BUILDING TRADES NEWS

VOLUME 31, NO.4 | LOS ANGELES/ORANGE COUNTIES BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL, AFL-CIO | FALL 2026

BUILDING TRADES HELP LAUNCH THE NEXT CHAPTER OF DISNEYLANDFORWARD



Building Trades members alongside Disney leadership, Anaheim elected leaders at the ceremonial groundbreaking.

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BY GRAY MANDABACH

This August, DisneylandForward reached its first major construction milestone as Disneyland Resort leaders, Anaheim elected officials, project partners and the LA/OC Building Trades broke ground on a new parking structure and transportation hub on the east side of the resort.

Joining the Building Trades were Disneyland Resort President Jill Estorino, Walt Disney Imagineering Executive Architect Jonathan Peters, Anaheim Mayor Ashleigh Aitken, members of the Anaheim City

SEE DISNEY PAGE 4

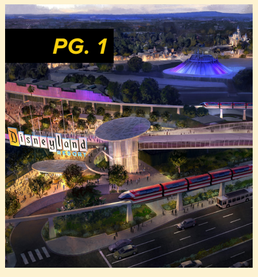
HIGH SPEED RAIL MEETING

CALIFORNIA HIGH-SPEED RAIL CONSTRUCTION SETS SIGHT ON SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA



LA/OC Building & Construction Trades Council Representatives with California High-Speed Rail Authority.

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17 LABOR DAY 2026: 47 YEARS OF LABOR SOLIDARITY



BY BLAKE MILLER

The California High-Speed Rail is deep in construction to connect all of California. The current scope for Phase One of the project expands from San Francisco to Anaheim; and as of July 2026, construction is well underway in major segments from Merced to Bakersfield. So far, 90 miles of guideway and 61 major structures are complete. On the horizon, construction will soon be entering the Los Angeles and Orange Counties.

The LA/OC Building and Construction Trades have been involved with the High-Speed Rail Project since the very beginning. When the campaign to approve the project back in 2008 began, the LA/OC Building Trades supported the efforts to create 16,000+ jobs statewide. "Due to the project's historic nature, size and scope, we participated in the campaign because we knew it would put our members to work," explained Orange County Representative Andrew Gonzalez. "Once completed and operational, the High-Speed Rail will be transformational for our region and our state."

On Thursday, August 20th, 2026, the LA/OC Building and

SEE HIGH SPEED RAIL PAGE 20



Executive Secretary Ernesto Medrano and California High-Speed Rail Authority CEO Ian Choudri engaged in the conversation.

FROM THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

PROP 45: WHAT'S REALLY AT STAKE FOR UNION JOBS



BY ERNESTO MEDRANO
Executive Secretary
LA/OC Building and Construction Trades Council

This November, California voters will decide the fate of Proposition 45, an initiative sponsored by the California Chamber of Commerce and marketed as a permitting reform and affordability measure. Let us be clear: Don't be fooled by the marketing. Prop 45 is a direct threat to the thousands of union jobs we have built in Los Angeles and Orange County, and it needs to be defeated on November 3.

Let's keep our jobs, our families, and the state we call home union strong. Vote NO on Proposition 45 this November 3.

For decades, Building Trades members have fought to make sure construction in our region means good union jobs, prevailing wages, quality health and retirement benefits, apprenticeship programs, safe working conditions, and a secure future for our families. We didn't get those things because developers and corporations decided to give them to us; we fought for them, and we'll continue to do so today and in the future.

Prop 45 would take away our voice and our ability to advocate for our members across a wide range of projects.

It bypasses the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), strips local elected officials of discretion over project approvals, and includes no requirement that any savings be passed on to the public. The measure lacks secure labor standards for covered projects, leaving workers without a voice or a future.

The corporations and developers behind Prop 45 claim it will make projects cheaper to build. But "cheaper" for them can mean lower wages, fewer benefits, weaker labor standards, and more work going to non-union contractors, all while their profits go up. Los Angeles and Orange County are already two of the highest cost of living areas in the country. We have seen this story before, and we're the ones who pay the price when it plays out again. Meanwhile, the nonpartisan Legislative Analyst's Office has estimated that Prop 45 could cost taxpayers more than $100 million a year in new administrative and litigation costs.

We are not alone in opposing this measure. A coalition of more than 400 organizations, including the Building Trades, the environmental movement, environmental justice advocates, firefighters, and educators, has come together to stop Prop 45. If it passes, it means less accountability on projects, weaker safety standards for workers who put their lives on the line every day, and weaker environmental protections for our children and families.



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

Every day, our members lace up their boots and do the hard work of building Southern California. We should not have to sacrifice the wages, benefits, and protections that generations of union members fought for so that a handful of corporations can pad their profits.

Let's keep our jobs, our families, and the state we call home union strong. Vote NO on Proposition 45 this November 3.

In solidarity,
Ernesto Medrano,
Executive Secretary LA/OC Building & Construction Trades Council
Chris Hannan,
President State Building and Construction Trades Council of California

BUILDING TRADES NEWS

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David Sikorski, Trustee
Tony Olea, Sergeant-at-Arms

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Boilermakers Local 92
Bricklayers & Tile Layers Local 4
Electrical Workers Local 11
Electrical Workers Local 40
Electrical Workers Local 45
Electrical Workers Local 441
Elevator Constructors Local 18
Operating Engineers Local 12
Iron Workers Local 416
Iron Workers Local 433
Laborers District Council
Laborers Local 300
Laborers, Gunite Workers Local 345
Laborers Local 652
Laborers Local 1184
Laborers Local 1309
Laborers, Plaster Tenders Local 1414
District Council 36 Painters & Allied Trades
Drywall Finishing Local 1136
Glaziers Local 636
Tradeshow & Sign Crafts Local 831
Painters Local 1036
Resilient Floor Local 1247
Civil Service Local 1991
UA Pipe Trades District Council 16
Plumbers Local 78
Steam & Pipefitters Local 250
Plumbers Local 345
Plumbers & Fitters Local 398
Plumbers & Steamfitters Local 582
Road Sprinkler Fitters Local 669
Sprinkler Fitters Local 709
Plumbers & Fitters Local 761
Plasterers-Cement Masons District Council
Plasterers-Cement Masons Local 755
Plasterers Local 200
Cement Masons Local 500
Cement Masons Local 600
Roofers & Waterproofers Local 36
Roofers & Waterproofers Local 220
Sheet Metal Workers Local 105
Teamsters Joint Council 42
Teamsters Local 848
Teamsters Local 952
Teamsters Local 986

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

DISNEY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE1

Council, and leaders from McCarthy Building Companies and Granite Construction. Together, this event marked the start of a project that will reshape how guests arrive at the resort while creating significant opportunities for skilled union workers.

The project will provide more than 6,000 parking spaces, dedicated shuttle and rideshare areas, and direct vehicle access from Disney Way. A new pedestrian bridge over Harbor Boulevard will connect guests to an all-new arrival experience, while public access to and from Harbor Boulevard will remain in place. These improvements are designed to ease traffic, modernize the guest experience, and provide the infrastructure needed to support the resort's future growth.

"This new parking structure and transportation hub will transform how guests arrive, creating a more seamless experience from the start of their day, while improving traffic flow throughout the resort area," said Disneyland Resort President Jill Estorino. "We're proud to continue investing in Anaheim, supporting local jobs and working alongside valued community and construction partners to bring this vision to life."

The groundbreaking builds on a relationship between Disney and the Building Trades that began back in 1955. Over the decades, Building Trades members have helped transform the original theme park into the Disneyland Resort, constructing major additions such as Disney California Adventure and the Downtown Disney District, along with landmark attractions including Cars Land and Star Wars: Galaxy's Edge.

That longstanding partnership entered a new chapter in 2024, when the Anaheim City Council unanimously approved DisneylandForward. Under the framework, Disney is committed to investing at least $1.9 billion in Anaheim within 10 years, alongside funding for affordable housing, city parks, and street and sewer improvements. As a part of the initiative, Disney and the Los Angeles/Orange Counties Building and Construction Trades Council entered into a historic Project Labor Agreement covering major work related to DisneylandForward.



Lorem ipsu LA/OC Building Trades Orange County Representative Andrew Gonzales speaks at the ground-breaking ceremony.



Project rendering of the completed parking structure and transportation hub.



Council Representative Andrew Gonzales alongside Disney leadership, Anaheim elected officials, and Building Trades members at the ceremonial groundbreaking.



Members of IBEW Local 441 celebrating their work on "Star Wars: Galaxy's Edge."

For Building Trades members, that agreement helps ensure the work is performed by a highly trained union workforce and strengthens commitments to local hiring, family-sustaining wages, benefits, and apprenticeship opportunities. "It codifies our relationship with Disney and reinforces their commitment to local hiring and family-sustaining wages and benefits," said Andrew Gonzales, Council Representative for Orange County.

The impact extends well beyond this first project. According to the Woods Center for Economic Analysis and Forecasting at Cal State Fullerton, every $1 billion Disney invests in the Disneyland Resort over four years will generate an estimated 4,480 construction jobs in Anaheim, along with thousands of permanent jobs, hundreds of millions of dollars in annual economic output, and additional local tax revenue.

"We appreciate our longtime relationship with Disney, which has brought great jobs and a thriving economy to Southern California," said Ernesto Medrano, Executive Secretary.

The groundbreaking represents more than a new parking structure for Disneyland. It points toward the next generation of good-paying union careers and the opportunity to continue building the projects that will define the future of Disneyland Resort and the surrounding community in Anaheim.

To learn more about DisneylandForward, please visit thewaltdisneycompany.com/news/disneylandforward-approval.



LA/OC Building Trades Orange County Representative Andrew Gonzales alongside Disney leadership and Anaheim elected officials at the ceremonial groundbreaking.



UA Local 582 journeyman Albert Celaya uses careful technique at Disneyland.

STATEWIDE ELECTION DATES FOR CALIFORNIA:

NOVEMBER 3, 2026:
GENERAL ELECTION

INFORMATION FOR THE 2026 CALIFORNIA PRIMARY:

- The last day to register to vote online for November 3, 2026, General Election is **October 19.**
- Make your voice heard early. Return your ballot by mail as soon as you receive it. County elections officials will begin mailing ballots by October 5.
- Ballots can be dropped off at a drop-off location, county elections office, or returned by mail. Secure ballot drop-off locations open on **October 6.**
- Skip the lines on Election Day. The first vote centers open for early in-person voting in all Voter's Choice Act counties on **October 24.** In-person early voting locations throughout California will be open on Saturday, **October 31.**
- To ensure your ballot is postmarked by Election Day make sure to mail it at least 7 days in advance. Mailed ballots must be postmarked on or before November 3.
- If mailing a ballot on November 3, get a manual postmark from a postal employee inside a United States Post Office.
- **November 3** is the last day to vote in-person or return a ballot by 8:00 p.m. Polls are open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Are you registered to vote?
Check your registration at
voterstatus.sos.ca.gov/

For more information
on the upcoming elections,
please visit
www.sos.ca.gov/elections/upcoming-elections.

Use this QR code and visit
registertovote.ca.gov today:

BUILDING TRADES VOTER GUIDE: 2026 ELECTIONS

Brothers & Sisters,

I am proud to serve as your Executive Secretary, and will always continue to fight to better your wages, benefits, and working conditions. As we enter another election season, it is time once again to ask, who is really doing the same for all of us, at the local, state, and federal level?

Around this time of year as we look at our ballots, we ask ourselves questions such as: Are these candidates serving us? Are they enabling corporate greed? Do they actually have my best interests in mind, or are they beholden the interests of others? Are they addressing our living conditions, and have they proven themselves to be reliable?

As workers, as parents, and as citizens who are committed to a better future, we know that it is important to take ownership of our communities. Taking an active role in choosing our elected representatives is the most direct way that we can do that. The measures that appear on our ballots impact our taxes, our environment, and even our state constitution. The bonds we vote on have the potential to create many hours of work for union Trades workers, as well as opportunities for career pathways through apprenticeship programs. These bonds can provide anywhere from 10 to 20 years of stable, dependable union construction work. Who and what we vote for in our elections is what helps remodel and renovate the classrooms in our schools, so that our kids are better prepared to succeed in a constantly changing, globally connected workforce. It affects prices, access to housing, and the ability for us to do more than just survive in our great state, but thrive.

When your ballot comes in the mail and ends up on your kitchen table or your dresser, remember this. Your vote can make a difference. You can remind everyone you know to vote, you can volunteer, and you can make a meaningful difference in achieving your own California dream just by participating. Voting may be your civic duty, but it is also how you remain an engaged citizen and an essential part of your community.

LA County has 88 cities, and Orange County has 34, plus school boards, water boards, hospital boards and many other important positions to fill. The following list of endorsed candidates have been evaluated and chosen based on where they stand on issues relating to supporting more union work and our industry as a whole. We believe it is worth your time to consider these candidates, because through their actions, they have demonstrated a commitment to working people and to delivering meaningful wins for our membership.

We deserve elected leaders who truly represent us. In this and in all our elections, let's ensure that all Building Trades union members are registered to vote, cast their ballots, and have a voice when it matters most.

In solidarity,

Ernesto Medrano,
Executive Secretary, LA/OC Building & Construction Trades Council

2026 NOVEMBER GENERAL ELECTION ENDORSEMENTS

STATEWIDE RACES



GOVERNOR:
XAVIER BECERRA



LT. GOVERNOR:
FIONA MA



SECRETARY OF STATE:
SHIRLEY WEBER



ATTORNEY GENERAL:
ROB BONTA



CONTROLLER:
MALIA COHEN



STATE TREASURER:
ELENI KOUNALAKIS



SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION:
RICHARD BARRERA



INSURANCE COMMISSIONER:
BEN ALLEN

STATE BALLOT MEASURES

PROP. 1
Veterans and Affordable Housing Bond
SUPPORT

PROP. 3
Higher Earner Income Tax Extension
SUPPORT

PROP. 5
Recall Election Reform
SUPPORT

PROP. 39
Voter Identification Requirement
OPPOSE

PROP. 40
Billionaire Tax
OPPOSE

PROP. 42
Retirement & Personal Savings Protection Act
SUPPORT

PROP. 43
Higher Threshold for Local Special Taxes
OPPOSE

PROP. 45
Guts CEQA
OPPOSE

BONDS AND LOCAL BALLOT MEASURES

MEASURE TE
CITY OF LOS ANGELES
Property Transfer Tax Exemption for Victims of January 2025 Fire Disaster
SUPPORT

MEASURE LA
CITY OF LOS ANGELES
Elimination of Public Works Board District
OPPOSE

MEASURE PRK
CITY OF LOS ANGELES
Increase the Recreation and Parks Budget
SUPPORT

MEASURE FD
CITY OF LOS ANGELES
½ cent Sales Tax for fire house construction and overall fire budget
SUPPORT

MEASURE PRT
CITY OF LOS ANGELES
Changes Appointment Process at Port of LA and LAX
OPPOSE

MEASURE ED
EL RANCHO
$118 Million Bond for School Repair
SUPPORT

MEASURE SM
BELLFLOWER
$135 Million Bond
SUPPORT

MEASURE K
KEPPEL UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
$27 Million Bond
SUPPORT

MEASURE MM
INGLEWOOD UNIFIED
$396 Million Bond
SUPPORT

MEASURE UP
PASADENA CITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
$485 Million Bond
SUPPORT

MEASURE A
LOS ANGELES COUNTY
Binding Arbitration
SUPPORT

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LOS ANGELES COUNTY



COUNTY OFFICES

Sheriff
Robert Luna

U.S. CONGRESS



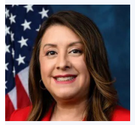
District 26:
Jacqui Irwin



District 27:
George Whitesides



District 28:
Judy Chu



District 29:
Luz Rivas



District 30:
Laura Friedman



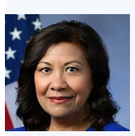
District 31:
Gil Cisneros



District 32:
Brad Sherman



District 34:
Jimmy Gomez



District 35:
Norma Torres



District 36:
Ted Lieu



District 37:
Sydney Kamlager-Dove



District 38:
Hilda Solis

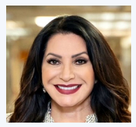


District 41:
Linda Sánchez

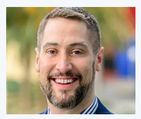


District 43:
Maxine Waters

STATE SENATE



District 22:
Susan Rubio



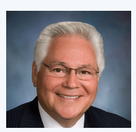
District 24:
John Erickson



District 26:
Sara Hernandez



District 28:
Lola Smallwood-Cuevas



District 30:
Bob Archuleta

STATE ASSEMBLY



District 34:
Charles Hughes



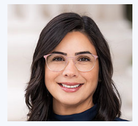
District 39:
Juan Carrillo



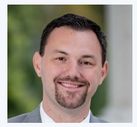
District 40:
Pilar Schiavo



District 41:
John Harabedian



District 43:
Celeste Rodriguez



District 44:
Nick Schultz



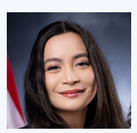
District 46:
Jesse Gabriel



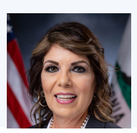
District 48:
Blanca Rubio



District 51:
Rick Chavez Zbur



District 52:
Jessica Caloza



District 53:
Michelle Rodriguez

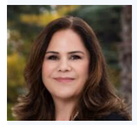
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District 54:
Mark Gonzalez



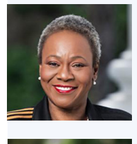
District 55:
Isaac Bryan



District 56:
Lisa Calderon



District 57:
Sade Elhawary



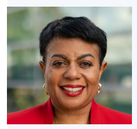
District 61:
Tina McKinnor



District 62:
José Luis Solache Jr.



District 64:
Blanca Pacheco



District 65:
Ayanna Davis



District 66:
No recommendation

District 69:
Josh Lowenthal

CITY ELECTIONS

Los Angeles Mayor
Karen Bass

LA City Attorney
Marissa Roy

LA City Council, District 3:
No recommendation

LA City Council, District 9:
Jose Ugarte

Artesia:
Ali Taj

Burbank City Council:
Nikki Perez

Burbank City Council:
Tamala Takahashi

Carson City Council, District 2:
Jim Dear

Culver City Council:
Freddy Puza

El Monte Mayor:
Jessica Ancona

Hawthorne Council:
Katrina Manning

Inglewood Mayor:
James Butts

Inglewood Council, District 2:
Alex Padilla

Montebello Council, #1:
Rafael Santoya

Montebello Council, #2:
Scarlet Peralta

Palmdale Council. #4:
Eric Ohlsen

Pico Rivera Council:
Gustavo Camacho

Pico Rivera Council:
Johnny Garcia

Santa Clarita City Council, #2:
Brett Haddoak

Santa Clarita City Council, #5:
Kelvin Driscoll

Santa Monica Council:
Lana Negrete

Santa Monica Council:
Caroline Torosis

West Hollywood Council
Chelsea Lee Byers

COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT BOARDS



Antelope Valley CCD:
No recommendation



Compton CCD, #1:
Andres Ramos



Compton CCD, #4:
Juanita Doplemore



Compton CCD, #5:
Dr. Sharoni Little



El Camino CCD, #2:
Nilo Vega Michelin



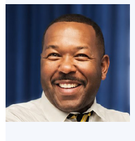
Long Beach CCD, Area 1:
Uduak-Joe Ntuk



Long Beach CCD, Area 3:
Sunny Zia



Los Angeles CCD, Seat 2:
Steve Veres



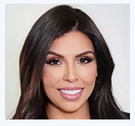
Los Angeles CCD, Seat 4:
Darryn Harris



Los Angeles CCD, Seat 6:
Gabriel Buelna



Rio-Hondo CCD:
Rosealva Lomeli



Santa Clarita CCD, #1:
Darlene Treviño



Santa Clarita CCD, #5:
Carlos Guerrero



Santa Monica CCD:
Sion Roy



Santa Monica CCD:
Thomas Peters



Santa Monica CCD:
Luis Barrera Castanon

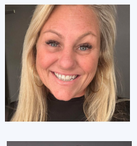
SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARDS



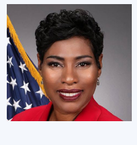
Antelope Valley Joint Union HS, #4:
Carla Corona



Antelope Valley Joint Union HS, #5:
Miguel Sanchez



Bellflower, #1:
Amie Stewart



Bellflower, #2:
Renita Armstrong



Bellflower, #5:
Brad Crihfield



Centinela Valley USD, #2:
Hugo Rojas



Centinela Valley USD, #5:
Estefany Castañeda



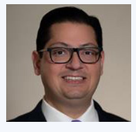
Culver City Unified:
Brian Guerrero



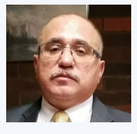
Culver City Unified:
Triston Ezidore



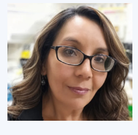
Culver City Unified:
Stephanie Laredo



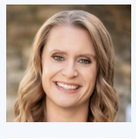
El Monte Union High School, #4:
Florencio Briones



El Monte Union High School, #5:
Raul Pardo



Haciena La-Puente:
Nancy Loera



Hart Union High School, #2:
Julee Brooks



Hart Union High School, #3:
Dr. Cherise Moore

BUILDING TRADES VOTER GUIDE: 2026 ELECTIONS



Hart Union High School, #5:
Joe Messina



Inglewood Unified, #2:
Dr. Carliss R. McGhee



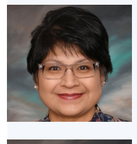
Inglewood Unified, #3:
Brandon Myers



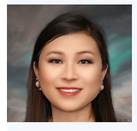
Keppel Union:
Andrew Ramirez



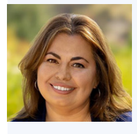
Mountain View:
Adam Carranza



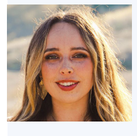
Mountain View:
Veronica Sifuentes



Mountain View:
Cindy Wu



Newhall, #1:
Michelle Kampbell



Newhall, #2:
Rachelle Haddoak

Norwalk-La Mirada Unified, #2:
Norma Amezcua

Palmdale:
Nancy Smith

Palmdale:
Ralph Velador

Pasadena. #3:
Michelle Ricardson Bailey

Pasadena, #5:
Patrice Marshall McKenzie

Pomona, #1:
Lisa Nashua

Pomona, #4:
Roberta Perlman

Santa Monica-Malibu Unified:
Laurie Lieberman

Santa Monica-Malibu Unified:
Alicia Mignano

Santa Monica-Malibu Unified:
Robert Staenberg

Saugus, #1:
Larry Grable

Saugus, #5:
Chris Trunkey

South El Monte Unified:
Manny Acosta

WATER DISTRICTS

Antelope Valley-East Kern:
Drew Mercy

Central Basin, Division 3:
Art Chacon

Palmdale, Division 5:
Debbie Dino

Santa Clarita Valley, Division 1:
Bill Cooper

Santa Clarita Valley, Division 1, #2:
Dirk Marks

Santa Clarita Valley, Division 1, #3:
Maria Gutzeit

Water Replenishment District of So. California, #1:
Joy Langford

Water Replenishment District of So. California, #3:
Al Austin

West Basin, District #1:
Tommy Faavae

BUILDING TRADES VOTER GUIDE: 2026 ELECTIONS



West Basin, District, #4:
Scott Houston

ADDITIONAL ELECTIONS



Antelope Valley Health Care District:
Steve Hofbauer

ORANGE COUNTY

COUNTY OFFICES



Board of Supervisors, District 4:
Connor Traut



Board of Supervisors, District 5:
Katrina Foley

U.S. CONGRESS



District 40:
No recommendation



District 42:
Robert Garcia



District 45:
Derek Tran



District 46:
Lou Correa



District 47:
Dave Min



District 49:
Mike Levin

STATE SENATE



District 32:
No recommendation



District 34
Avelino Valencia



District 36
No recommendation



District 38
Catherine Blakespear

STATE ASSEMBLY



District 59:
Phil Chen



District 67:
Mark Pulido



District 68:
David Penaloza



District 70:
Tri Ta



District 71:
No recommendation



District 72:
Chris Kluwe



District 73:
Cottie Petrie-Norris



District 74
Laurie Davies

CITY ELECTIONS



Anaheim, District 2:
Carlos Leon



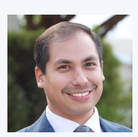
Anaheim, District 3:
Natalie Rubalcava



Anaheim, District 6:
Natalie Meeks



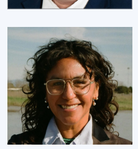
Buena Park, District 1:
Joyce Ahn



Buena Park, District 2:
Carlos Franco



Costa Mesa, Mayor:
Loren Gameros



Costa Mesa, District 4:
Angely Andrade Vallarta

BUILDING TRADES VOTER GUIDE: 2026 ELECTIONS



Fountain Valley, City Council (At Large):
Elizabeth Andrade



Fullerton, District 3:
Shana Charles



Fullerton, District 5:
Jozef Maldonado



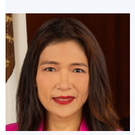
Garden Grove, Mayor:
Stephanie Klopfenstein



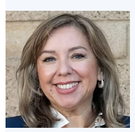
Huntington Beach, City Council (At Large):
Taryn Palumbo



Huntington Beach, City Council (At Large):
Erin Spivey



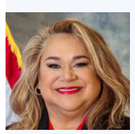
Irvine, District 1:
Melinda Liu



Irvine, District 5:
Betty Martinez Franco



Irvine, District 6:
Kathleen Treseder



Santa Ana, Mayor:
Valerie Amezcua



Santa Ana, District 2:
Ben Vasquez

Santa Ana, District 4:
Phil Bacerra

Santa Ana, District 6:
Giovanni Chavez

Tustin, Mayor:
Letitia Clark

Westminster, Mayor:
Carlos Manzo

COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT BOARDS

Coast CCD,
Trustee Area 3:
Kim Carr

Rancho Santiago CCD,
Trustee Area 2:
John R. Hanna

Rancho Santiago CCD,
Trustee Area 6:
Phillip E. Yarbrough

SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARDS

Anaheim Union HSD,
Trustee Area 1:
Jessica Guerrero

Anaheim Union HSD,
Trustee Area 3:
Annemarie Randle-Trejo

Huntington Beach Union HSD, Trustee Area 5:
Bonnie Castrey

Orange USD,
Trustee Area 1:
Andrea Yamasaki

Orange USD,
Trustee Area 5:
Kris Erickson

Santa Ana USD,
Trustee Area 4:
Katelyn Brazer Aceves

Santa Ana USD,
Trustee Area 5:
Hector Bustos

Centralia SD,
Trustee Area 1:
Henry Charoen

Centralia SD,
Trustee Area 2:
Art Montez

Centralia SD,
Trustee Area 5:
Luis Flores

ADDITIONAL ELECTIONS

Midway City Sanitation District (At Large):
Sergio Contreras

UNIONS SAY NO TO PROP 45

THIS NOVEMBER!

HERE'S WHY:

Prop 45 threatens union construction jobs
on schools, hospitals, housing, clean energy, and critical infrastructure projects.

Prop 45 undermines prevailing wages and Project Labor Agreements
that ensure apprenticeship opportunities, healthcare and retirement benefits, and labor standards.

Prop 45 silences our voices
in decisions about what gets built in our communities.

STAND WITH YOUR UNION.
VOTE NO ON PROP 45.

STATE BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA · AFL-CIO · ORGD. SEPT. 16, 1908

State Building & Construction Trades Council of California

Learn more:

47 YEARS OF LABOR SOLIDARITY



Members of Laborers' International Union of North America on the parade route.

BY SHAHRAD ARJOMANDI

Every year, Labor Day serves as more than just a day off or the unofficial end of summer. It is a time to recognize the working people who keep our communities moving and the generations of workers who fought for better wages, safer workplaces, stronger benefits and a voice on the job.

Photos by
HECTOR SANDOVAL/SANDOVAL MEDIA

That tradition was alive once again in Wilmington as several thousand union members, workers, families and supporters gathered for the Los Angeles/Long Beach Harbor Labor Coalition's 47th Annual Solidarity Parade and Picnic Rally. The annual event brought organized labor together to celebrate what workers have accomplished while also looking ahead at the challenges facing working families and the next generation.

The celebration began in the streets of Wilmington, where contingents of union members gathered near Broad Avenue and E Street before stepping off at 10 a.m. The parade made its way through Wilmington before ending at Banning Park, where the annual picnic and rally followed. Union banners, marching bands, classic cars and generations of working families filled the route as organized labor came together for one of Southern California's longstanding Labor Day traditions.

SEE LABOR DAY PAGE 18



Executive Secretary Ernesto Medrano & IBEW Local 11 Business Manager Robert Corona.



Members of Ironworkers Local 416 & 433 on the parade route.

LABOR DAY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

Among the thousands taking part was Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass, who marched alongside union members near the front of the procession. Bass used the occasion to reaffirm her support for organized labor, telling those gathered that Los Angeles remains a labor city and that she stands with its workers.

Elected officials & those running for election this November also made their presence known, including Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda L. Solis, Los Angeles City Councilmembers Nithya Raman and Tim McOsker, and California State Senators Ben Allen and Bob Archuleta, among others. Xavier Becerra, the Democratic candidate for California governor, spoke briefly, thanking union members for their daily labors and campaign support.

Labor Day continues to hold a strong place in Southern California, where the labor movement remains powerful across numerous professions. The Building Trades showed out in full force, but members from unions across the region filled the parade route, including Teamsters, SAG-AFTRA members, teachers and more. The day's celebration reinforced the value of organized labor across professions,



U.S. Congresswoman Judy Chu & members of IBEW Local 11 on the parade route.

and served as a reminder that there is plenty of work still to be done as well. "While Labor Day evokes images of hot dogs and the end of summer, it also serves as a real reminder of how much working people must speak out and organize for dignity and respect on the job," Yvonne Wheeler, president of the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, told City News Service.

On top of elected officials and labor representatives, students also had a place in the celebration. Marching bands from San Pedro High School, Banning High School, Harry Bridges Middle School, Port of Los Angeles High School and Garfield High School joined the procession, bringing another generation into a tradition that has filled the streets of Wilmington for decades.

Following the parade, attendees gathered at Banning Park for the free picnic and rally. Families moved among 40 booths representing unions and labor organizations while enjoying live entertainment, food and activities for children. The kid zone included face painting, popcorn, cotton candy, a puppet show and a book giveaway. Music and dancing continued on the main stage as union members and their families spent the afternoon together.

But as much as Labor Day was a celebration, the gathering also carried a serious message about what comes next.



Iron Workers Vice President Mitch Ponce and Iron Workers Apprenticeship Instructor Ernesto Penuelas.



Members of IBEW Local 11 at their booth.



Union families taking part in the parade.



Members of IBEW Local 11 on the parade route.



Iron Workers Local 416 Business Manager Frankie Jimenez with 2 Rodbusters.

Workers across Southern California are facing questions that would have been difficult to imagine when the Wilmington Labor Day tradition began nearly five decades ago. Automation and artificial intelligence are changing workplaces. The rising cost of housing and everyday necessities is putting more pressure on working families.



Union members and families celebrating during the day's festivities.

And workers are asking what these changes will mean for the good union jobs that have supported generations of families.

Those concerns were echoed by some attendees, some of whom spoke about the effect automation has already had on employment at the ports. Others pointed to the affordability challenges facing workers who earn good wages but still struggle with the cost of housing in Southern California. The conversations were a reminder that the fight for good jobs does not end when a strong contract is signed. Workers must continue to have a voice as industries and technology change.

For the Building Trades, however, the future also holds tremendous opportunity.

Speaking at Banning Park, LA/OC Building and Construction Trades Council Executive Secretary Ernesto Medrano looked ahead to what is possible for the young people who will make up the next generation of union workers. Medrano described "a very bright future" for young people entering the trades and pointed to the range of work ahead, from construction and major infrastructure projects to a changing energy industry.

It is a message that goes to the heart of what the Building Trades offer. The future of labor is not only about protecting the jobs that exist today. It is also about opening the door for the next generation and showing young people that there is a path to a career where they can earn a good living, support a family, learn a skill and take pride in the work they do.



Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass speaking to a reporter from ABC7.



Executive Secretary Ernesto Medrano & Los Angeles Representative Eddie Alvarez at the ARF booth.

That next generation could be seen throughout the Labor Day celebration, from apprentices marching beside longtime union members to students carrying instruments through the streets of Wilmington. For some of those young people, their first introduction to organized labor may have been watching thousands of workers walk together that morning.

The challenges facing workers will continue to change. Technology will change. Industries will change. The cost of living will continue to be a fight. But the strength that workers bring when they stand together has not changed.

For one day in Wilmington, that strength was on full display.



Apprenticeship Readiness Fund Outreach Coordinator Irvin Barragan & SMART Local 105 Organizer Brian Germain.

HIGH SPEED RAIL

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

Construction Trades Council met with the California High Speed Rail Authority CEO Ian Choudri at a roundtable discussion regarding the future of infrastructure in our state. With the project setting its sights on Los Angeles and Orange County, it's vital that the CEO and LA/OC affiliates talk about what to expect and the plan to get the project funded in the region. At the same time, it's important that industry leaders hear and understand the Building Trades' perspective when they make decisions. This marks the first meeting with Choudri, who succeeded former CEO Brian Kelley in 2024.

"The partnership between California High-Speed Rail Authority and the LA/OC Building Trades ensures that our highly skilled union workers get to connect California and be part of the most ambitious public infrastructure project in the United States," added LA/OC Building and Construction Trades Executive Secretary Ernesto Medrano.

From over 16,000+ jobs created across the 119 miles of active construction; the California High-Speed Rail Authority is a strong partner to ensure the future of statewide infrastructure is built safely and built strongly with union labor.

> *"Once completed and operational, the High-Speed Rail will be transformational for our region and our state."*
>
> *— Orange County Representative Andrew Gonzalez*



Governor Gavin Newsom delivering a speech at a Segment Completion ceremony for the High-Speed Rail.



Executive Secretary Ernesto Medrano and California High-Speed Rail Authority CEO Ian Choudri.



LA/OC Building & Construction Trades Council Representatives in conversation with the California High-Speed Rail Authority.