

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



FROM: Supervisor Jeff Stone

SUBMITTAL DATE: March 10, 2010

SUBJECT: Ordinance 895, Prohibiting the County From Requiring Project Labor Agreements on County Construction Projects

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board "Introduce and Adopt on Successive Weeks Ordinance No. 895, An Ordinance of the County of Riverside Prohibiting the County From Requiring Project Labor Agreements on County Construction Projects."

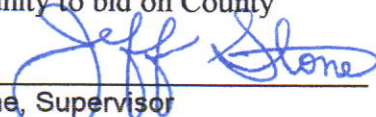
BACKGROUND:

The County of Riverside has consistently been a leader in creating efficient government by using innovation to deliver services, build public projects, and improve infrastructure in a responsible manner that protects taxpayers. By utilizing core competencies of government and the strengths of the private sector, the County has remained fiscally sound during economic crisis. The use of project labor agreements ("PLA") by some local governments represents a dangerous trend that may be a costly threat to taxpayers.

A PLA is a pre-hire collective bargaining agreement requiring the use of union labor on a project. When required, it eliminates the ability for non-union companies and workers to compete for and work on, government projects. Though sometimes required for projects funded by the State or Federal governments, a PLA is usually a requirement imposed at the discretion of a local government. On July 10, 2009 a Presidential Executive Order was issued encouraging federal departments and agencies to use publically funded PLAs for construction projects. This represents a threat to taxpayers as the competitive bidding process for government projects is being closed to all but union companies.

This recent trend is occurring because the PLA is discriminatory by design, and meant to reduce competition to those contractors that use union labor. Preferential treatment and narrowed competition often cause bids to come in higher, which drives up the cost of public projects.

This ordinance will ensure that all qualified contractors receive a fair opportunity to bid on County projects will save precious taxpayer dollars and resources for years to come.



Jeff Stone, Supervisor
Third District

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Section 4. This ordinance shall take effect thirty (30) days after its adoption.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY
OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

By: _____
Chairman

ATTEST:
CLERK OF THE BOARD

By: _____
Deputy

(SEAL)

APPROVED AS TO FORM
_____, 2010

By: _____
Deputy County Counsel

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