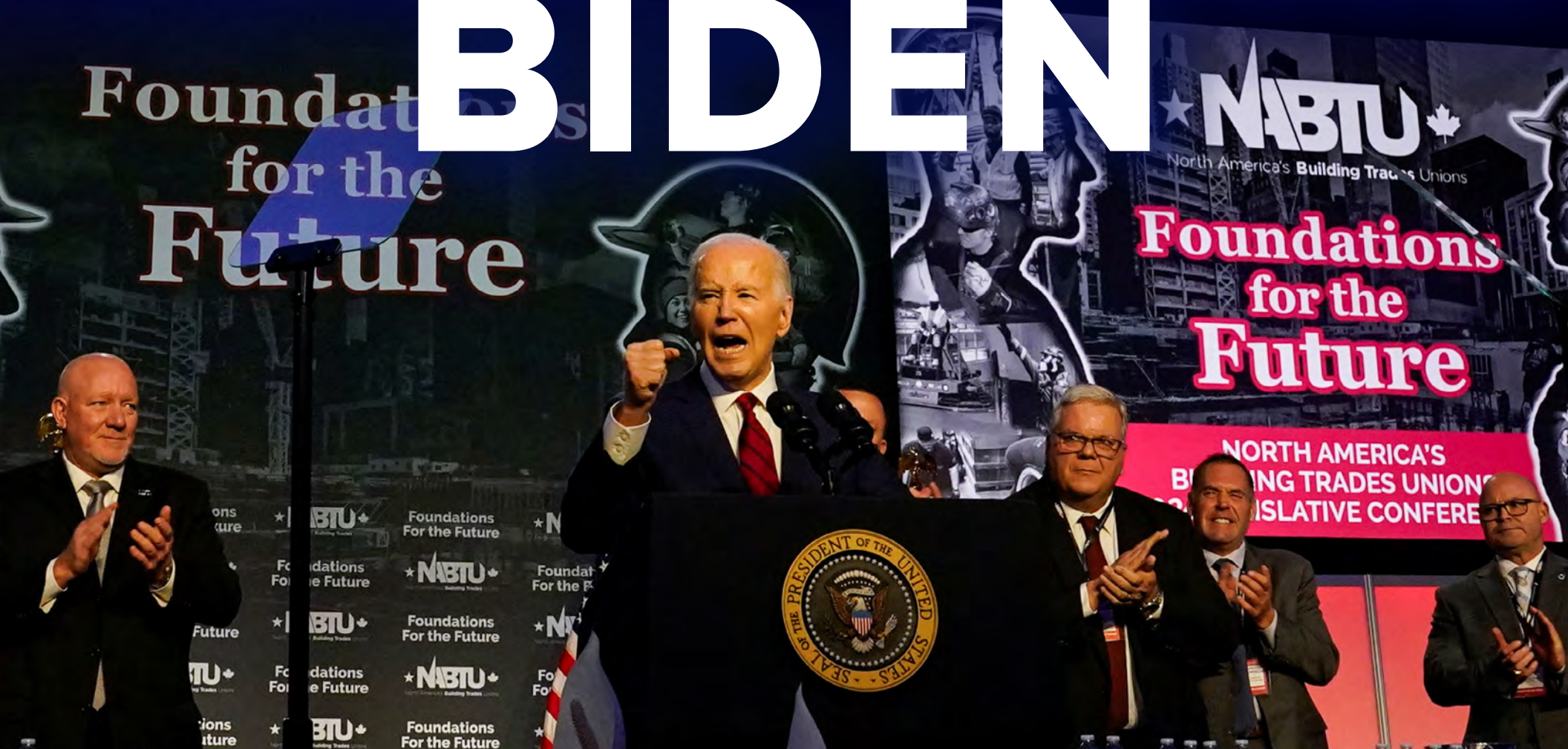




BUILDING TRADES NEWS

VOLUME 29, NO.2 LOS ANGELES/ORANGE COUNTIES BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL, AFL-CIO  SUMMER 2024

TRADES CHOOSE BIDEN



Union presidents applaud US President Joe Biden at the annual Building Trades conference in Washington, DC.

BY ANNE-MARIE OTEY

President Joe Biden took the stage April 24 for the Building Trades annual

national legislative conference and his first words were “Whoa—holy mackerel!” That’s because several thousand

delegates from across the United States and Canada were smacking thundersticks, shouting and clapping when the President appeared at

the podium of the Hilton Hotel in Washington, D.C. Introducing President Biden, Building **SEE BIDEN PAGE 5**

DISNEYLAND MOVES FORWARD

BY LESLIE BERKMAN

The Anaheim City Council has unanimously voted to set the stage for the next major expansion of the city’s world-renowned Disneyland Resort

with an immersive mix of new rides, hotels, restaurants and retail—to be constructed by the skilled members of Building Trades unions. Disney is committed to invest at least \$1.9 billion over the first decade

of the planned 40-year expansion, called Disneyland Forward. Disneyland Forward will generate thousands of construction jobs and resort-related jobs, and increase the city’s transient occupancy tax revenues by \$15 million a year to pay for additional public services. The city took its first vote on April 17 and followed it up May 7 with a confirming vote.

“This is an iconic, historic project,” Ernesto Medrano, Executive Secretary of the Los Angeles/Orange Counties Building and Construction Trades Council, told the city council at its



An “Avatar” attraction may be part of Disneyland’s future. eight-hour April 17 meeting. “You will probably never have a chance to vote for anything more important or more **SEE DISNEY PAGE 18**

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UNIONS RALLY FOR HOMES AND JOBS

LA County Measure Heads to November Ballot



Union and community members gather to support the Affordable Housing, Homelessness Solutions and Prevention Now Measure.

THE BOLD NEW WAY

The campaign promises better strategies to fight homelessness.

On May 7, a coalition including many Building Trades union representatives dropped off more than 413,000 petition signatures at the Los Angeles County Clerk's office in Norwalk.

The advocates are eyeing an ambitious measure for the Nov. 5 **SEE HOUSING PAGE 10**

FROM THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

THERE IS NO LABOR SHORTAGE

Apprenticeship Offers Challenges and Opportunities

We have been hearing about a labor shortage for well over a decade. In our industry, many question whether union apprenticeships can supply enough workers. And many people ask, who will be the union workforce of the future?

And to fuel more fear among policy makers and elected officials, Artificial Intelligence (AI) and automation rears its ugly head. As workers, this reaction is the fear that it's going to kill our jobs!

To some extent, both are myths. AI is



BY ERNESTO MEDRANO
Executive Secretary

It is imperative that we promote a high-skilled, high-wage workforce instead of the race to the bottom.

The answer is all around us, within our neighborhoods. All we need to do is invest in the youth of our communities. We have hundreds of people lining up to fill the slots at our apprenticeship training centers. The LA/OC Building and Construction Trades have over 22,000 apprentices within our jurisdiction. That is more apprentices than any other Council in the country. It's

“All we need to do is invest in the youth within our communities.”

not taking our jobs away—as long as we are engaged at the bargaining table and in the legislative arena to be in the front line of the conversation. Labor must continue to be involved regarding Artificial Intelligence and automation, as it always has been. It will change our jobs, and that's a reality.

As a young organizer, I recall Cesar Chavez saying that “the only constant factor in the union is change.” Well, that also applies to the workplace. How do the Trades meet that challenge? We will continue to train our members to meet the needs of any project, any jobsite, and any technological innovations for decades to come.

And is there a labor shortage? The answer is “NO!” What we have is a shortage of employers who participate in Joint Labor Management Apprenticeship Training programs.

We Graduate 95 Percent

In the State of California, the Joint Labor Management programs graduate over 95 percent of the state-certified apprentices in the construction sector. What we have is too many employers that have refused to invest in the future of California's construction workforce, and yet they cry “there is a labor shortage.”

They have refused to invest in the best standards in the industry, and if they are not part of the solution, they are part of the problem. Those employers are the same cadre that propose that the solution is “guest workers,” therefore fomenting global exploitation.

more than any other state in the country, including New York and Texas. We are doing our part, in collaboration with our educational and community partners via the Apprenticeship Readiness Fund, the nonprofit arm of the LA/OC Building and Construction Trades Council.

This issue has even captured the attention of the pro-business “Wall Street Journal.”

“How Gen Z Is Becoming the Toolbelt Generation” is the title of an article they published on April 1. But it was no joke.



Like all apprentices, this Iron Worker learns in class and in the field.

There is a reason why NABTU President Sean McGarvey calls our newcomers “The Infrastructure Generation.”

The article highlighted a 2023 survey, commissioned by Jobber. Some of these findings are:

- 74 percent of respondents say that there's a significant stigma associated

SEE MEDRANO PAGE 15

BUILDING TRADES NEWS

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INSIDE BUILDING TRADES NEWS

1 NATIONAL BUILDING TRADES ENDORSE JOE BIDEN
Leaders say the President's priorities are in the right place: Union jobs and infrastructure funding



PG. 1

1 ANAHEIM MOVES FORWARD ON DISNEYLAND
City Council makes unanimous vote to approve \$2 billion plan for new attractions, shops and parking structure

2 HOUSING MEASURE HEADS TO NOVEMBER BALLOT
Local unions are on board for initiative that will build affordable housing and help more than 70,000 people without homes

PG. 4



3 FROM THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

There's no labor shortage when contractors look for quality union apprentices

4 CARSON LAUNCHES BATTERY PLANT

Unions will break ground next year on a storage facility that can power 45,000 households



PG. 1

11 ON THE JOB: LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL
A historic school in LA Unified School District gets a skillful union makeover



PG. 11

15 COUNCIL ADDS NEW STAFF
Representatives have the experience and commitment to win more work for our unions

PG. 15



16 BOILERMAKERS GO BIG IN CARSON

Local 92 opens a bright new hall and plans an apprenticeship training center



PG. 16

21 PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS

Here are the winners who will head to the November 5 general election



PG. 21

ENERGY STORAGE HEADS TO CARSON



Arevon's battery energy storage project will be a \$350 million investment in Carson.

An ambitious all-union plan to construct several battery energy storage projects throughout California will take shape soon in Carson.

The nine-project Falcon Energy Storage system will be built under a Project Labor Agreement with the State Building and Construction Trades Council of California.

The projects plan to generate approximately 2,000 MWs of battery storage, with the Avocet facility in Carson coming in at 200 MW/800 MWh.

Construction is estimated to begin in the first quarter of 2025.

“Energy storage systems such as our Avocet Energy Storage facility reduce air pollution and contribute to grid reliability,” said Tommy Greer, executive vice president & chief commercial officer at project owner Arevon, a leading renewable energy developer, owner and operator. “As with all of our projects, we are invested in the local area and are committed to both the economic and social well-being of the community.”

Ernesto Medrano, Executive Secretary of the Los Angeles/Orange Counties Building and Construction Trades Council, said the Falcon PLA is an example of the Building Trades’ strong connection to the diverse future of energy in California.

“We are proud to represent the local workforce that keeps oil and gas refineries running and safe, and

4 BUILDING TRADES NEWS

to be the workforce that brings our high standards to new sources such as wind, green hydrogen and battery storage,” Medrano said.

Battery storage is increasing in importance as California turns to renewable energy sources such as wind and solar. For several hours each day, when winds are not lively or the sun is not shining, those sources can’t generate energy. But the power that they generate when they’re active can be stored in efficient and accessible battery facilities, and then discharged as needed.

Avocet will be able to power 45,000

homes for up to four hours.

Although the power will be stored in Carson, it will not be used there. In March, San Diego Community Power signed a 15-year offtake agreement with Arevon to buy all the power for its service area, which includes six cities and unincorporated areas of San Diego County.

Statewide Challenge

That works for the Building Trades, State Building Trades President Chris Hannan said. “The capability of our future energy grid is a statewide challenge,” he said. “With nine of these



Carson Mayor Lula Davis-Holmes calls Avocet “a new and innovative clean energy solution.”

storage plants on tap, Californians in all regions will benefit.”

In addition to Carson, projects will be sited in Brisbane, Imperial County, Industry, Poway, Riverside County, San Diego, San Jose and San Juan Capistrano, ranging from 200 to 300 MW.

At her March 21 State of the City presentation, Carson Mayor Lula Davis-Holmes praised Arevon for locating in the city, where many Building Trades members live.

The total investment to build the facility is estimated at more than \$350 million.

“Arevon’s Avocet Energy Storage Project aligns with my Innovation and Clean Energy Hub Initiative and illustrates our commitment to new and innovative clean energy solutions,” the Mayor said.

The facility will be built on Alameda Street, north of E. Sepulveda Blvd.

The nine-project Falcon Energy Storage system will be built under a statewide Project Labor Agreement.

PROJECT CAPACITY	LOCATION	MW CAPACITY
Tanager	San Jose	200
Cormorant	Brisbane	250
Avocet	Carson	200
Kestrel	Industry	200
Condor	Riverside County	200
Sandpiper	San Juan Capistrano	200
Nighthawk	Poway	300
Peregrine	San Diego	200
Cardinal	Imperial County	200



“There is nothing like a Building Trades entrance,” says Labor Secretary Julie Su, walking to the stage with LA/OC Building Trades Council Executive Secretary Ernesto Medrano, left, and Carol Kim, Business Manager of the San Diego County Building and Construction Trades Council, right.

BIDEN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Trades President Sean McGarvey said, “North America’s Building Trades Unions can honestly say no elected official has shown our members and their families more respect than President Joe Biden. Through his policies and his personnel, President Biden has demonstrated his laser-like focus on not only rebuilding our nation’s infrastructure and manufacturing sector but rebuilding the American middle class itself.”

The Building Trades California delegation participated enthusiastically in the conference. Ernesto Medrano, Executive Secretary of the Los Angeles/Orange Counties Building and Construction Trades Council, was one of a small group of leaders chosen to escort Acting Secretary of Labor Julie Su to the stage when it was her turn to address delegates.

“There is nothing like a Building Trades entrance,” Su said with a smile. Before joining the Biden Administration, Su was California

SEE BIDEN PAGE 6

Photos by
JENIFER MORRIS;
by **WILLIAM BROUILLETTE/NABTU**



Union members from all over the United States and Canada attend the conference.



Maryland Gov. Wes Moore salutes Building Trades members who will rebuild the Key Bridge in Baltimore, where six workers lost their lives.

BIDEN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

Labor Commissioner. “Julie Su knows our issues from when she served in Sacramento,” Medrano said. “She knows the good things that happen when a state upholds prevailing wage, registered apprenticeship and health and safety standards on the job.” Su is now applying that expertise nationwide, with Biden’s support. “President Biden is investing in

America,” she said. “And the Building Trades are building America.” She added, “For every piece of historic legislation that President Biden has signed—the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, the CHIPS and Science Act, the Inflation Reduction Act—we’ve built prevailing wage requirements into those laws. “And it’s not just prevailing wages. Let’s talk about PLAs. No President in history has ever required Project Labor Agreements on federal construction



Pennsylvania Gov. Josh Shapiro, who oversaw the I-95 highway reconstruction.

projects. Under President Biden, we said, ‘Just see what we can do on our watch.’” With that track record of success, North America’s Building Trades Unions announced that Biden has won its endorsement, as he did in 2020. **More Than 3 Million Strong** North America’s Building Trades Unions is an alliance of 14 national and international unions in the building and construction industry that collectively

represent over 3 million skilled craft professionals in the United States and Canada. Its unions, including the 48 that belong to the LA/OC Building Trades, and their signatory contractor partners invest almost \$2 billion in private-sector money to fund and operate over 1,900 apprenticeship training and education facilities across North America. As a major driver of economic development, NABTU plays a big role in the presidential election.



The Presidents of the International Unions of the 14 Trades stand up for Joe Biden.



Greg Lewis, center, Business Manager of UA Local 761 Plumbers & Fitters, gets into the spirit with Local 761 business representative George Balli, left.



Brent Beasley, right, Business Manager of Roofers & Waterproofers Local 220 and 6th International President of his Trade, meets union brother Mike Stiens, 5th International Vice President.

McGarvey addressed openly the candidacy of former President Donald Trump, who received many Building Trades members’ votes when he ran in 2016 and 2020, and is the likely Republican nominee for 2024. The Biden endorsement is not about

a wide spectrum of issues, McGarvey said. It’s about which candidate has produced results and jobs for Building Trades members. As President, Trump visited with Building Trades leaders and spoke at the NABTU conference in 2017—but never returned after that.

McGarvey described a series of disappointments and broken promises. “When Trump was elected, we took him at his word that he would have a worker-centered agenda and deliver on long-stalled issues such as infrastructure investment,” McGarvey

said. “Instead of delivering, he aligned himself with his billionaire buddies to enact tax cuts that raised costs for our members. Simply put, he failed to deliver. Given our experience and knowing his track record, the choice is clear.

SEE BIDEN PAGE 8



Women in the Building Trades escort AFL-CIO President Liz Shuler.

BIDEN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

“Joe Biden has proven to be the perfect leader at the perfect time for this country and the working men and women who have built it. NABTU is proud to endorse the clear and only choice for President of the United States, Joe Biden.”

Biden then took the stage, with the speaker podium now decorated by the presidential seal.

“Trump promised us an infrastructure week, but I’ll tell you: In four years, he didn’t build a damn thing,” Biden said.

“We’ve attracted nearly \$700 billion in private-sector investment in advanced manufacturing, in



Visiting at the office of Rep. Norma Torres, l-r: Heat & Frost Insulators Local 5 Business Manager Mike Patterson; Don Andres, chief of staff to Rep. Torres; Council Representative Eddie Alvarez, and Matt Gonzales, Business Manager of Heat & Frost Insulators Local 76 in New Mexico.



The day ends at the US Capitol with, l-r: Fernando Ochoa, SMART Local 105; Eddie Alvarez, LA/OC Building Trades; Doug Mangione, IBEW Local 441; Andrew Gonzales, LA/OC Building Trades; Miguel Castellon of Iron Workers Local 433, and Tyler Byrd of Iron Workers Local 416.

semiconductors, clean energy, and so much more here in America, creating tens of thousands of good-paying jobs, Building Trades jobs. In fact, construction of new factories has more than doubled in our administration.

“Folks, we’re moving again. We’re moving again as a country. We’re beginning to gain momentum. We have the best economy in the world, but we’ve got a lot more to do.

“As I travel the country, I see the amazing things you’re doing, all over the country, in red states and blue states.

“Remember when that tanker truck crashed and closed the key stretch of I-95 in Philly? It was expected, like in the last administration, that it would take months and months for anything to happen.

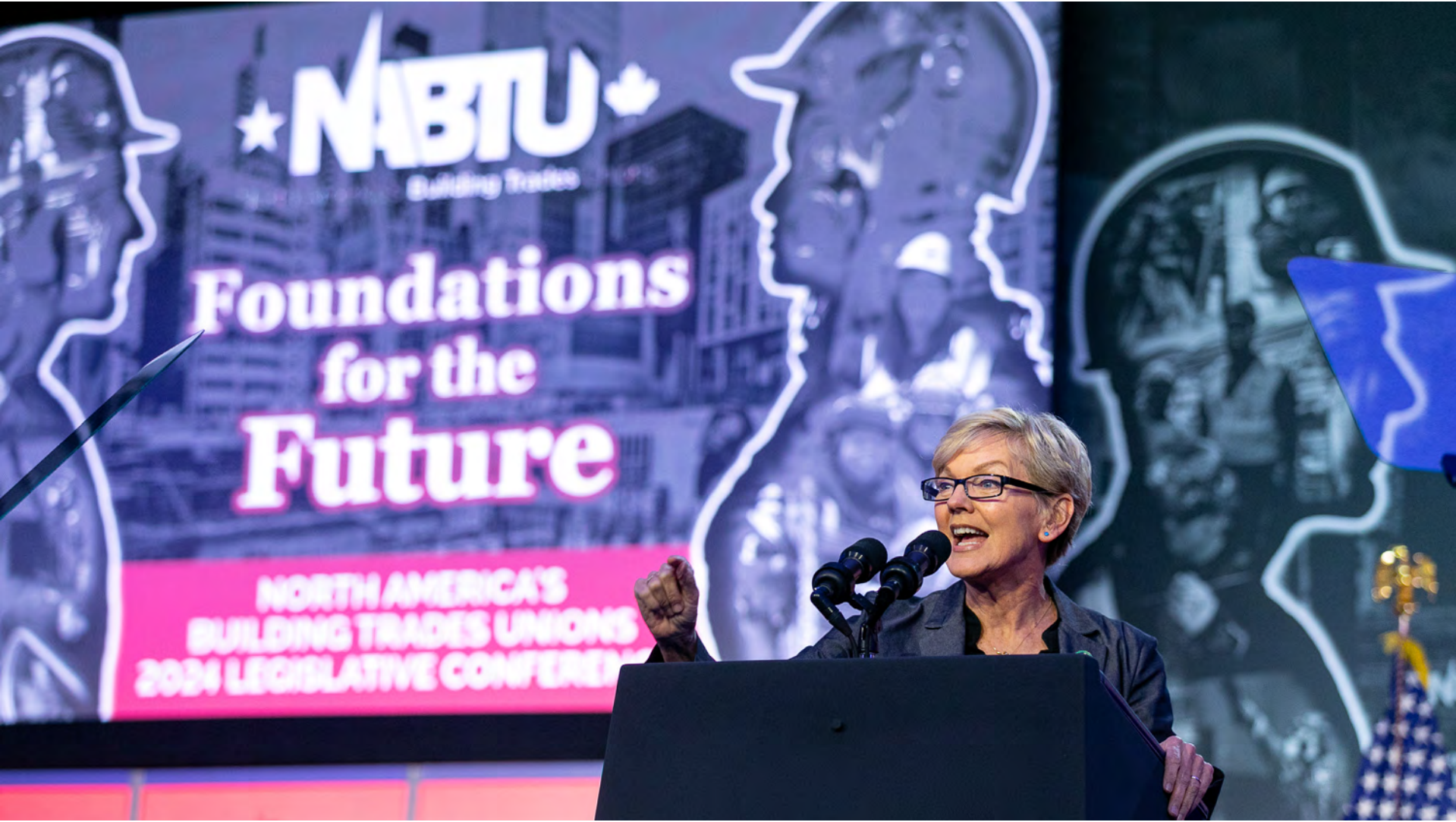
Unions Get It Done

“Well, 150,000 vehicles travel that overpass every single day. So, what did we do? We contacted all of you. We organized. You organized. You rebuilt that in less than two weeks, record time. How? Because you’re the BuildingTrades. Laborers, Operating Engineers, Cement Finishers, Plumbers, Pipefitters, Iron Workers. So many union workers. You showed up around the clock. And you got it done.

“By the way—that’s America.”

The attention on Biden didn’t stop at the doors of the Hilton. The NABTU endorsement received major play on CNN, Fox, and many other news stations, newspapers and social media.

As one news article put it, “Biden drew a stark contrast between the anti-worker actions of 2016-2020—a union-busting National Labor Relations Board, a promised ‘infrastructure week’ that never arrived and more—with the progress workers have made since 2021: 51,000 projects started since the passage of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law; 15 million jobs created; an executive order requiring Project Labor Agreements on federal jobs that cost more than \$35 million; Davis-Bacon updates that expand prevailing wages for construction workers; and the repealing of Trump’s proposed Industry Recognized Apprenticeship Programs



“America has begun the industrial revolution of our lifetimes,” Secretary of Energy Jennifer Granholm tells delegates. “A transformation that’s got us building again.”

(IRAPs) rule that would have greatly damaged union apprenticeships, to name a few.”

In addition to Biden, other speakers at plenary sessions on April 23 and 24 came from a variety of political backgrounds and states. All expressed their commitment to Building Trades union workers, and investment in infrastructure.

“We have a tremendous opportunity right now, and the progress we make is going to run right through your union halls,” said Pennsylvania Gov. Josh Shapiro, who oversaw the I-95 highway reconstruction.

“People look at the Building Trades as a source of hope,” said AFL-CIO

President Liz Shuler. “They see workers literally building our country, and they say to themselves, something better is possible. They say, ‘If I work hard, and I stand together with my fellow workers, my life can change, too.’ It’s the story of the Building Trades, and it’s the story of our unions.”

After the speeches, the LA/OC delegation headed to Capitol Hill and to meetings at the Department of Transportation.

Medrano also attended a White House summit April 19 with community college leaders, to talk about the importance of apprenticeship in training the future workforce.

“This opportunity is an example

of President Biden’s commitment to our issues,” Medrano said. “The Building Trades are the workforce that build the majority of community college facilities, especially in LA and Orange Counties. It’s an honor to

continue to engage our membership and their families directly, member to member, door to door, and jobsite to jobsite, with an unprecedented field program in key battleground states,” McGarvey said. “We will tell them



Biden is the first American President to walk a picket line.

represent our local unions at an event like this, where workers’ voices and stories are in the forefront. With this Administration, we have a seat at the table.”

Campaign Starts Now

As the delegates were preparing to leave Washington and return home on April 25, McGarvey and the NABTU staff turned to the mission of the months ahead: winning votes for Joe Biden, especially in states like Arizona, Nevada, Georgia, Michigan and Wisconsin.

“In the coming months, we will

how important President Biden and his policies have been to them, their economic security and their freedoms.”

Arizona and Nevada share borders with California, and many Southern California local unions cover workers in those states too. “We will make sure to send the message to our Building Trades brothers and sisters across the state lines,” Medrano said. “Their votes count more than ever this year. We are going to fight for local initiatives and candidates in California, and we are going to stand shoulder to shoulder to re-elect Joe Biden.”



NABTU President Sean McGarvey.



Donny Sappington, representative for SMART Local 105, joins other union and community members at the rally in Norwalk.

HOUSING
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

county ballot. Dubbed “The Bold New Way,” the measure met the requirement of 240,000 valid voter signatures to qualify. It is now officially on the Nov. 5 ballot.

Supporters then attended a lively rally that highlighted what the measure would do: fund services for those who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, and provide at least \$250 million a year to build affordable housing with a union workforce.

So far, the track record is good. In 2022, Building Trades unions helped pass Measure ULA for the city of Los Angeles, which is generating hundreds of millions of dollars a year for unions to build affordable housing.

But the 88 cities of LA County need new housing just as much. On any given night, the measure’s organizers say, 75,518 people are homeless. About 550,000 renter households are paying more than 50 percent of their income

in rent, which makes them more at risk of falling behind on rent and being evicted. And the county has lost low-priced units at a fast clip in the past 10 years: 200,000 units that rented for less than \$1,000 per month are no longer on



The measure will be on the November ballot.

the market.

If the measure passes, all new housing complexes of 40 units or above that it funds would be built under a Project Labor Agreement with the Los

Angeles/Orange Counties Building and Construction Trades Council.

The new measure will replace Measure H, which passed with Building Trades support in 2017. The new measure would keep the ¼ cent sales tax imposed by Measure H, and add a new ¼ cent sales tax, for a total of ½ cent for consumers.

Inflation is still on everyone’s minds, but proponents say the payoff from the sales tax investment will be worth it. The county will gain new homes, good union jobs and vast improvements in mental and physical health for thousands of people.

Uplifting Example

James Morgan, a journeyman with Laborers Local 300, is an uplifting example of the individuals that the measure would help. He has known the challenges of homelessness and incarceration as well as the intensity of serving in the US Army.

Now, he knows the pride of being a union journeyman.

The Anti-Recidivism Coalition, a partner of the Building Trades Council’s Apprenticeship Readiness Fund, sponsors the program where Morgan participated. That brought him into union apprenticeship, journey status and a role speaking at the rally.

“I am an example of the impact these ballot measures can make,” he said. “My wife and I are saving for our first home.”

Ernesto Medrano, Council Executive Secretary, stood at the podium with Morgan. “We’re bringing in folks who have had barriers to employment,” Medrano said. “They are finding success with the Building Trades.”

The measure will supply hundreds of millions of dollars to build new housing, while helping get rid of



Building Trades Council Executive Secretary Ernesto Medrano speaks at the rally.

dangerous working conditions. “The residential building industry has a bad reputation for exploiting workers,” Medrano pointed out. “There’s wage theft, underpayment, unsafe conditions and even young teenagers working and losing their lives on job sites. This measure is our opportunity to change that. We will take the high road to turn this sector around, while providing desperately needed housing for Angelenos.”

Supporters say the measure would generate about \$1.2 billion in funding each year. About \$250 million would



LA County Federation of Labor President Yvonne Wheeler.

be dedicated to building new housing. There is no “sunset” on the measure, which means the funds will be available every year with no expiration date.

“This steady source of funding creates a secure source of business for



Long Beach Mayor Rex Richardson.

contractors and jobs for our members,” Medrano said. “It actually brings down the cost of building housing. Contractors and unions are better able to prepare for these projects, and that makes the process more efficient. The Building Trades stand strongly behind this measure.”



\$274 million in work is scheduled to be completed in 2027.

IN THE LAND OF LINCOLN

Historic LA High School Gets a Building Trades Makeover

BY LOUIS KEENE

Abraham Lincoln High School is an architectural jewel of the Los Angeles Unified School District, but it was long overdue for a revamp. Thanks to LAUSD’s Facilities Bond program, it’s finally getting one, and union hands from the Building Trades are hard at work powering the improvements.

Established in 1913 and largely

reconstructed in 1937, the school on North Broadway in Lincoln Heights is undergoing a \$274 million “comprehensive modernization” project. Renovations throughout the campus will improve safety and accessibility by adding four new buildings including a performing arts annex, and dramatic upgrades to both indoor and outdoor sports facilities.

All the work is being done under the LAUSD’s Project Stabilization Agreement with the LA/Orange Counties Building and Construction

Trades Council. The agreement was renewed in 2023 for a 10-year term.

While earlier years of bond-measure funding created brand-new schools, the challenge in this current phase is to bring renovation and new buildings to existing, older campuses.

Building Trades Council Representative Eddie Escotó Alvarez led a tour March 8 of the project site. “The ‘guts’ are all brand new, but the building, the iconic look, is still the same,” Alvarez said. “We want them to recognize the building when it’s done.”

That means preserving the buildings’ historic WPA Moderne exterior, identified with the Depression-era Works Progress Administration effort to restart the economy through public works jobs, while bringing the campus into the 21st century.

Alvarez was guiding about a dozen Coro Public Affairs fellows, who are recent college graduates learning about different policy areas and gaining leadership skills through professional placements in various job sectors.

When the cohort did a four-week



Laborers Local 300 journeyman James Morgan hopes the measure will help others like him to succeed.

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



Norberto Vargas is an apprentice with UA Local 709 Sprinkler Fitters.

rotation in the labor sector, two fellows shadowed Alvarez, and fellow Johnny Gross shadowed Andrew Gonzales, council representative for Orange County.

“I’ve learned a lot behind the scenes, like how these union representatives help prepare stakeholders to make sure they can get the job for union labor,”

said Gross, 24, who graduated from Yale in 2022 and is planning to head back east to work in city planning. “It’s a new experience, learning about things I had previously taken for granted about how cities get built.”

Alvarez led the group into a cavernous building that had been stripped down to its skeleton, and



Operating Engineers Local 12 journeyman Noe Rodriguez.



Calvin Guerrero, UA Local 709 Sprinkler Fitters apprentice, installs a main for sprinkler heads.



Operating Engineers and Laborers are on the site.



Leobardo Hilario of Operating Engineers Local 12.



Keeping an eye on the controls.

grabbed the attention of a pair of Sprinkler Fitters from UA Local 709, Calvin Guerrero and Norberto Vargas, who were installing a main for the sprinkler heads.

Guerrero, 36, who’s just a year or so away from journeyman status, was a foreman on this project and showing Vargas, a first-period apprentice, the ropes (or in this case, pipes).

A Good Recruit

About six months ago, Guerrero had recruited Vargas to the local, knowing he had a construction background. Vargas applied, and now he’s going to school on Tuesday and Wednesday nights to earn his certifications. But he was relishing the on-the-job training he was getting from his more seasoned friend, everything from getting precise measurements to installing hangers.

“He teaches me a lot, and he has a lot of patience,” Vargas said.

“We throw a lot at him, and we

don’t expect him to catch everything,” Guerrero said. “But he’s catching on. I encourage him. He’s here all the time and doesn’t miss days. You want a reliable apprentice.”

Compared with non-union work, Local 709 offered better benefits, Vargas said, noting the pension and the health care package, plus a better work environment.

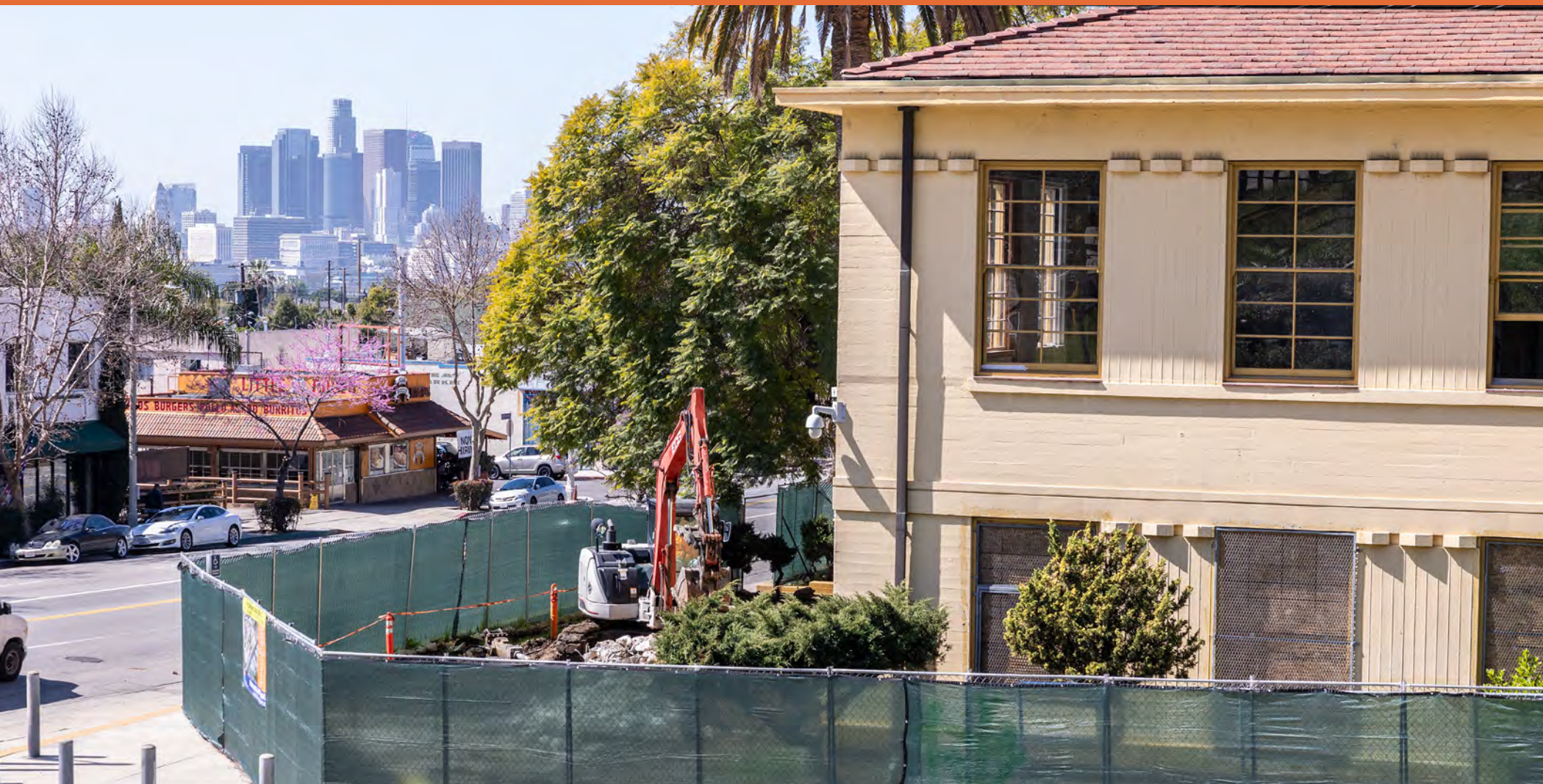
“At the union, we’ve got a good brotherhood,” Vargas, 29, said. “Everyone looks out for each other. That’s something you don’t get at a small company that’s not unionized.”

Outside, Richard Ceja, 31, an apprentice from IBEW Local 11, headed to his lunch break after a morning of making conduits for light fixtures. It was looking more like a snack. He said he had packed only “some Cheetos and a Mountain Dew.”

Ceja inherited his interest in the Trade from his dad, who was a Local 11 member, too. Being back on a high



“I’ve been plumbing longer than I’ve been driving,” says journeyman James Gutierrez of UA Local 761 Plumbers and Fitters.



Construction work fits into a tight corner on the urban campus.

school campus was bringing back his own memories from the wrestling and baseball teams at Artesia High School.

Like Vargas, Ceja said the camaraderie in the local was one of the highlights of the job. But Electricians were special, he felt, for one simple reason: “Everyone needs electricity.”

The journeyman has been in the union for two decades and his father, another Local 761 Plumber, was in it for 40 years. “I’ve been plumbing longer than I’ve been driving,” Gutierrez said.

‘Watch the Other Guys’

His advice for beginners: “Watch the other guys to see how they do things,” he said, “to make them easier, instead of busting your hump.” (And come to the work site on time.)

Noe Rodriguez, a journeyman from Operating Engineers Local 12, was helping direct the earth auger, which was boring a hole some 50 feet into the soil, where a beam would be lowered into it. Five of those beams will eventually form the backbone of the shoring wall.

Twenty years into the job, Rodriguez is still enjoying it. “It’s a new challenge every day,” he said.

Oscar Leyva, Rodriguez’s Local 12 brother and shoring partner—and a foreman on the Lincoln

project—was keeping an eye on the proceedings as Luis Hinojosa, a journeyman from Laborers Local 300, pitched in.

Communication was critical to safety, Leyva said, and critical to communication was “getting to know the guys and have them respect you.” But safety was only part of his purview.

“You’re also responsible for the quality of work,” Leyva said. “That’s the big thing with being a foreman, being a leader.”



A class of Coro Fellows, future leaders in planning and politics, don their hard hats to learn more about the Building Trades with Council Representatives as their guides.

Meanwhile, the Lincoln football field, which will eventually get a new running track, goalposts and scoreboard, but currently is bursting with rough dirt, was bustling with hard-hat activity.

A LoDril was just one piece of heavy machinery on the field, where Operating Engineers and Laborers were teaming up to shore the area behind one end zone, where an elevator will eventually be installed.

Near the future 50-yard-line, James Gutierrez of UA Local 761 Plumbers and Fitters was rerouting some underground water lines.

14 BUILDING TRADES NEWS

COUNCIL ADDS NEW STAFF

Meeting the Challenge of More Agreements and More Union Jobs

The Los Angeles/Orange Counties Building and Construction Trades Council is proud to introduce two new representatives and other staff additions and promotions.

“Our mission is to serve 48 local unions and district councils, working in unity to obtain Project Labor Agreements that put 150,000 skilled union members to work,” said Ernesto Medrano, Council Executive Secretary. “The expertise and dedication of our staff are crucial to success.”

Eddie Escotó Alvarez is the Council Representative for Los Angeles County. Alvarez, a native Angeleno and graduate of Verdugo Hills High School, comes from a strong union household where his father is a 50-year member of Elevator Constructors Local 18. Alvarez was most recently Business Representative for the Alameda County Building and Construction Trades Council, where he won PLAs with the school districts of Oakland and Berkeley and the city of Dublin, and chaired the PLA oversight committee of the Port of Oakland.

Alvarez worked his way through Carroll College in Montana as a



Council Representative Eddie Escotó Alvarez



Council Representative Andrew Gonzales

baseball grounds keeper. He was once a game-day assistant on the Dodger Stadium grounds crew. “It’s great to come back to Southern California,” Alvarez said. “I look forward to

too much.

Well, we have some new information on that too. An Independent Project Analysis published in December 2022, titled “Quantifying the Value of Union Labor in Construction Projects,” demonstrates the following:

- Projects are 40 percent less likely to experience a shortage of skilled labor when union labor is sourced versus open shop labor.
- Projects that are short on skilled labor are twice as likely to have a 10 percent or higher cost overrun and are more likely to have a schedule slip of 25 percent or higher.
- Turnover of labor on projects is one-third less likely when union labor is employed versus open shop labor.

That all adds up to a more efficient and economical project when employing union labor.

We will continue to set high and strict standards in training. Apprenticeships are competitive. The Building Trades unions, nationwide, run 1,900 Joint Labor Management Apprenticeships, with an annual investment of \$2 billion. We are the second-biggest source of job training after the military. We are committed to build our communities by continuing to invest in the best training for our members and the future workforce.

And that will pay off, for the “Infrastructure Generation,” and the next ones too.



Council Representative and Chief of Staff Chad Boggio



Communications Director Anne-Marie Otey

working with partners on building new housing at all levels, expanding mass transit and increasing our unions’ market share in every sector of our economy.”

Andrew Gonzales is the Council Representative for Orange County, and is skilled in working with unions and with politicians from both sides of the aisle. He was most recently public relations and legislative affairs manager for the City of Modesto, and was also communications director for the Democratic Caucus of the Missouri House of Representatives. For several years, Gonzales was a strategic consultant to SMART, and represented light rail and motor coach operators in

public and political relations, including negotiations, with LA County Metro.

Gonzales is an Army veteran who served in the infantry and reserves. He is a graduate of the University of Southern California and earned a master’s degree from the Ohio State University. He graduated from La Quinta High School in Riverside County. “I’m here to continue the momentum that Ernesto Medrano started as the Orange County Representative before me,” Gonzales said. “With partners like Disney and all the major cities of Orange County, we are gaining more work—and gaining on LA as a union hub!”

Chad Boggio continues as Council Representative for the public sector in LA County. In addition, Medrano has named him Chief of Staff. In that role, Boggio oversees administrative staff at the Council office, and manages day-to-day operations.

“The Council’s responsibilities have increased because we have negotiated a record number of Project Labor Agreements,” Medrano said. “We have to deal with constant change, especially in technology, and Chad is the ideal person to troubleshoot and keep us up to date.”

Anne-Marie Otey continues as Communications Director, with responsibility for handling all messaging from the Council, including “Building Trades News,” social media, speeches and talking points.

Handling Changes With Skill

The Council has hired Jessica Griffith as bookkeeper. Griffith grew up in Los Angeles and graduated from Golden Valley High School in Santa Clarita and Skidmore College in New York. Most recently, she was chief bookkeeper for a medical device company in LA.

Griffith joins administrative staff members Hilda Alarcon, Alejandra Gallardo and Annette Tijerina.

“Our administrative staff is the backbone of everything we do here,” Medrano said. “I appreciate their ability to handle skillfully the changes at the Council. Our mission remains the same.”

The Council will also continue to house the offices of its nonprofit, the Apprenticeship Readiness Fund, which oversees more than two dozen programs that have graduated more than 1,500 people into union apprenticeships. Ben Garcia is Executive Director of the fund and Myllex Guadamuz is program coordinator.

BUILDING TRADES NEWS 15

**Contacting the
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Construction Trades
Council**

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BOILERMAKERS OPEN NEW HALL IN CARSON



Local 92 Business Manager Luis Miramontes, center, wields the giant scissors to cut the blue ribbon.

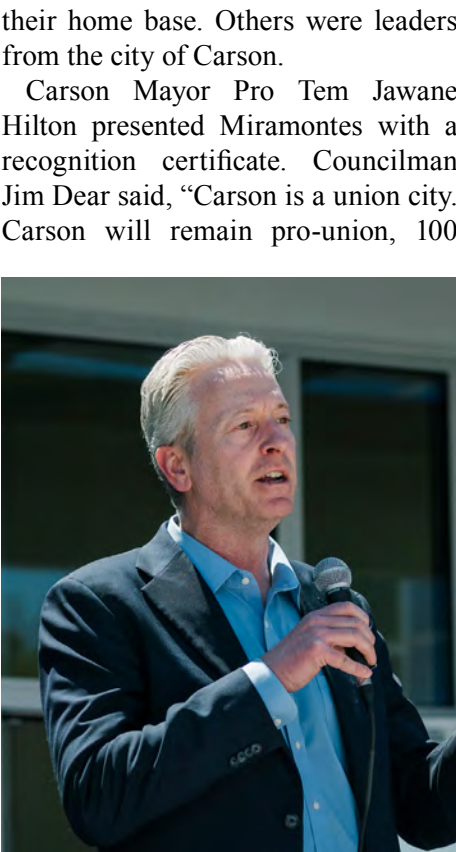
With VIPs, local union members and plenty of refreshments, Boilermakers Local 92 held a gala celebration April 10 for its new union hall.

The impressive building features large meeting rooms, staff offices and even an indoor-outdoor terrace with a skylight.

Business Manager Luis Miramontes, a native of Carson himself, said the new hall is due in part to growth—and that has come from state laws like SB 54, promoted by the Building Trades, to increase the use of a skilled and trained workforce in nearby refineries.

“The Boilermakers gave me a chance in life,” said Miramontes, who grew up in a family of truck drivers. He compared himself to other newcomers who want a better future. “Sometimes they don’t know about union Trades, or even what a Boilermaker is. So we open the doors to them.”

On the 10th, the doors opened to hundreds of guests. Many were Local 92 members who will make this hall **16 BUILDING TRADES NEWS**



Chris Hannan, President of the State Building and Construction Trades Council of California.

their home base. Others were leaders from the city of Carson.

Carson Mayor Pro Tem Jawane Hilton presented Miramontes with a recognition certificate. Councilman Jim Dear said, “Carson is a union city. Carson will remain pro-union, 100 percent.”



Ernesto Medrano, Executive Secretary of the Los Angeles/Orange Counties Building and Construction Trades Council.

density. “We’re on the doorstep of an incredible amount of union industrial work,” he said. Hannan added that recently passed state law SB 740 is the perfect companion to SB 54. The Boilermakers strongly support the new law, which extends SB 54 workforce training and safety standards to sites such as hydrogen, biofuels and chemical manufacturing.

“This is a very exciting day,” said Ernesto Medrano, Executive Secretary of the Los Angeles/Orange Counties Building and Construction Trades Council. “We intend to get even more work here in Carson.”

With that commitment, Miramontes said, Boilermakers Local 92 will build a new apprenticeship center, also in Carson. “Our unions are bringing more Project Labor Agreements and more union work.” He hasn’t yet set a ribbon-cutting date for that facility, but it will be another landmark to showcase the high standards of Building Trades training.

With that commitment, Miramontes said, Boilermakers Local 92 will build a new apprenticeship center, also in Carson. “Our unions are bringing more Project Labor Agreements and more union work.” He hasn’t yet set a ribbon-cutting date for that facility, but it will be another landmark to showcase the high standards of Building Trades training.



Celebrating in front of the famous “Riveter” statue, l-r: Nicolas Garcia, Local 92 business agent; Robert Hicks, maintenance manager at Marathon Petroleum; Victor Ibarra, government affairs manager of Marathon; Local 92 office manager Jay Rojo; Kimberly Caceres, external affairs manager of PBF Energy, and Patty Senecal, senior director at the Western States Petroleum Association.



Carson Councilman Jim Dear.



In-N-Out Burger feeds all the guests.



Carson Mayor Pro Tem Jawane Hilton presents Luis Miramontes with a recognition certificate.



J. Tom Baca is International Vice President, Western States, for Boilermakers, and Secretary-Treasurer of the California State Building Trades.



A local color guard raises the flag.



Local 92 members enjoy lunch after the ceremony.



Leticia Montague, left, and Jenny Tate of all-union Aava Dental.

DISNEY
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

historic than this project tonight.”

“This is a legacy, a partnership between Disney Resort and Anaheim that will impact generations to come,” Ken Potrock, President of Disneyland Resort, testified. The council voted in the early morning hours to give Disney the more flexible zoning overlays the company needs so its theme park attractions can spread onto other Disney-owned properties previously slotted only for hotels or retail.

“Guests today want more immersive and integrated experiences,” said Potrock, citing the Anaheim Resort’s popular, union-built “Star Wars: Galaxy’s Edge” and the recently opened “World of Frozen” in Hong Kong. He said an “Avatar” experience is at the top of the list of new attractions that might be built in Anaheim.

For the Building Trades unions, which have partnered with Disney since Disneyland’s creation in the

early 1950s, the resort expansion is a jobs engine.

“What this project represents is jobs and plenty of them,” said Andrew Gonzales, Orange County representative for the Building Trades. According to a study by the Woods Center for Economic Analysis and Forecasting at Cal State Fullerton, each \$1 billion that Disney spends on new development will create about 4,480 construction jobs and 2,293 permanent jobs each year the park expansion is in operation.

Moreover, Gonzales said, as part of the expansion the Building Trades Council recently negotiated its “first-ever Project Labor Agreement” in the resort for the construction of a mammoth parking structure with 17,000 spots on seven stories to replace a surface parking lot east of Harbor Blvd.

The implementation of a PLA with a local hiring priority, Gonzales said, will “guarantee Anaheim residents have the first bite of the apple on these



Representing their local unions are, l-r, Roy Afusia, business representative for UA Local 709 Sprinkler Fitters; Doug Mangione, political director of IBEW Local 441, and John O'Neill, President of Local 441.



Anaheim is the biggest city in Orange County.



Crowds are ready to share their opinions.
18 BUILDING TRADES NEWS

construction jobs.”

Gonzales said Disneyland Forward will become a Building Trades showcase to attract new members. “It is truly my dream that a young person sees all the great jobs we are providing here today and says, ‘I want to be a part of that, I want to join and begin a career here in the Building Trades as an apprentice,’ and for the next 40 years spends a career building the ‘happiest place on earth,’” he said.

“This is an iconic, historic project.”

—Ernesto Medrano, Building Trades Executive Secretary

Medrano said the Building Trades/Disney PLA will promote the hiring of local residents and military veterans. In addition, he said, the agreement will increase workforce diversity by targeting for hire those who graduate from the Building Trades’ apprenticeship-readiness programs. More than 1,500 graduates have been placed as apprentices at various projects in LA and Orange Counties so far, and 95 percent of graduates are people of color and 19 percent are women.

Disneyland’s Potrock urged the city council to act immediately so Anaheim can obtain a share of the \$60 billion that Disney has said it will invest in its theme parks worldwide over the next decade. He called it a “once in a lifetime opportunity,” comparable to the 1950s development of the Anaheim park by Walt Disney himself, and the area’s transformation from a one-day tourist visit to a multi-day destination resort with the addition of California Adventure and Downtown Disney.

500 Acres of Fun

Although Disneyland Forward is called an “expansion,” it does not increase Disney’s footprint in terms of acreage—it simply intensifies development on the existing 500 acres. All the construction will occur within the boundaries of land already owned by Disney.

No groundbreaking date has been set, although the plan takes effect on June 7, 30 days after the final vote.

About 45 percent of the total approved density already has been constructed, City Planning Director



Disney World in Florida already hosts the “Pandora: The World of Avatar” land—and the Building Trades may be creating one at Disneyland.



Ken Potrock, President of Disneyland Resort, left, meets with Building Trades Executive Secretary Ernesto Medrano, center, and Building Trades Orange County representative Andrew Gonzales, right.

Ted White said. Now, Disney has the freedom to build all or part of the remainder of its permitted theme park development on land it owns west of Disneyland Drive and south of Katella Ave. on the “Toy Story” parking lot.

Most important, White said, none of the new development will displace homes, and the city will not give Disney any public subsidies.

Besides committing to at least \$1.9 billion of building in the first decade, Disney will provide community benefits that include \$85 million for street and transportation improvements; \$39.6 million to close one city road and two entry drives into Disney parking; \$10 million for sewer improvements along Katella; \$8 million for Anaheim parks and \$30

SEE DISNEY PAGE 20



“World of Frozen,” based on the “Frozen” movies, opened in 2023 at Hong Kong Disneyland.

million for affordable housing. At the city council hearing, 84 people lined up to voice their opinions about the Disney expansion, including representatives of labor, the resort industry, and residents who live near the theme parks, a considerable number of whom were Disney employees or had worked on Disney construction projects. “Many of our members live and raise



Anaheim Mayor Ashleigh Aitken, center, listens carefully, with Councilwomen Natalie Rubalcava, left, and Mayor Pro Tem Norma Campos Kurtz.

their families in the Anaheim metro area,” observed Doug Mangione, business representative of IBEW Local 441 in Orange. “We are invested specifically in this project because our members’ families will directly benefit.” He compared construction to “an organized gig worker economy” and added, “We take a series of temporary jobs and through our union contracts with good employers, turn these hours into careers.” John DeCleene, a 52-year Anaheim resident and assistant business manager of IBEW Local 441, praised local hire. He said, “I spent half my career working at different projects in Disneyland, being able to be close to home to spend time with my children, coach their sports and coach other children in their sports and be a mentor to them.”

Tony DeTrinidad, business agent with Painters and Allied Trades District Council 36, pointed to Disneyland for opportunities for good blue-collar careers. “We need to provide more pathways here in Anaheim and surrounding areas by giving residents a chance to work towards the middle class. And one of the ways we can contribute to that is by making sure projects like these are approved.” Gloria Alvarado, Executive Director of the Orange County Labor Federation, said the federation



Representing IUPAT District Council 36, I-r, are Oriel Beltran, Fred Murillo, Vince Ramos and Tony De Trinidad.

emergency vehicles. Disney and the city embarked on an ambitious outreach program to engage Anaheim residents in discussions about Disneyland Forward after unveiling it three years ago. “Disney answered all of our concerns with solid solutions,” said Beverly Griggs, a Walnut Street homeowner. “I couldn’t be more excited to see my home value increase with the expansion of the Disneyland Resort.” Before making a motion to vote on Disneyland Forward, Councilwoman Natalie Meeks said she grew up in Anaheim and played a role in the 1990s expansion of Disneyland when she was a city engineer. Meeks noted that the subsequent growth in transient occupancy tax revenue paid by tourists, which now represents 31 percent of the city general fund, has supported Anaheim’s police, parks and libraries and made it possible to avoid saddling residents with an extra sales tax assessment or utility tax. Meeks said she wants to see the resort and the tax revenues it generates continue to grow “not because I am on Disney’s side. I am on Anaheim’s side. This is good for us.”



Disney World’s Pandora mixes natural plants with Imagineer-designed creations.



Plasterers Local 200 turns out to support Disneyland Forward, I-r: organizer Manuel Alvarado, business agent/President Zeek Mendez, and apprentices Phillip Webb, 4th stage; Anthony Carranza, 3rd stage, and Leobardo Gandarilla-Cortez, 4th stage.

PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS

LOS ANGELES COUNTY

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

District 2: Holly Mitchell, endorsed by the Building Trades, won re-election with 68 percent of the vote.

District 4: Janice Hahn, endorsed by the Building Trades, won re-election with 58 percent.



Janice Hahn

District 5: Kathryn Barger, endorsed by the Building Trades, won re-election with 57 percent.

District Attorney Incumbent George Gascon will face challenger Nathan Hochman in the November election.

U.S. CONGRESS

District 26 (Agoura Hills/Calabasas): Incumbent Julia Brownley, a Democrat endorsed by the Building Trades, will face Republican Michael Koslow in November.

District 27 (Santa Clarita/Antelope Valley): Incumbent Republican Mike Garcia will run against George Whitesides, the Democrat endorsed by the Building Trades.

District 28 (Pasadena/San Gabriel Valley): Incumbent Democrat Judy Chu, endorsed by the Building Trades, will face runner-up Republican April Verlato.



George Whitesides

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

PRESIDENT

President Joe Biden, endorsed by the Building Trades, won the majority of Democrats with 89 percent. Republican candidate Donald Trump won 79 percent of the Republican vote. They will represent their parties in the November election.



Joseph R. Biden

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

UNITED STATES SENATOR

For the full year-year term starting Jan. 3, 2025: In a field of 27 candidates, the two top vote-getters were Democrat Adam Schiff with 31.6 percent and Republican Steve Garvey with 31.5 percent. They face a runoff in November.

To serve the remainder of the term in the seat left vacant by the death of Sen. Dianne Feinstein: Steve Garvey and Adam Schiff will also face off for this short-term seat. The term expires Jan. 3, 2025.

PROPOSITION 1

Proposition 1, endorsed by the Building Trades, narrowly passed with 50.2 percent “yes” votes. It will allow the issuing of \$6.38 billion in bonds for homeless individuals and veterans, with \$2 billion for housing and the remainder for mental health care and drug or alcohol treatment facilities.

NOV. 5: GENERAL ELECTION

VOTE BY MAIL!

All registered voters will receive a ballot in the mail. Save time—fill out and send back, postage-free, or drop it off. Ballots will be sent to all voters by Oct. 7. Ballot drop-off locations open on Oct. 8.

ARE YOU REGISTERED TO VOTE?

Use this QR code or go to: <https://voterstatus.sos.ca.gov/>



REGISTER TO VOTE BY OCT. 21, or register later as a conditional voter

District 29 (Arleta/San Fernando Valley/Van Nuys):

Luz Rivas, Democrat endorsed by the Building Trades, led a field of three candidates with 49 percent and in November will run against Republican Benito Bernal.



Luz Rivas

District 30 (Burbank/Glendale/Hollywood):

Democrat Laura Friedman led a field of 15 candidates with 30 percent and will face the second-highest vote getter, Republican Alex Balekian. Building Trades-endorsed candidate Anthony Portantino came in third.

District 31 (El Monte/West Covina): Democrat Gil Cisneros will face off in November against Republican Daniel Martinez.

District 32 (Malibu/San Fernando Valley):

Incumbent Democrat Brad Sherman, endorsed by the Building Trades, will run against Republican Larry Thompson.

District 34 (Downtown and East LA/Koreatown):

Incumbent Democrat Jimmy Gomez, endorsed by the Building Trades, will face Democrat David Kim.

District 35 (Ontario/Pomona):

Incumbent Norma Torres, a Democrat endorsed by the Building Trades, will face Republican Mike Cargile.

District 36 (Santa Monica/South Bay):

Democratic incumbent Ted Lieu, a Building Trades endorsee, will run against Republican Melissa Toomim.

District 37 (Baldwin Hills/Century City):

Democratic incumbent Sydney Kamlager-Dove, endorsed by the Building Trades, will face Juan Rey, who is not a member of a political party.

District 38 (Norwalk/Whittier):

Democratic incumbent Linda Sanchez, endorsed by the Building Trades, will run against Republican



Jimmy Gomez

challenger Eric Ching.

District 42 (Long Beach):

Incumbent Robert Garcia, a Democrat endorsed by the Building Trades, will face Republican John Briscoe.

District 43 (Inglewood/Torrance):

Longtime Democratic incumbent Maxine Waters, endorsed by the Building Trades, will run against Republican Steve Williams.

ELECTIONS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 21

District 44 (Carson/Wilmington):

Incumbent Nanette Barragan will advance to the November general election against Republican Roger Groh.

STATE SENATE

District 23 (Antelope Valley/Santa Clarita):

In this open seat, Democrat Kipp Mueller, endorsed by the Building Trades, won 29 percent and in November will run against Republican Suzette Valladares with 33 percent.



Kipp Mueller

District 25 (Alhambra/Glendale/Pasadena):

In this open seat, Democrat Sasha Renee Perez, endorsed by the Building Trades, won 33 percent and will run in November against Republican Elizabeth Wong Ahlers who gained 36 percent.

District 27 (Malibu/San Fernando Valley):

Incumbent Democrat Henry Stern, endorsed by the Building Trades, will take on Republican Lucie Volotzky in November.

District 33 (Long Beach/Paramount):

Incumbent Democrat Lena Gonzalez will run in November against Republican Mario Paz.



Sasha Renee Perez

District 35 (Carson/Inglewood):

Two Democrats won the right to compete in November: Laura Richardson and Michelle Chambers.

22 BUILDING TRADES NEWS



Tom Lackey

STATE ASSEMBLY

District 34 (Palmdale):

Incumbent Republican Tom Lackey, endorsed by the Building Trades, won 66 percent of the vote and will face opponent Ricardo Ortega, a Democrat.

District 39 (Lancaster/Palmdale):

Incumbent Democrat Juan Carrillo, endorsed by the Building Trades, will go to a runoff against Republican Paul Marsh.

District 40 (Castaic/Santa Clarita):

Incumbent Pilar Schiavo, a Democrat endorsed by the Building Trades, will meet Republican opponent Patrick Gipson in a November runoff.

District 41 (Claremont/Pasadena):



Juan Carrillo



Celeste Rodriguez

For this open seat, Republican Michelle Del Rosario Martinez, with 40 percent, and Democrat John Harabedian with 30 percent will meet again in the November election.

District 43 (Pacoima/San Fernando):

Democrat Celeste Rodriguez, endorsed by the Building Trades, led a field of six and will face Republican Victoria Garcia.

District 44 (Burbank/North Hollywood):

Building Trades endorsee, Democrat Nick Schultz, led the pack of eight candidates for this open seat, and will vie with Republican Tony Rodriguez on Nov. 5.

District 46 (Encino/Tarzana):

Incumbent Democrat Jesse Gabriel, endorsed by the Building Trades, will go to a November runoff against Republican Tracey Schroeder.



Nick Schultz

District 48 (Glendora/West Covina):

Incumbent Democrat Blanca Rubio, endorsed by the Building Trades, will go to a November runoff against Republican Dan T. Tran.

District 49 (Alhambra/El Monte):

Mike Fong, an incumbent Democrat endorsed by the Building Trades, will proceed to the general election against Republican Long “David” Liu.

District 51 (Beverly Hills/Hollywood/West LA):

Rick Chavez Zbur, an incumbent Democrat endorsed by the Building Trades, will proceed to the general election against Republican Stephan Hohil.

District 52 (Echo Park/Highland Park):

In this open seat, Democrat Jessica Caloza led a field of 10 and will meet Democrat Franky Carrillo in the November runoff.

District 53 (Pomona):

This open seat attracted five candidates, with Republican Nick Wilson and Democrat Michelle Rodriguez going to a runoff in November. Robert Torres, endorsed by the Building Trades, came in third.



Mike Gipson

District 54 (Downtown LA/Montebello):

Democrat Mark Gonzalez, endorsed by the Building Trades, was the top vote-getter and will face Democrat John Yi in the general election.



Mark Gonzalez

District 55 (Culver City/West Adams):

Incumbent Democrat Isaac Bryan, endorsed by the Building Trades, won 84 percent of votes and will go to the November election against Republican Keith Cascio.

District 56 (Industry/Whittier):

Incumbent Democrat and Building Trades endorsee Lisa Calderon led with 56 percent among three candidates. Second-place finisher Jessica Martinez, a Republican, will face Calderon in the November runoff.

District 57 (South LA):

For this open seat, the top-two vote getters, Democrat Efrén Martinez and Democrat Sade Elhawary, will go to a runoff in November.



Jose Luis Solache

District 62 (Bellflower/Lynwood):

For this open seat, Democrat Jose Luis Solache, endorsed by the Building Trades, will face Republican Paul Jones in November.

District 64 (Bell/Downey/Norwalk):

Incumbent Democrat Blanca Pacheco, endorsed by the Building Trades, will go to a November runoff against Republican Raul Ortiz Jr.

District 65 (Compton/Wilmington):

Incumbent Mike Gipson, a Democrat and longtime Building Trades ally, will meet write-in Republican candidate Lydia Gutierrez in the November runoff.

District 66 (Torrance/Manhattan Beach):

Incumbent Democrat Al Muratsuchi will have a second round against his primary opponent, Republican George Barks, in November.

District 69 (Carson/Long Beach):

Incumbent Democrat Josh Lowenthal, endorsed by the Building Trades, will go to a November runoff against his sole primary opponent, Joshua Rodriguez, a Republican.



Josh Lowenthal

CITY ELECTIONS

All races are nonpartisan, so no party preference is specified.

LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL

District 2:

Adrin Nazarian led a field of seven candidates with 37 percent of the vote and will face the runner-up, Jillian Burgos, who received 22 percent, in the November election.

District 4:

Nithya Raman won re-election by receiving 50.7 percent of the vote in a field of three candidates. With more than 50 percent, she avoids a runoff election.



Marqueece Harris-Dawson

District 6:

Imelda Padilla, endorsed by the Building Trades, won re-election with 78 percent of the vote. With more than 50 percent, she avoids a runoff.

District 8:

Marqueece Harris-Dawson, endorsed by the Building Trades, won re-election with 78 percent of the vote. With more than 50 percent, he avoids a runoff election.



Lauren Hughes-Leslie

District 10:

The top two vote-getters—incumbent Heather Hutt with 38 percent and Grace Yoo with 23 percent—will go to a runoff in the November election.

District 12:

John Lee, endorsed by the Building Trades, won re-election with 62 percent of the vote. By winning more than 50 percent, he avoids a runoff election.

District 14:

Incumbent Kevin De Leon will face a November runoff against Ysabel Jurado.

LANCASTER

Mayor:

R. Rex Parris, the incumbent and longtime Building Trades endorsee, won re-election by finishing at the top of a field of 11 candidates with 35 percent of the votes.

City Council:

Eleven candidates competed for two open seats, and the Building Trades endorsees captured both: Lauren Hughes-Leslie with 35 percent and Ken Mann with 27 percent.

LONG BEACH CITY COUNCIL

District 2:

Incumbent Cindy Allen, endorsed by the Building Trades, won re-election with 54 percent.



Herlinda Chico

District 4:

Herlinda Chico, endorsed by the Building Trades, came in second with 26 percent and will face first-place finisher Daryl Supernaw, with 48 percent, in November.

District 6:

Incumbent Suely Saro, endorsed by the Building Trades, won a solid re-election with 77 percent of the vote.

District 8:

Tunua Thrash-Ntuk, endorsed by the Building Trades, won with 56 percent of the vote, besting Sharifa Batts.

LONG BEACH BALLOT MEASURE RW

The ballot measure passed with 53 percent of the vote. It increases the minimum hourly wage for qualifying hotel workers from \$17.55 to \$23 on July 1, 2024, and then gradually increases the wage to \$29.50 by July 1, 2028, with cost of living increases thereafter.



Brenda Olmos

PARAMOUNT CITY COUNCIL

The Building Trades-endorsed slate won all three seats available. Brenda Olmos was the top vote getter among six candidates, garnering 27 percent of the votes. She was followed by Isabel Aguayo with 20 percent and Vilma Cuellar Stallings with 17 percent. Congratulations!



Isabel Aguayo



Vilma Cuellar Stallings

PASADENA

Mayor:

Building Trades-endorsed incumbent Victor Gordo won with a strong 82 percent of the vote.



Tunua Thrash-Ntuk

City Council

District 1:

Tyron Hampton, endorsed by the Building Trades, won with no opponents on the ballot.

District 2:

Rick Cole won the seat, claiming 60 percent of the vote, defeating the incumbent, Building Trades endorsee Felicia Williams.

SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARDS

All races are nonpartisan, so no party preference is specified.

LOS ANGELES

District 1:

The top two vote getters in the seven-person race for this open seat, Sherlett Hendy Newbill and Khallid Al-Alim, will head to a runoff in November.

District 3:

Incumbent Scott Schmerelson, endorsed by the Building Trades, must go to a runoff election in November against Dan Chang.



Scott Schmerelson

District 5:

The top two vote getters in the race for this open seat, Building Trades endorsee Graciela Ortiz and Karla Griego, will head to a runoff in November.

District 7:

Incumbent Tanya Ortiz Franklin, endorsed by the Building Trades, won re-election with 56 percent of the votes.

SEE ELECTIONS PAGE 24
BUILDING TRADES NEWS 23

ELECTIONS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 23

COMPTON

Trustee Area C:

Micah Ali, endorsed by the Building Trades, won the seat with 69 percent of the vote over Omar Spry.



Micah Ali

LONG BEACH

Area 2:

Erik Miller, endorsed by the Building Trades, won the seat with 73 percent of the vote, besting Jerlene Tatum.



Linda Sanchez

COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT BOARDS PASADENA

Area 6:

Ryan Liu, endorsed by the Building Trades, won his seat with 56 percent of the vote over opponent John Quintanilla.

GLENDALE

District 1:

In a tight two-person race, the Building Trades endorsed the winner, Desiree Portillo Rabinov with 51.42 percent, who narrowly defeated Harry Leon.



Desiree Portillo Rabinov

ORANGE COUNTY



Mike Levin

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

District 1:

For this open seat, the top two vote-getters were Janet Nguyen with 43 percent and Frances Marquez with 26 percent, who will go to a runoff in November.

District 3:

Incumbent Donald Wagner won reelection, capturing 63 percent of the votes over Irvine Mayor Farrah Khan.

U.S. CONGRESS

District 38 (La Habra Heights/La Palma):

Democratic incumbent Linda Sanchez, endorsed by the Building Trades, will run against Republican challenger Eric Ching.

District 40 (Chino Hills/Orange):

Incumbent Republican Young Kim will face Building Trades endorsee Joe Kerr, a Democrat, in the November general election.



Joe Kerr

District 45 (Buena Park/Fullerton/Garden Grove):

Four challengers vied to replace incumbent Republican Michelle Steel, who finished at the top with 55 percent. The Building Trades now endorse Democrat Derek Tran, who came in second and will face Steele in November. The previous endorsee, Kim Nguyen-Penaloza, narrowly missed the top two.

District 46 (Anaheim/Santa Ana):

Incumbent Lou Correa, a Democrat endorsed by the Building Trades, will face opponent Republican David Pan again in November.

District 47 (Huntington Beach/Irvine):

In a field of 10 candidates for an open seat, the top two vote getters, Republican Scott Baugh with 32 percent and Democrat Dave Min with 26 percent, will go to the November general election.

District 49 (Laguna Niguel/San Clemente):

Incumbent Mike Levin, a Democrat endorsed by the Building Trades, won 51 percent and will face second-place finisher Matt Gunderson, a Republican, in the November general election.

STATE ASSEMBLY

District 59 (Brea/Yorba Linda):

In the two-person race, incumbent Republican Philip Chen, endorsed by the Building Trades, won 64 percent and will meet Democrat Dave Obrand again in November.



Philip Chen

District 64 (La Habra):

Incumbent Democrat Blanca Pacheco, endorsed by the Building Trades, will go to a November runoff against Republican Raul Ortiz Jr.

District 67 (Cerritos/Fullerton):

The Building Trades endorsee, Democratic incumbent Sharon Quirk-Silva, gained 52 percent of the vote and will face Republican Elizabeth Culver in November.



Sharon Quirk-Silva

District 68 (Anaheim/Santa Ana/Orange):

Incumbent Democrat Avelino Valencia, endorsed by the Building Trades, got 59 percent of the votes in the two-person primary, and will meet opponent Republican Mike Tardif in November.



Tri Ta

District 70 (Fountain Valley/Westminster):

Incumbent Tri Ta, a Republican endorsed by the Building Trades, gained 60 percent of the votes and will run against Democrat Jimmy Pham in the November general election.

District 71 (Ladera Ranch/Mission Viejo):

Incumbent Kate Sanchez, a Republican, will vie against Democrat Gary Kephart in November.

District 72 Seal Beach/Huntington Beach:

After the two-person primary, incumbent Republican Diane Dixon with 61 percent will go to a runoff in November against Democrat Dom Jones.

District 73 (Costa Mesa/Irvine/Tustin):

Incumbent Democrat Cottie Petrie-Norris, endorsed by the Building Trades, led in the three-person race and will face Republican Scotty Potter in the November general election.



Cottie Petrie-Norris

District 74 (Dana Point/San Clemente):

In a two-person race, Republican incumbent Laurie Davies bested Democrat Chris Duncan with 55 percent of the vote, and will face him again in November.

STATE SENATE

District 37 (Fullerton/Orange):

In a field of 11 candidates, the top two vote getters will advance to the November general election: Incumbent Josh Newman, a Democrat endorsed by the Building Trades, and Republican Steven Choi.