billion, and helping to bring the total economic impact of tourism to \$34.5 billion. The LA Tourism and Convention Board projects that in 2023, the city will welcome 50 million visitors, which is 98 percent of pre-pandemic levels. Additionally, 31 million hotel room nights will be sold in 2023, more than the pre-pandemic number.

The Hilton addition is now in the Draft Environmental Impact Report

stage, with the report scheduled to circulate within a month. That kicks off a Los Angeles city review process, where Building Trades union members and representatives will attend multiple hearings to show support for the all-union project.

Tourism Creates Jobs

Ernesto Medrano, Executive Secretary of the Council, praised the agreement.

“This strengthens our connection to the tourism industry,” Medrano said. “Tourism is a huge driver of the Southern California economy and generates high-quality, union jobs.”

Medrano noted that the Council also has a Project Labor Agreement with NBCUniversal, a Comcast subsidiary that owns Universal Studios Hollywood.

The PLA enables the Building Trades to provide the skilled labor force to build such attractions as Wizarding World of Harry Potter, which opened in 2016, and Super Nintendo World, which just opened in February.

“In addition, we're on the job at LAX every day and soon will be on the job to modernize Hollywood Burbank Airport, just five miles from Universal City. We are transforming this area and it will be ready in time for the Olympics.”

FROM THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

FROM UNION ACTIVIST TO UNION LEADER

It is with great humility that I want to express my appreciation to the body for electing me as the Executive Secretary of the Los Angeles/Orange Counties Building and Construction Trades Council. At a time when the labor movement is in a transformational era with changes in leadership at various levels and within many institutions,

we are experiencing a resurgence of the labor movement in the entire Los Angeles and Orange County region. We're seeing large scale contract settlements, large and small scale strikes, poverty and income inequities at the forefront of mass media as we battle a need for more housing at all levels: from addressing the eradication of homelessness, all the way to enabling our members' abilities to purchase a home. It is imperative that wages, benefits and working conditions become the primary solution for these inequities and that they meet the basic needs of working families.



BY ERNESTO MEDRANO
Executive Secretary

Following that, I became a grand lodge representative for the International Association of Machinist and Aerospace Workers, and more recently I was a business representative and political coordinator for Teamsters Local 952.

In 2015 I commenced my career with the Los Angeles/Orange Counties Building and Construction Trades Council. Working with our local affiliated unions, we took charge of our mission in Orange County.

At the time, there were only two Project or Community Workforce Agreements in place and a common myth said that these types of agreements were an aberration. Now, we have propelled ourselves to have more than 20 agreements and more to come.

This all came together with the unity, the will to invest, the assertiveness, mobilization and pro-active nature that the Building Trades have exhibited in Orange County.

Be assured that we will continue the good work of this Council. Together, we will continue to achieve agreements at all levels and in all of the economic sectors that our members labor in: Construction, whether it be commercial or residential, in energy, whether it be fossil fuels or renewables, and private or public sector.

From Lancaster to San Clemente, from Santa

My introduction to union membership came in the summer of 1982 when I worked for Greyhound Expo, now known as GES. I joined Teamsters Local 986 as a casual in the Trade Show and Convention Centers Division at the local convention centers, moving large crates on the docks and working closely with the Decorators from Painters and Allied Trades Local 831. After that summer I resumed my studies at UC Riverside and was active with multiple student organizations including serving two terms with the Student Legislative Council.

Organizing Farm Workers

At the time, the United Farm Workers union (UFW) was actively organizing in the Riverside rural area, and recruited me to assist in their organizing and first contract negotiations efforts.

By the end of 1984, as I was completing my bachelor's degree, I was hired by the UFW as what they called a “volunteer staffer,” earning \$30 per week with housing and transportation provided. Afterward, I served as a project staffer for the AFL-CIO, where I was instrumental in the founding of the Labor Immigrant Assistance Project and the California Immigrant Workers Association, and then worked as a representative for the national AFL-CIO.

Monica to Pomona, we will continue to foment our position to improve the lives of our members. We will continue the fight against those that attempt to inhibit our work, when they attempt to shut our jobs down or bust our unions. We shall unapologetically fight for our members' blue collar careers. Our commitment is to the blue-collar workers who get up every morning, who don't ask for a handout, but only ask to be given an opportunity to work an honest day in return for an honest wage. We will tell our stories—how we provide equity through industrial democracy and pathways to the middle class for our local communities.

We will continue to offer to all who are interested the pathway to the middle class through our Community Benefits Agreements and our Apprenticeship Readiness Fund.

I want to take this opportunity to thank State Building Trades President Chris Hannan for his service with us. He accomplished awesome achievements during his tenure as Council Representative and as Executive Secretary.

So again, I pledge to you to do my very best for the unions of the Building Trades and it is with humility that I look forward to serving and leading with you.

BUILDING TRADES NEWS

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PUBLISHER
Ernesto Medrano

EDITORIAL DIRECTOR
Anne-Marie Otey

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Leslie Berkman, Robert Buscemi, James Duffy V,
Beige Luciano-Adams, Karen Robes Meeks, Mark Edward Nero

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS
Hector Cruz Sandoval, Mark Savage, Jessica Sterling

ART DIRECTOR
Cynthia Tan

LOS ANGELES/ORANGE COUNTIES BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL

1626 Beverly Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90026 P 213.483.4222 •
714.827.6791 • F 213.483.4419
www.LAOCBuildingTrades.org
www.BuildingTradesNews.com



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Ernesto Medrano, Executive Secretary
Anthony Gazzaniga, President
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David Sikorski, Trustee
Lupe Aldaco, Trustee
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Roofers & Waterproofers
Local 220
Sheet Metal Workers Local 105
Sheet Metal Workers Local 170
Teamsters Joint Council 42
Teamsters Local 848
Teamsters Local 952
Teamsters Local 986

Change of address: Union members, please contact your local.

BUILDING TRADES NEWS 3

SANTA ANA SAYS ‘YES’ TO LOCAL WORKFORCE

BY LESLIE BERKMAN

In a strong and exuberant show of support of Community Workforce Agreements and unions, the Santa Ana City Council June 6 voted unanimously to renew a CWA for the city with key elements advocated by the Building Trades.

The seven-member council, after hearing Building Trades union members ask it to choose the option that would create more union jobs and apprenticeship training opportunities for Santa Ana residents and veterans, sharply rejected a competing proposal by the city staff. That proposal would have substantially limited the amount of city-funded work subject to local hiring requirements and many other worker benefits guaranteed by a CWA.

Santa Ana Mayor Valerie Amezcua swiftly moved for the council to vote

Photos by
**HECTOR CRUZ SANDOVAL/
SANDOVAL MEDIA**



Mayor Valerie Amezcua, center, leads the discussion. Councilmember Thai Viet Phan sits to the left, and Councilmember David Penalzo, right.



Union Iron Worker Lindcey Ayala, shown at left commenting in favor of the CWA, is a Santa Ana resident.

for changes that were supported by the Los Angeles/Orange Counties Building and Construction Trades Council and its affiliated local unions.

The council agreed to have the CWA apply to prime multi-trade work

exceeding \$750,000—rejecting the staff’s \$2.5 million threshold—and to prime specialty contractor work exceeding \$100,000—rejecting the staff’s proposed \$1 million threshold.

As the Building Trades also

requested, the council rejected the staff proposal to change the thresholds annually to reflect an inflation index, instead adopting Councilman Phil Bacerra’s suggestion for an annual review. The council further agreed to

set the duration of the CWA at 10 years.

At Bacerra’s request, the council also expanded the CWA to cover the building of city-funded affordable

SEE SANTA ANA PAGE 6



Luis Mendoza, journeyman with Iron Workers Local 433, sends a message on a T-shirt, with journeyman Luis Garcia, left, in agreement.



More than 200 union members and allies stand up for the CWA.



Iron Workers Local 433 members take time after work to show their support. L-r, Hector Aviles, Jason Healey, Luis Alvarez and Guillermo Anaya.

housing. Overall, it was a win for stronger worker protection and career opportunities for Santa Ana residents. “I was pleased by the manner in which the mayor and city council unanimously supported our position,” said Ernesto Medrano, Executive Secretary of the Los Angeles/Orange Counties Building and Construction Trades Council.



Santa Ana is the county seat of Orange County.



SMART Local 105 organizers Ricardo Garcia, left, and Brian Germain, with Norma Lopez, Teamsters Local 952 political coordinator, sitting behind in center.

Before the council meeting, Medrano sent members a letter showing that the project-cost thresholds the Building Trades advocated for the CWA in Santa Ana were comparable to the thresholds adopted for similar agreements with other jurisdictions. Although staff recommendations are important, in the end, it is City Council members who represent the people and cast the votes—and they voted to

support working families. Medrano attributed the council’s sympathy with the Building Trades’ position to the advance work of his team but also to the mass turnout of members from a variety of unions. He estimated that more than 150 Tradesmen and Tradeswomen, many wearing shirts or vests from their locals, filled the city council chamber. “It makes it easier to get these agreements when our members mobilize in large numbers and tell their story,” Medrano said.

Home and Community Lindcey Ayala, a Santa Ana resident and member of Iron Workers Local 433, said to stay employed she takes jobs in other cities and even other states. She said she supports more CWA public works projects in Santa Ana because “I would love to get back to my home and my community” and she wants the same opportunity for her union brothers and sisters. Kenny Williams, President of the Orange County Labor Federation and a representative of the Communication Workers of America, said it is “kind of perplexing” that city staff would propose CWA thresholds that would limit apprenticeship training opportunities for Santa Ana youth who can learn well-paying Trades on public

works projects without amassing college debt. Williams noted that the local economy will benefit. “When people live and work in Santa Ana, they spend their money here in Santa Ana.”

Cheap Bids Aren’t Better Tony De Trinidad, political coordinator with Painters and Allied Trades District Council 36, also criticized the move to exempt work from the CWA. “With the staff’s higher threshold recommendations, the city would be getting what it pays for—by attracting cheap bids without state-sponsored joint labor/management requirements and less quality of work with no real or effective training for the next generation.” John Hanna, Rancho Santiago Community College District Trustee, said he wanted to join the “chorus” of speakers favoring the Building Trades’



Iron Workers Local 433 supporters include, l-r, James McGuire, Kevin Brault, Martin Bautista, Stephanie Jimenez and Joanna Hernandez.



Mayor Pro Tem Jessie Lopez, left, listens to Councilmember Benjamin Vazquez.

proposed thresholds. “Let’s not try to minimize participation here,” Hanna said. “Let’s try to encourage the city, the school district and the college district to work with the Building Trades to get our young people who live in Santa Ana to get into an occupation where they can afford to buy a home in the city that they were raised in.” Doug Mangione, business representative for IBEW Local 441, noted that the local was founded in Santa Ana and has an apprenticeship training facility in the city. He said IBEW apprentices need experience on all sizes of projects, not just the ones that would be available under the city staff proposal. Before voting, council members pledged their support of working

people in Santa Ana and the role of labor unions. Councilman Johnathan Ryan Hernandez, a Santa Ana native whose maternal grandfather was a member of Laborers Local 652, said, “This vote today is to make sure we have a CWA that works for workers.” Mayor Amezcua said she was proud of her union membership during her past 30-year career with the Orange County Probation Department and she applauded the Building Tradesmen and women in the audience for their hard work and commitment to joint action. “When you guys come out, you come out in numbers, and that is because you are family. You are family to each other and I really appreciate that,” she said.



Photo finish: Ernesto Medrano, front row right, smiles for a selfie with union representatives and allies.



Former Executive Secretary Chris Hannan, now President of the State Building Trades, swears in Ernesto Medrano as the new Executive Secretary.

O.C. ORGANIZER IS FIRST LATINO LEADER IN 120-YEAR HISTORY

MEDRANO
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

biggest forces propelling immigrant workers and their families into the American Dream and the middle class,” Medrano said. “As a son of immigrants myself, I am committed to bringing unions to every sector of the construction industry.” Medrano brings a long and successful history of union activism to his new job. “Brother Ernesto is the unanimous choice of our delegates and our

executive board,” Hannan said. “He has shown through his incessant organizing in Orange County that no region of our state, no area where workers need representation, is off limits. Ernesto has set the highest challenges for himself and our members, and they have won.” Medrano served as the Council’s Representative for Orange County from 2015 to 2023, leading the successful campaign to transform the once-conservative OC into a center of union opportunity for working people. He organized Building Trades members, elected officials and activists to win

Community Workforce Agreements in the county’s three biggest cities—Anaheim, Irvine and Santa Ana. **Rooted in Los Angeles** Although Medrano has worked mainly in Orange County for the last 20 years, he is rooted in Los Angeles. The son of a union leader and a garment worker, Medrano was born in East LA and graduated from LAUSD’s historic Roosevelt High School. He followed that with a degree from UC Riverside with a joint major in Spanish/Chicano Studies. Medrano initiated his work in the

labor movement in 1984 with the United Farm Workers of America, then became a field organizer for the AFL-CIO. In 2001, Medrano began his long association with the Building Trades by joining Teamsters Local 952, based in the city of Orange. The local is an affiliate of the Building Trades Council. At Local 952, Medrano coordinated large-scale organizing campaigns and in 2008 was appointed as the local’s

Photos by
**HECTOR CRUZ SANDOVAL/
SANDOVAL MEDIA**



Ernesto Medrano, center, with Chris Hannan and Council President Tony Gazzaniga, Business Manager of Elevator Constructors Local 18.



Also sworn in as delegates at the meeting were, left, Rodney Cummings, Business Manager of IBEW Local 45, and business representative Juan Rodriguez of IBEW Local 40.

political coordinator. Lupe Aldaco, Business Manager of Bricklayers and Allied Craft Workers Local 4, said Medrano’s ascendance will inspire rank-and-file members. “Our Local 4 membership is made up of many Latino immigrants and second generation,” Aldaco said. “And having an Executive Secretary who looks like them, who can understand what they’ve gone through to get here, is very important. It gives them the hope and the ambition to realize, ‘I can be a leader, not only in the field, but I can further the cause for future generations.’”

An ‘Amazing’ OC Partner Gloria Alvarado, Executive Director of the Orange County Labor Federation, praised Medrano for his new role. “As a Latina labor leader, I’m proud to stand with the first Latino leader in 120 years at the LA/OC Building and Construction Trades Council,” she said. “Brother Ernesto has been an amazing partner in Orange County. Ernesto’s leadership, vision and support has been invaluable to us.”

Medrano said major challenges lay ahead, as Southern California copes with a housing and water shortage, plus the difficult goal of powering the world’s fifth-largest economy on carbon-free energy. “This is a crucial time for the Building Trades,” Medrano said. “We have a pro-worker Administration in the White House unleashing the force of infrastructure investment. We have a new generation of young workers committed to the union movement. This is our time, as the Building Trades, to lead the way and show what we can accomplish as skilled, essential union members. “The voice of the men and women of the Building Trades will be heard,” Medrano added. “We don’t give up. I thank the delegates of our affiliated local unions and district councils for their faith in me, and I look forward to fighting alongside them for union



L-r, Local 1036 Painters business representative Ernesto Toscano, field representative Herman Becaria of Local 1036 and Local 1136 Drywall Finishers business representative Oriel Beltran. IUPAT DC 36 delegates applaud the choice.



UA Local 250 delegates congratulate Medrano. L-r, business agent Gus Torres, organizer Pete Wohlgezogen, business agent Tom Morton and business agent David Griggs.



Delegates include, l-r, Joe Pacheco, assistant district representative for Operating Engineers Local 12, Scott Pearson, business representative for UA Local 78, and UA Local 78 organizer Justin Walters. Laborers Local 652 Business Manager Adrian Esparza stands in back to the left of Walters.

rights and representation.” “From Lancaster to San Clemente, from Santa Monica to Pomona we will continue to foment our position to improve the lives of our members in general. “We will continue the fight against those that attempt to inhibit our work, whether they attempt to shut our jobs down or bust our unions. We shall unapologetically fight for our members’ blue-collar careers. Our commitment is to the blue-collar workers who get up every morning, who don’t ask for a handout, but only ask to be given an opportunity to work an honest day in return for an honest wage.” Medrano concluded, “We will continue to offer to all, the pathway to the middle class through our Community Benefits Agreements and our Apprenticeship Readiness team.” **BUILDING TRADES NEWS 9**



UA LOCAL UNION 250 CLEAN AND GREEN

In Paramount, the World Energy refinery is transforming for the green energy future. Many members of UA Local 250 are among the skilled men and women doing the work.

Located on 66 acres, the refinery is a robust example of how a fossil fuel plant can transition to using non-fossil fuels—and generate valuable union jobs by doing so.

“We’re just beginning to really see the effect of the green energy transition on our jobs,” says Ben Clayton, Business Manager of UA Local 250. “Creating high-quality union jobs, and not losing any, is our goal. That’s the standard we set, and we won’t accept any less. When

companies and elected officials partner with us to do this the right way, making workers and safety the priority, we get it done.”

World Energy acquired the former Paramount Petroleum facility in 2018 and started converting it to renewable fuels for aviation, a use that many thought would be impossible or take much longer to implement. Building on that success, the current project, valued at \$2 billion, will add capacity to produce 340 million gallons per year. That’s a 700 percent increase in biofuel output on site. By 2050, the facility will produce fuels that will displace over 76 million metric tons of carbon dioxide, the equivalent of 3.8 million carbon-net-zero

flights from Los Angeles to New York. It will also significantly reduce the fine particulate emissions in the trucks, trains and planes powered by World Energy’s fuels.

By switching the facility from a petroleum and asphalt refinery into a renewable energy production site, World Energy will provide the Paramount community with cleaner air and lower greenhouse gas emissions. It will also generate thousands of jobs under a union Project Labor Agreement, including UA Local 250. “If we can do this in Paramount, we can do this everywhere,” Clayton says.



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UNION POWER PUMPS UP PARADE

Local Members March and Rally in Wilmington

The Building Trades joined more than 1,000 union members Sept. 4 for California's biggest Labor Day event: the annual Labor Day Parade, picnic and rally in Wilmington.

This was the 44th year for the popular ritual. Building Trades union members marched with kids, pets, banners and floats down Avalon Boulevard in this Los Angeles neighborhood, which embraces the Port of L.A.

With roots in the labor activism of the port area, the day is sponsored by the Los Angeles/Long Beach Harbor Coalition. Unions participating range from striking SAG-AFTRA actors to IBEW Electricians on motorcycles.

"Labor Day brings together a broad spectrum of unions," said Council

Executive Secretary Ernesto Medrano, who spoke to crowds at an afternoon rally in Banning Park.

The picnic at the park included about three dozen booths offering information on union-oriented services and products for working families. The Building Trades table was popular, with booklets about apprenticeship-readiness programs. "It's a great opportunity to learn about Trades careers and apprenticeship," Medrano said.

The day started with assembly at Broad and E Streets, with the parade kicking off at 10. Once they arrived at Banning Park, marchers enjoyed tacos, hot dogs and roasted corn on the cob. Families heard music by live bands. As "hot labor summer" continued across the US, it was the best time to show labor's strength.

Photos by
**HECTOR CRUZ SANDOVAL/
SANDOVAL MEDIA**



Benny McKee of SMART Local 105 enjoys the day.



It's a SMART day! Local 105 marchers include (l-r) Ruben Barrios, Claudia Rodriguez, Toni Lewis, Darlene Ayala and Maida Barrios.



Local 105 Vice President Al Hernandez, left, and business representative Joaquin Stallworth accompany the local's prize-winning float.



Hernandez recruits future union members with a sample of Local 105's work.



The Malauula family.



United Association rallies with a double-decker bus and motorcycles.



Local 105 apprentices built the float.



Jaxson Montoya on his bike, with Dillon Urtez and Mando Urtez.



Richard Gamez, left, and Terry Anderson.



Danny Torres brings his pup to the parade.



Business representative Donny Sappington hoists the "Best in Show" trophy.



LA County Supervisor Hilda Solis, fourth from left, joins IBEW Local 11 families.



Green jobs are union jobs—if we fight for it.



Neighbors turn out each year to watch the parade.



Local 11 journeyman Jim "Jimbo" Cluck.



The new generation of IBEW Local 11 members.



The Labor Day parade always features low-riders and vintage vehicles.
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Local 11 journeyman Shawn Frausto rides in style.

Families enjoy the ride.



The "Fighting Machinists" of Local 1484 are based in Wilmington.

Ernesto Medrano in the Helmets to Hardhats Jeep with H2H representative Quincy Lunford.



Iron Workers from Local 416 and Local 433 stand together to celebrate Labor Day.



Iron Worker apprentices Michael Paul Monti, left, and Daniel Pico carry the local's banner.



Local 416 members Johnny Herrera, left, and Albert Castillo walk the banner down the parade route.



Local 416 Iron Worker Anthony Dudley brings his family.



Union T-shirts reflect local pride.



Frankie Jimenez, center, is Business Manager of Local 416, with (l-r) business agents Robert Ramos, Randy Wetmur, Johnny Escobedo and business agent/local President Tyler Byrd.



Iron Worker kids greet spectators on Avalon Blvd.
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Nick Garcia of Local 416 digs into the roasted corn provided by union printer S & S and union mail house Mailing Pros.



LA County Supervisors, LA City Councilmembers and other elected officials salute the crowd.



Red, white and blue for the Teamsters.



LA Mayor Karen Bass, center, gets a view from the top.



Teamsters Local 848 always leads the way.



The Mighty Marching Pilots of Wilmington's Banning High School.



SAG-AFTRA members continue their strike.



Yvonne Wheeler, President of the LA County Federation of Labor.



Ernesto Medrano with LA County Sheriff Robert Luna.
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Even kids cheer for organized labor.



UFCW Local 770 in the union house.

BUILDING TRADES SPORTS

SOFTBALL WINS BIG

Annual Tourney Boasts 24 Teams



IBEW Local 11 A team wins the Upper Bracket.



IBEW Local 440, "Blue Collar Ballers," is the Lower Bracket victor.



IBEW Local 441 A team is Upper Bracket runner-up. Business Manager Neal Lauzon is at front, center.



IBEW Local 477 is the Lower Bracket runner-up.



Mike Granados pitches for Laborers Local 724.

Sparkies lit up the day at the 19th annual Los Angeles/Orange Counties Building and Construction Trades Softball Tournament, where teams of IBEW Electricians took all four top finisher positions.

Everyone was a winner, though, as union members and families enjoyed

a day with plenty of action under a 97-degree sun in Chino Hills.

The tourney on Saturday, Aug. 5 featured a record 24 teams from all sectors of the Building Trades in LA and Orange Counties, along with San Bernardino and Riverside. Games started at 8 am and went through

several rounds to reach the playoffs and championships.

In the Upper Division Championship game, IBEW Local 11 A bested IBEW Local 441, the host of the tournament, by 14-8.

In the Lower Division Championship game, IBEW Local 440 played IBEW Local 477, with IBEW 440 pulling out a last-inning win 7-6.

John DeCleene, assistant business manager for IBEW Local 441,

Photos by
MARK SAVAGE



Antonio Mancuso, journeyman with Iron Workers Local 433.



Isaiah Ramos of Resilient Floor Local 1247.



Anthony Gutierrez of UA Local 250 Blue team.

organizes the annual event.

“Once again it was a great tournament with some heartbreaks, thrills and most of all, union solidarity,” DeCleene said.

The tourney took place at Big League Dreams, which features replicas of famous Major League Baseball parks.



Mario Villalpando of UA Local 398 pitches and teammate Jacob Peich waits for action.



IUPAT Drywall Finishers Local 1136.



IUPAT Local 1247, Resilient Floor & Decorative Covering.



IUPAT Glaziers Local 636.



IUPAT Painters Local 1036.



Arturo Jimenez of Resilient Floor Local 1247 keeps his eye on the ball.



Andy Alcaraz of UA Local 250 slides into a base.



Gilbert Watkins makes the catch for UA Local 78 "Frias" team, with Brent Harl.



Heat & Frost Insulators Local 5 with retiring business agent Eddy Pena, back row in straw hat.



SMART Local 105, the "Tin Knockers" A team.



UA Local 78 Plumbers with Business Manager Jeremy Diaz, back row, second from right.



SMART Local 105, the "Tin Knockers" B team.



UA Local 78 Plumbers "Frias" team.



IBEW Local 11 B team.



UA Local 761 Plumbers & Fitters.



UA Local 582 Plumbers & Steamfitters with Business Manager Robert James, back row, left.



UA Local 250 Steam & Pipefitters Black team.



UA Local 250 Steam & Pipefitters Blue team.



UA Local 398 Plumbers & Fitters.



IBEW Local 441 Hooligans team.



Teamsters Joint Council 42.



Iron Workers Local 416.



Iron Workers Local 433.



Laborers Local 724, Studio Utility Employees.

TRADES WIN IN SACRAMENTO

On Sept. 30, Governor Gavin Newsom signed Senate Bill 740. This important bill, authored by Senator Dave Cortese, extends the protections afforded in California's landmark SB 54 (Hancock, 2013) to hydrogen, alternative fuels, chemical and carbon capture facilities.

The bill, effective in January 2024, is a major win for the Building Trades unions of California. It will require a skilled and trained workforce for the contracted-out construction and construction maintenance at the above industrial facilities.

"SB 740 was the priority bill of the State Building Trades, and we appreciate the involvement of the local



State Sen. Dave Cortese.

councils and crafts, including the dozens that lobbied the bill during our lobby day in August," said Chris Hannan, President of the State Building Trades.

The teamwork of the Building Trades paid off as this bill received incredible bipartisan support in the legislature with resounding unanimous votes out of the Senate Environmental Quality and Appropriations Committees and the Assembly Labor and Appropriations Committees, and overwhelming floor votes: 76-1 in the Assembly and 36-2 in the Senate.

Keep Communities Safe

"This is a huge victory for the Building Trades, as this bill will mean that as California continues to transition towards new climate innovations, these industries will be built and maintained by the highest-skilled construction workers in the nation," Hannan said. Most important, this will help "ensure that communities will be kept safe."

The effect of the bill will be immediate. There is no ramp-up phase as was required in SB 54.

Hannan is asking all Building Trades Councils and local unions to assess the



Union members met Aug. 22 in Sacramento to lobby for SB 740, which extends SB 54 protections to hydrogen, alternative fuels, chemical and carbon capture facilities.

facilities in their jurisdiction that will be covered by SB 740 and prepare accordingly.

As the full scope of SB 740 is felt, the bill will likely create thousands of opportunities for new apprenticeships in the industrial Trades and millions of new journey-level hours.

The signing of SB 740 and the overwhelming support in the legislature indicate that due to the State Building Trades' hard work on energy and industrial policy at the Capitol, the California State Legislature recognizes the importance of a skilled and trained workforce in the industrial sector.

"The signing of Senate Bill 740 is



Captura will add to existing offshore infrastructure to capture tons of carbon dioxide.

truly momentous," Hannan said. He thanked the Building Trades unions for their support and unity. "At the Building Trades, our work is never

done, but we hope that you will take a moment and celebrate this incredible victory for construction workers across the State of California."

STATE BUILDING TRADES NEWS

HANNAN IS NEW STATE LEADER

On Friday, July 14, Chris Hannan was sworn in to lead the State Building and Construction Trades Council, replacing Andrew Meredith as President.

President Hannan, unanimously elected by the Executive Board of the State Building and Construction Trades Council, was Executive Secretary of the Los Angeles/Orange Counties Building and Construction Trades Council since 2021, and a Council Representative from 2012-2021.

"I am proud of the work we have done in Los Angeles and Orange Counties, and I am proud of and grateful for the work that the State Building Trades has done in Sacramento and across the state," Hannan said. "Working together, we can create thousands of additional opportunities for Californians to learn a Trade and earn a path to the middle class."

Hannan has been instrumental in many large initiatives attracting national attention, including developing the nation's hydrogen infrastructure through his leadership role in the ARCHES Hydrogen HUB initiative. Additionally, Hannan led last year's successful "United to House LA" ballot measure that is expected to



Chris Hannan is a second-generation union Sprinkler Fitter.

raise billions of dollars to create much-needed affordable housing, built with a union workforce.

Hannan, who grew up in Orange County, is a second-generation member of UA Local 709 Sprinkler Fitters.

The State Building and Construction Trades Council of California is the largest construction trades council in the United States, representing nearly half a million tradespeople in 14 different crafts, including roughly 70,000 apprentices training to be the next generation of California construction workers.



Orange County Assemblywoman Laurie Davies, center with union advocates, supports SB 740.