Last year was like a rollercoaster: If we started in a place of hope as two vaccines against COVID-19 became increasingly available to Americans, we were soon dealing with vaccination hesitancy and then outright vaccination rejection. Then came a new and more deadly strain of COVID in the form of the Delta variant. As Delta receded by fall 2021, it looked like the light at the end of the pandemic was shining brighter than ever.

That’s when Omicron showed up.

“It definitely took us back a few rungs down the ladder,” said Larry Mazzola Jr., business manager of United Association of Plumbers and Pipefitters Local 38, of the latest variant.

Mazzola said the plumbers and pipefitters in his local have spent the better part of two years waiting on a return to the volume of work they saw pre-pandemic but that each successive wave of the virus has only delayed things more.

“That’s the biggest thing, I think, is the financial district,” he said, “because people are working remotely and companies aren’t moving in and out of the downtown office buildings anymore. All that tenant improvement work that used to be our bread and butter has dried up.”

Dan Torres, business representative of Sprinkler Fitters Local 483, has noticed the COVID variants having similar impacts on his local’s workhours. So, to keep sprinkler fitters on the job, Local 483 has been promoting maintenance in place of new installs.

“That’s something that we’ve pushed hard on in the last couple of years,” Torres said, “because once they stopped building, what was going to continue bringing in work for our members? If they’re not getting [tenant]

By Oren J. Peleg
Contributing Writer

Bay Area Unions Versus Virus Variants: Victory in 2022?

Leaders From Four Building Trades Locals Talk COVID and the Work Outlook

New Legislation Could Help Thwart Construction Wage Theft

Supervisor Matt Haney’s Proposed Ordinance Aims to Curb Bad Business Behavior

By Jacob Bourne
Contributing Writer

Each year, billions of dollars in wages are stolen from workers in California’s underground economy. Due to the transitory nature of work, the construction industry has the distinct dishonor of coming in second place for highest number of labor-standards violations. It is surpassed only by the restaurant industry.

Whereas union construction workers have recourse outside

City Attorney David Chiu Keeps Labor Relations Top-of-Mind

Conversation With Chiu Reveals Strong Pro-Union, Pro-Worker Stance

By Jessica Zimmer
Contributing Writer

San Francisco City Attorney David Chiu, who is up for election on June 7, has been a consistent friend to labor throughout his political career. As a San Francisco County supervisor, he advocated for the creation of new construction jobs and more housing. During his time in Sacramento as a state assembly member representing the City, he allied himself with labor and voted accordingly.

Now, in his city attorney role, he’s back on his home turf in San Francisco, where he has turned his attention to the improvement of workplace conditions, worker treatment, and more.

“I prioritize worker protections, the preservation of job

(continued on page 16)

(continued on page 19)

(continued on page 17)
It’s been a little over a year since the events of January 6, 2021. That day, the U.S. Capitol was attacked by a violent mob of Donald Trump support ers ginned up with rage after having been systematically fed the lie that their preferred candidate was cheated out of a second presidential term.

The truth, of course, is that Trump lost the 2020 election fair and square. His handlers knew it. His right-wing media enablers knew it. Trump knew it. Still, he and other powerful figures whipped supporters into a frenzy using a fabricated, fantastical conspiracy — the Big Lie that “Biden stole the election!” — and repeatedly trumpeted it with increasing intensity as the election’s certification day drew near.

By January 6, the most hardcore Trumpists were ready for all-out war, and they got it. It took the form of a mass temper-tantrum-turned-full-blown-insurrection as indignant rioters stormed the gates of the Capitol building, broke down its doors, and tore through its halls unchecked. They left behind them a trail of death and disorder, and a deep distrust of our democracy that festers like a wound, and we always seek to divide the working class on craft lines or cut our voices out of the debate, seek to divide the working class on craft lines or cut our voices out of the debate, seek to divide the working class on craft lines or cut our voices out of the debate, seek to divide the working class on craft lines or cut our voices out of the debate, seek to divide the working class on craft lines or cut our voices out of the debate, seek to divide the working class on craft lines or cut our voices out of the debate.

Our institutions failed the American people that day, and it failed them on an epic scale. I linger on these distressing matters because I feel that they can serve as a reminder of why organizations like our council are so important to civic life and democracy in the United States. As unionists, we stand up for the interests of working people because we respect them enough to speak the truth to them, to listen to their concerns, and to help them.

Who will look out for working people when government fails? When our trusted elected leaders lie with glee to the working class and send them careening toward disaster? Who will stand up for workers when city hall fails? When bureaucrats and executives alike enrich themselves before the people they’re supposed to serve? When bad ideology and corruption stand in the way of progress for working families, American democracy suffers.

When school officials spend more time on social media than on the job, we demand safe conditions and pay. When city departments would rather feed the nonprofit industrial complex than invest in accountable public services, we are there to demand public jobs that are accountable to the citizens. When the non-union businesses cheat and exploit immigrant wage-earners and threaten the safety of their crews, we are there to demand good, union-level working standards on all jobs. When developers seek to divide the working class on craft lines or cut our voices out of the debate, we stand up, organize and make sure workers are at the table.

For 125 years and counting, this council has stood strong as a beacon of opportunity and camaraderie for our city’s working people.

But for 125 years and counting, this council has stood strong as a beacon of opportunity and camaraderie for our city’s working people. The SF Building Trades is a unified body of building and construction trades unions that provide skills and training for an industry that is the heartbeat of the City’s economy, and we always seek to stand in solidarity with unions outside of our industry.

This council has stood watch, and not without our share of flaws and even outright failures. But still today, 125 years since its inception, this body is the best fighting chance a construction worker — dare I say every worker — has at coming home alive and with enough money in their pocket to pay for their daily bread, provide for their family, and invest a portion in the future. Maybe they even have a bit left over to spend a few bucks around town after some hard-earned rest.

Today, as we fight for democracy in this country, we would do well to keep in mind that strong unions only strengthen our democracy. We must remember that voting rights are central to the way we operate as unions and we must seek to ensure that such rights are treated as sacrosanct for all people in all elections throughout our political sphere.

And we must remember, perhaps most importantly, that every member is an organizer. Every one of us can and should see it as our duty to bring in good hands to our crafts, to encourage our fellow workers to vote, and, ultimately, to think of ourselves as defenders — part of a 125-year-long legacy of keepers of this fortress that is San Francisco.

Because if we don’t stay vigilant, our fortress could be the next to fall to the mob. 

By Rudy Gonzalez, Secretary-Treasurer, San Francisco Building and Construction Trades Council
The Paul Law Firm has been representing the California Building Trades for the past 35 years. We have always been a California-based law firm, specializing in asbestos-related diseases such as mesothelioma, lung cancer and asbestosis, and representing the individual members. We are proud to say that we have had many landmark settlements and verdicts for our union brothers and their families totaling over $3 Billion. One of the highlights of my career was when, along with our mesothelioma client, Billy Joe Speicher from U.A. Local 250 Steamfitters/Pipefitters, went before the U.S. Senate and testified in front of the Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, U.S. Senator Arlen Specter, regarding asbestos legislation.

Jerry is also a Founder of the Mesothelioma Research Foundation of America (www.mesorfa.org), along with his wife, Elizabeth Ann Paul, Executive Director, and Jim W. Kellogg, retired International Representative of the California Pipe Trades and past Vice President of the State Building and Construction Trades Council of California, who have all served as Board Members since 2001. Since this time, we undertook the successful funding and opening of a mesothelioma research lab at USC/Norris Comprehensive Medical Center in Los Angeles under the direction of Lab Director Dr. Parkash Gill. Over the past 15 years novel new treatment options Veglin, which went through FDA-approved clinical trials phase 1 and 2, and now EPH B4, in FDA-approved clinical trials phase 1, have helped expand the depth of research and expand the types of treatment options. This offers greater hope to those afflicted with asbestos-caused cancer, with options not previously available. None of this could have been done without the support of the Building and Construction Trades Council of California and also Southern California Pipe Trades District Council 16, the Heat & Frost Insulators 16, along with the support from the Western States Conference, and all their able leaders and supporting local unions.

As asbestos disease and mesothelioma tend to surface later in life, we recommend workers take a chest X-ray screening every three years where the results are examined by a certified B reader radiologist, a doctor who is additionally trained to know what is and is not an asbestos marker and asbestosis. Plus you will increase your chance of discovery at an early stage, should you have lung cancer, which would likely respond better to treatment options.
An Emergency, But No Remedy

The Mayor Insists on a Crackdown in the Tenderloin Without Articulating a Solution to Its Woes

After a grueling 10-and-a-half-hour Board of Supervisors meeting that kicked off on December 23 and stretched past midnight into Christmas Eve, Mayor London Breed won an 8-2 vote to declare a state of emergency in the Tenderloin. (Side note: Breed didn’t attend the meeting.)

However, no one is quite certain what the declaration will actually do. Tough-talking Breed has been pushing for emergency designation in the Tenderloin for months, pointing to the neighborhood’s pronounced drug abuse, crime, and homelessness. These are very real problems. But the mayor’s office has put forth no detailed, concrete plan of action to ease the Tenderloin’s woes.

What we do know is that this state of emergency sounds like a potentially abusive situation waiting to happen — and not just for the neighborhood’s unhoused residents. According to a press release from the mayor’s camp dated December 7, 2021, “The emergency declaration allows the City to expedite the implementation of emergency programs like waiving rules around contract procurement and waiving zoning and planning codes to quickly open a temporary linkage site where people with substance use issues can receive behavioral health services and get off the street.”

“What does this mean for the laborers who have to clean up the sidewalks and other city workers who are expected to deliver public services in the area?”

What are the implications for public safety personnel? Will they be given the staffing and resources necessary to make an impact?

District 5 Supervisor Dean Preston, along with District 10 Supervisor and President of the Board of Supervisors Shamann Walton, voted against the declaration. Preston, quoted in a December 24 article on SFist.com, had this to say of his nay vote: “There is no plan ... I think we need to see a plan before we hand sweeping powers over to the administration.”

So do we.
You can make a healthy change anytime, but it always feels good to make a fresh start in the new year. With Blue Shield of California, you and your members have the tools you need to live healthier. Whether it’s starting a new mindfulness habit or reducing – even reversing – the risk of conditions like diabetes, see what Blue can do for you in 2022.

Visit blueshieldca.com/laborandtrust or contact Tera Brandon Clizbe, vice president, Labor and Trust.

Scan the QR code and learn how we support the Labor and Trust community.
When people worldwide think of San Francisco, it’s often images from District 3 that come to mind. Iconic destinations such as North Beach, Chinatown, and Fisherman’s Wharf — to name just three — lie within the district’s boundaries.

“It’s a set of intact, vibrant neighborhoods that are the envy of the world,” said Aaron Peskin, the supervisor who represents District 3. “It’s physically beautiful, and it’s dense, full of characters … It’s where everybody wants to be, where people from around the world visit. It is really the heart of San Francisco.”

Here, the pain of the pandemic has been particularly acute, with downtown office buildings still largely vacant and tourism down. But signs of life are returning as crowds flock back to Washington Square, pack Original Joe’s, and fill church pews once again.

Despite District 3’s distinctive nature, Peskin said, its residents face the same challenges as other San Franciscans who are struggling against gentrification, displacement, evictions, and rising commercial and residential rents. These same issues prompted Peskin’s first run for supervisor 20 years ago. His election marked the beginning of a multi-term tenure for the grass-roots labor champion.

Peskin, whose father was a union shop steward at San Francisco State University, said that the labor movement was a part of his upbringing, and the influence shows. Peskin has spearheaded passage of the citywide PLA, walked the picket line with healthcare workers, and stood in solidarity with striking janitors. His thoughts about real estate are citywide PLA, walked the picket line with healthcare workers, and stood in solidarity with striking janitors. His thoughts about real estate are

“In San Francisco, whether it’s commercial or residential, there are an increasing number of Wall Street interests that have invested in property, and are making San Francisco just unaffordable to working-class people,” he said. “We must throw every single thing that we can throw at that — whether it’s tenant protections, whether it’s requirements for building more on-site affordable housing, or whether it’s the vacancy tax.”

Garrett Bell, Managing Director
Labor Industry Division Manager
213-236-4071
Armand Antonian, Director
Southern California, Southwest, Midwest
213-236-5046
Josh Christopher, Vice President
Northern California, Pacific Northwest, East Coast
949-553-7944

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Healthcare Costs Are Skyrocketing. It’s Time to Fight for a Medicare-for-All Plan.

COVID-19 has laid bare the failures of our country’s healthcare system. As frontline workers in hospitals, nursing homes, and mental health facilities, members of the National Union of Healthcare Workers (NUHW) have seen this firsthand. While providers tirelessly cared for patients, we dealt with atrocious working conditions created by companies that spent more time focused on their quarterly profit statements than a public health emergency.

At the same time, hundreds of thousands of families lost their insurance coverage at the exact moment they needed it most. None of this came as a surprise to workers in the healthcare industry. NUHW has long fought for a fundamental change in how we pay for healthcare — a Medicare-for-all system that lowers costs and ensures services are there when we need them.

The last two years put a fine point on how our current healthcare system fails working families across multiple industries. Whether or not you are someone who lost health benefits due to the pandemic, your future remains uncertain. Inflation is on the rise and health costs are rising even faster. Over the last 20 years, health insurance premiums have gone up nearly three times the rate of inflation. Sure enough, many health funds are already seeing increases of 10% or more.

This will greatly impact union members and union employers. Our unions already have to extract big sums out of employers to pay for our benefits. As State Building and Construction Trades Council of California President Robbie Hunter put it, “You know it, and I know it: In the building trades over the past 20 years, pretty much all of the compensation increases we’ve negotiated for our members have been sucked away into the growing cost of healthcare.” That cost continues to rise.

When it comes to protecting our families’ healthcare, there’s no question of whether we do it, only how we do it. And no matter how we do it, providing that protection comes at a steep cost. Union employers are at a large and growing competitive disadvantage against non-union companies that offload the costs of healthcare onto their workers and the government. What’s more, much of the money we bargain for health benefits is wasted. In California alone, insurance companies vacuum up $30 billion every year in corporate profits and bureaucratic overhead — money that doesn’t make one single person healthier.

Compare that to what trades workers enjoy just a few miles north in Canada. There, the government pays for a common set of benefits that covers everyone. Union-bargained health funds pay for whatever the government doesn’t cover, much like retiree health plans do in the United States. Canadian employers who choose to offer healthcare coverage pay markedly less for it than U.S. employers: $2 to $3 an hour per employee, versus the $14 to $18 that’s typical for California union contracts.

There’s no reason we can’t create a system like that here in California. A Medicare-for-all plan would level the playing field for union employers, enabling them to grow and bid more competitively. It would guarantee that no one ever loses coverage for doctor visits or hospital care due to a layoff or the inability to afford premiums, or for any other reason. It would allow our state to prioritize building healthcare infrastructure where we need it, before we need it, and all under prevailing wage. And it would let us focus on other bargaining priorities, including better pensions and higher wages.

NUHW, in partnership with many other unions, is committed to making Medicare for all a reality. Governor Gavin Newsom committed to shifting our state toward a single-payer solution and is in a position to lead discussions with President Joe Biden’s administration on getting federal help to do so. A variety of bills are coming before the state legislature this year that could run the infrastructure we need to run a Medicare-for-all system.

The labor movement can seize this moment of opportunity and press California’s elected leaders to act before it is too late. As Robbie Hunter said, “This is a process that can be done in a relatively short period. The nations of the world have shown us that it works.”

When it comes to protecting our families’ healthcare, there’s no question of whether we do it, only how we do it.
42½-year member James Payne proudly displays his service pin. Recently retired 43½-year member Steve Halloran is pictured with his grandchild Lizzie, a.k.a. Betty Rose. Congratulations to 41-year member Manny Rodriguez. He is officially retired effective this month.

General Membership Meeting Notice
Due to ongoing changes in the public health orders, please refer to Local22.org for possible meeting cancellations.

Feb. 1 at 7 p.m.
450 Harrison St., San Francisco
(Located between 1st & Fremont streets.)
Parking is available on the street and behind the building.
Please bring your current dues card for entrance to the meeting.
We will be enforcing social distancing. Members should bring face coverings and any personal protective equipment necessary.

We Regret the Loss of the Following Members
James “Jim” Murphy, 87, passed away on December 19, 2021, with 69+ years of membership. Jim was a native of Barnacullia, Dublin, Ireland. At 18 years old, he emigrated to Canada and then made his way to Chicago, where he was drafted into the U.S. Army, serving 22 months in Korea.
Following his discharge at Fort Ord, Jim moved to San Francisco. The next 40 years, he worked throughout the Bay Area in the construction industry. He was involved in many Kaiser Permanente hospital projects.
Jim is survived by his wife, Marge, and their children Maureen (Mark Wiltsie), James (Bonnie), and Jennifer (Steven Burk), as well as grandchildren Sonya, Camille, and Sean. Jim is additionally survived by his sisters Emily White, Gemma Somers (Ian), Pauline Tonery (PJ), and Clare Kennedy (James); his sisters-in-law Mary Gold and Kate McGinty; and many nieces, nephews, and cousins. He resided in San Francisco.
Norman Kingshill, 89, passed away on December 17, 2021, with 67+ years of membership. Norman was born and raised in San Francisco. When he was 17, he enlisted in the Marine Corps and fought in the Chosin Reservoir Battle.
Upon returning home, he began working as a carpenter with his father at Kingshill and Sons. Norman became heavily involved with the Farmworkers’ Movement, Amnesty International, and the Community Action Task Force at the Oakland Cathedral, and in later years, he tutored at the Next Step Learning Center in Oakland.
Norman was predeceased by wives Norma and Barbara, daughter Margie (Berger), and sister Nadine (Johnson). He is survived by his children Marty, Tom, Sally, Eileen (Buell), and Susan (Donnellan) and their spouses Ralph Berger, Laurie McMalton Kingshill, Debra Kingshill, Dennis Delee, Tracy Buell, and Brian Donnellan, plus 12 grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren, and two brothers, Tom and David. Norman resided in San Mateo.

Retired Members
Stephen Halloran
Manuel Rodriguez

Here’s the Deal
By Kenny Lukas
I thought that by now we’d be at the tail-end of the pandemic, but with Christmas parties and dinners and drinks, it seems we can’t catch a break. The only way to stay safe is to remain at home, away from the crowds and the parties.
I’ve heard that the Omicron variant can infect vaccinated people—but for those who are vaccinated, the infection is unlikely to be very serious. As I write this, I’m hearing news reports of schools finding large numbers of infected students and teachers.
All of this was expected, and if things must shut down, we’ll have to learn to survive with it.
Sorry about the bad news. I’m sure that we’ll survive somehow.
Stay safe.

Retirees in Action
Calling all retired carpenters: You might have retired from your job, but there’s still a place for you in your union. Retirees in Action is a recently formed group whose goal is to empower retired carpenters, to ensure that your voices are heard, and to help you retain your connection with your brothers and sisters.
Please call Adrian Simi at 510-975-0348 or email him at adrian@ncerc.org to get involved today.

Coronavirus Pandemic and Wildfire Disaster: Relief for Members
Please visit ncerc.org/relief online to see if you qualify for financial assistance should you have been affected by the coronavirus and/or recent wildfires.

Journey-Level Upgrade Courses
If you’re interested in keeping up-to-date with the journey-level upgrade courses being offered or if you’d like to be placed on a waitlist for future classes, please visit ctnc.org online.

Email Addresses
Please update your contact information and provide us with a current email address by stopping by the hall, emailing info@local22.org, or giving us a call.
From the Desk of Colin Johnson

Happy New Year, Brothers and Sisters.

At the beginning of each new year, I like to look back on the previous one and forward to the upcoming year — first, to see how far I have come from the year before, and, second, to see where I would like to be at the end of the current year.

Looking back to the beginning of last year, we were still hopeful of coming out of the pandemic with an eminent vaccine and jobs starting back up. The pandemic is still very much with us, but the vaccines are going in arms every day across the state as well as the country. Most jobs that were delayed have started back up, keeping our members busy across all of our trades.

The fires that continue to plague Northern California raged again in 2021. There were 8,619 fires burning in Northern California. Forecasts show upwards of $13 billion of upcoming civil work. There are major projects starting the first of the year to keep our workforce.

Several representatives from Local 3 — myself included — as well as several of our brothers from Local 4 Southern California attended the State School Board Association Conference in San Diego. This conference is held yearly, and school board members from across the state attend. BAC had a booth set up alongside the International Masonry Institute to help educate these officials on why building with brick and block is a better way than to continue using combustible materials moving forward, and to showcase and promote our apprenticeship programs.

Local 3 was also approached by many of the attendees with questions about how we can get trade education back in our school systems. The questions they had gave me hope for the future, with districts supporting construction curriculums and the building trades to increase participation in the trades and continuing to grow our workforce.

Looking forward now, the outlook for the new year is very promising. Work continues to ramp up all over Northern California. Forecasts show upwards of $13 billion of upcoming work in the Bay Area alone for the next year, between commercial and civil work. There are major projects starting the first of the year to keep our members working, with several casinos, courthouses, and civic centers, as well as several school district PLA projects, to name just a few. We will continue to push forward through this pandemic to keep building and doing our part to stimulate the economy.

I, for one, am very hopeful and optimistic about where the building trades are headed for the coming years and especially for our brothers and sisters of Local 3. We continue to grow, and the work keeps coming. I wish you all a happy new year, and may it be a prosperous one!

Fraternally Yours,
Colin Johnson

HAPPY NEW YEAR!
2022 Chapter Meetings

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Tue., Feb. 1, at 6 p.m., Monterey — 1945 Natividad Rd., Salinas (The Pizza Factory)  
Wed., Feb. 2, at 5:30 p.m., San Jose — 14940 Camden Ave., San Jose (Round Table)  
Thu., Feb. 3, at 6 p.m., Sacramento — 7465 Rush River Dr., Sacramento (Mountain Mike’s)  
Tue., Feb. 8, at 5 p.m., San Francisco — 379 Gellert Blvd., Daly City (Celia’s)  
Thu., Feb. 10, at 5 p.m., Oakland — Location TBA  
Tue., Feb. 15 (Third Tue., even months), at 6 p.m., Fresno — 324 E. Shaw Ave., Fresno (Ramada Inn)  
Thu., Feb. 17, at 6 p.m., Manteca — Location TBA

Meetings will be held via Zoom until social gatherings are approved.

SERVICE AWARDS:  
JAN. 2022  
• 50 years: Anthony V. Rossi  
Congratulations on your many years of service.

IN MEMORIAM  
We are sorry to announce the passing of our brothers:  
• Otulea Mafua  
• Horst Klee  
• 50 years: Anthony V. Rossi  
Congratulations on your many years of service.

In Memoriam of service.

Find us on Facebook by searching BAC Local 3 CA and on Twitter at twitter.com/baclocal3ca. Follow us on Instagram @baclocal3.

Members working with American Terrazzo working at Park West in Downtown San Francisco.

Local 3’s booth was set up at the 2021 California School Board Association Conference in San Diego.

The International Masonry Institute booth appeared next to Local 3’s booth at the 2021 California School Board Association Conference in San Diego.

BAC members with American Terrazzo working at Park West in Downtown San Francisco.
January 5, 2022

inside wireman, who passed away on

We extend our sympathy to the

Some large projects have started,

We will keep the membership ap-

We look forward to the day when this

FIGHT

and their dependent children who are
currently enrolled in an accredited
institution to apply. The one-time cash
awards range from $500 to $4,000 and
are intended for study beginning in fall
2022. Students can reapply each year.

Current and retired members of
unions participating in any Union
Plus program, their spouses, and their
dependent children (as defined by IRS
regulations) are eligible. Grandchildren
are not eligible unless a legal depen-
dent (as defined by IRS regulations) is
required. At least one year of continuous union
membership by the applicant, appli-
cant's spouse, or parent (if applicant is a
dependent) is required. The one-year
membership minimum must be satisfied
by May 31, 2022.

Union Meetings

We list the scheduled meetings of
Local 6 every month in this newspaper.
COVID continues to impact our meet-
ing schedules and depresses the atten-
dance, as many members are reluctant
to come to meetings during the pan-
demic. For those with small children or
who are caring for elderly or otherwise
health-compromised family members,
we totally understand.

I look forward to the day when this
pandemic is in our rear-view mirror
and our attendance can return to nor-
mal. It’s always great to see members
come back and reconnect with their
fellow members. It might have been de-
decades between visits for some of them,
but time can’t take away the good times
you've had together over the

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From the Desk of Jose Oscar Padilla

I want to take this opportunity to wish you all a healthy and prosperous new year in 2022. I hope we can all continue to focus on what’s important in our lives and to share the same goals of maintaining the safety of others by following all job-site protocols relating to this pandemic. Together we can make a difference.

The Local 40 office is open Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. We are available to address members’ questions and concerns regarding medical coverage, re-enrollment, vacation pay, pension, payment of union dues, or anything else you might be wondering about.

Please remember that most business can be conducted over the phone, by email, or by postal mail. If you decide to drop by for an in-person visit, we ask that you please observe COVID-19 safety protocols. The best way to ensure we get out of this pandemic is to collectively follow the guidelines and remain vigilant.

In Solidarity,
Jose Oscar Padilla
Business Manager

Schedule of Local 40 Union Meetings in 2022

Jan. 20
Feb. 17
March 17
April 21
May 19
June 16
July 21
Aug. 18
Sept. 15
Oct. 20
Nov. 17
Dec. 15

All meetings begin at 6 p.m. Face-masks are required for entry and must be worn throughout the meeting.

Vacation Payout

The next vacation payout is scheduled for February 4 from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Local 40 office.

Congratulations to the Following Members

- Daniel Rodriguez, 15-year member
- Juan E. Balcazar, 25-year member
- Richard G. Samuelson, 40-year member

Glaziers Local 718

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

Local 718 meetings are held monthly at 6 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month at 1939 Market Street.

DDD/HOLIDAYS

Jan. 17: Holiday
Visit dc16iupat.org online and click “Resources” for more information.

Info, news, and events for both District Council 16 and Local 718 can be found at dc16iupat.org. STAR classes are available. Visit dc16iupat.org for more information and to register.

Brothers and Sisters,

Welcome to 2022. It has been a rough start, with family, friends, and coworkers coming down with colds, the flu, and COVID. I hope you’re all being safe and taking precautions to avoid getting sick. Really, the last two years have been a marathon of diligence. It takes a lot of patience (and steady breathing) to work with a mask on when you work in the building trades.

This year, I encourage everyone to focus on being aware of your own personal health. If you feel sick, please do what you need to do to find out what’s going on and to make yourself healthy again. Keep others around you healthy by avoiding unnecessary exposure that could get them sick.

You can find more information and practical advice on your city and county websites for health and safety.

Good health will be a priority for work to continue and for the upcoming work outlook.

The good news is that work is coming down the pipeline. All it takes is a short drive around San Francisco or along the 101 Freeway to see that projects are beginning excavation and steel is being erected. But we aren’t out of the woods yet; the slump we’ve been in will likely ramp up as we get close to spring.

There is no time like the present. Take this year to get your certs updated and current. Per our contract, certifications are mandated for us to be dispatched as qualified journeyman. You can find a list of these certs in our contract, which is online. Be aware that some of these certifications require multiple classes but also that a single class can certify you in multiple apparatus.

For more information and to register for classes, visit the STAR website.

General meetings are held every second Tuesday at 6 p.m. I highly recommend that you attend meetings in-person at our meeting location in San Francisco at 1939 Market Street. I was taught as an apprentice that this is the place to meet brothers and sisters who you might see on the job. Meeting people in-person is the best way to network.

You might have received an email about paying your dues for the year. If not, then you should know that if you pay your dues by the end of January 2022 for the year in full (through December 2022), Local 718 will give you an embroidered hooded sweater.

I have high hopes for us and for 2022! Stay healthy and be well.

In Solidarity,
Jose Oscar Padilla
Business Manager

Glazer, Architectural Metal & Glass Workers

Union Local 718 of San Francisco

1939 Market St., Suite B
San Francisco, CA 94103
(415) 625-0225
Fax (415) 553-5955

Bart Pantoja – Business Representative
Nick King – President

January 2022 Organized Labor www.SFBuildingTradesCouncil.org PAGE 11
Dear Brothers and Sisters,

This year has started just like 2021 did: We remain in the grips of a terrible pandemic, and it doesn’t look like it will be letting up anytime soon.

By now, I think we all know someone who has been affected by this virus. We’ve lost four Local 12 members — two retirees and two working members — to COVID, and we have one member with long-term complications that are keeping him from returning to work.

I say all of this as a reminder to please be extra-vigilant about wearing masks and washing hands as you go about your daily lives. This Omicron variant seems to be extra-contagious, with the ability to infect with minimal exposure. If you suspect exposure, please follow CDC guidelines.

As of the first week of January, we have 12 members on the out-of-work list. Fortunately, the work picture is steady for those who are working, and, with some large projects ready to break, everyone who wants to work will be working so long as we can avoid delays due to the current situation. The good news is that exposure and transmission are low on job sites due to strict guidelines put in place by the general contractors.

Unfortunately, I must report the recent passing of four Local 12 members: Henry Dumont, with 55 years of service; William Vines, with 13 years of service; Brett Miller, with eight years of service; and David Hernandez, with 14 years of service.

Please keep their families in your thoughts. Rest in peace, brothers.

As always, I invite members with a special milestone in their life such as a birth, graduation, marriage, retirement, or, sadly, a death to contact Steve Belong or myself to share a photo and a few words in a future article.

Respectfully,

Anthony Nuanes

DC16 members pose for a photo after volunteering at the veterans cemetery.

Local 12 instructors and staff were part of a recent commercial on recycling carpet.

Together WE'RE STRONG!
ELEVATOR CONSTRUCTORS LOCAL 8

Looking Up the Hatch
International Union of Elevator Constructors Local No. 8
690 Potrero Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94110-2117
(415) 285-2900 • Fax (415) 285-2020

Matt Russo
Business Manager/Financial Secretary
Greg Hardeman
Business Representative/Recording Secretary
Ryan Lange
Business Representative
Bill Chisholm
Business Representative
Nick Moore
Organizer

MEETINGS
San Francisco General Meeting
Wed., Feb. 16, at 5:30 p.m.
690 Potrero Ave., San Francisco
Sacramento
Wed., Feb. 2, at 5:30 p.m.
Sheet Metal Workers Apprentice and Journeymen Training Building
3665 Bleckely St., Mather, CA
Stockton
Fri., Feb. 4, at 11:30 a.m.
Black Bear Diner
1703 Yosemite Ave., Manteca, CA
Monterey/Watsonville
Mon., Feb. 7, at 5:30 p.m.
Round Table Pizza
1975 Main St., Watsonville, CA
San Luis Obispo
Tue., Feb. 8, at 11:30 a.m.
Firestone Grill
1001 Higuera St., San Luis Obispo, CA
Bakersfield
Wed., Feb. 9, at 7 a.m.
Zingo’s Cafe
3201 Back Owens Blvd., Bakersfield, CA
Fresno
Wed., Feb. 9, at 5:30 p.m.
Pecos Valley Inn Airport
5115 East McKinley Ave., Fresno, CA
Tahoe
Thu., Jan. 27, at 11:30 a.m.
Mott Canyon Tavern and Grill
259 Kingsbury Grade Rd., Stateline, NV
Reno
Thu., Jan. 27, at 5:30 p.m.
Northern Nevada Labor Temple
1819 Hymer Ave., Sparks, NV

From the Manager’s Desk
Every month, I attend a safety meeting held by the IUEC, and I wanted to bring you a few things from this month’s meeting that I thought were particularly important for all of you.

The first note has to do with the screening/separation of hoistways: If you’re working on a mod or construction job, please make certain that your hoistways are properly screened. We’ve seen injuries lately throughout the International that could’ve been prevented had the hoistways been properly screened.

I realize that it’s time-consuming, but it’s ultimately for your own protection, and the time to do the work is bid into every project. Commit to going home safe every day. This is a big part of it.

Escalator wellways should have overhead protection as well. As an apprentice, I spent time on escalator mods, and nothing makes you feel more like an animal at the zoo than an escalator mod in a busy shopping mall. Every day, people are looking over railings, watching you work, and throwing food at you.

OK, I kid about the food (mostly), but I am serious about the constant observation by the public. What we do is interesting work that most of the general public hasn’t even seen before. Ensure your own safety by demanding that the companies you work for meet OSHA guidelines that require overhead protections for workers. If you have any problems or receive any pushback from your employers, remember that we are here for you and will gladly encourage the employers to meet OSHA overhead protection requirements and help with any other safety concerns that you may have.

Another issue that came up at the safety meeting regards Tirak motor recertification. Tirak specifies that recertification of their units takes place every six months. Please, before using a Tirak motor that you receive upon starting a job, look at the tag on it. There should be a date of first use on the motor. If you don’t see the tag or if the tag is blank, stop, and do not use the motor until you are able to determine its most recent recertification date. If you’re unable to make that determination, then send the motor back.

So, please be safe, pay attention to your surroundings, and, most of all, double-check before stepping into a hoistway. Also, if you find that a unit has been moved by someone else, reach out to us — we’re happy to get involved. Nobody without a CCCM license should be operating any of our equipment, including supervisors, contractors, and other trades workers. This goes for skips, running platforms, elevators in various stages of repair, and any car without a permit. Any work by a subcontractor on a running platform or skip should be performed with an elevator contractor present and running the car for the subcontractor.

I hope all of you had a wonderful holiday season. Stay safe and we look forward to seeing you at one of the above-listed meetings.

S P R I N K L E R  F I T T E R S  U. A.  L O C A L  4 8 3

Sprinkler Fitters and Apprentices Local No. 483
Of the United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipefitting Industry of the United States and Canada, AFL-CIO
2525 Barrington Court, Hayward, CA 94545
(510) 785-8483 – Fax (510) 785-8508

Business Manager/Financial Secretary: STAN M. SMITH
Business Agents: Dan Torres, Dylan Boldt, John Medina
Organizer: Jeff Dixon

Meetings are held on
the 4th Wednesday of each month at 4:30 p.m.

*APPLICATIONS ARE CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE*

SPRINKLER FITTERS U.A. LOCAL 483
OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT
APPLICATION INFORMATION FOR THE APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM
Visit our Website @ www.sprinklerfitters483.org

TO: All Interested Parties

SUBJECT: Application for Apprentice Sprinkler Fitter U.A. Local 483

SEE WEBSITE FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INSTRUCTIONS.

We are responsible for our own safety, and we need to take every precaution, including advocating on our own behalf.

Lastly, it has come to our attention that there have been multiple instances across the country of crews leaving a job for a weekend and locking and tagging out a car only to find when they arrive to work on Monday morning that someone has come behind them, removed the lock, run the unit, and then locked and tagged out the cars.

In each of these instances, it’s been determined that supervisors with little to no experience working on elevators, have come in and run the car for contractors, left the cars on different floors, and then relocked and tagged out the elevator as if nothing had happened.

So, please be safe, pay attention to your surroundings, and, most of all, double-check before stepping into a hoistway. Also, if you find that a unit has been moved by someone else, reach out to us — we’re happy to get involved.

Nobody without a CCCM license should be operating any of our equipment, including supervisors, contractors, and other trades workers. This goes for skips, running platforms, elevators in various stages of repair, and any car without a permit. Any work by a subcontractor on a running platform or skip should be performed with an elevator constructor present and running the car for the subcontractor.

I hope all of you had a wonderful holiday season. Stay safe and we look forward to seeing you at one of the above-listed meetings.
Important Information for Members

On December 29, 2021, the City of San Francisco revised its health order regarding vaccination status for people attending and working at so-called mega-events, which include trade shows. Beginning on February 1, 2022, all event-affiliated personnel who are eligible for a booster shot, including attendees and labor, will be required to show proof of completion of a booster prior to working at the event.

Those who have received their second shot of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine less than six months prior to February 1 are still considered fully vaccinated, as are those who’ve received a J&J vaccine within the two months prior to February 1. However, any personnel whose second shot of Pfizer or Moderna was over six months prior to February 1 are still considered fully vaccinated, as are those who’ve received a booster who wishes to work the show no later than February 8 in order to gain admission to the Moscone Center jobsite.

Our ‘Current’ Meeting Place

Local 510 has been holding its regular meetings at the IBEW Local 6 hall at 55 Fillmore Street. The monthly meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month at 6 p.m. The Local 6 meeting hall is spacious and convenient to transportation. We’re grateful to the electricians of Local 6 for allowing us to use their hall as a temporary “ohm” for our meetings.

Reminder: The Local 510 Office Is Staffed and Open

The Local 510 office is open and staffed five days a week. Members who wish to come in and conduct business should call for an appointment. The office phone number is 650-763-5405.

In Memoriam

We were saddened to learn of the recent passing of Brother George Minero on January 2, 2022. His presence will be missed by all who knew and worked with him. As his passing was relatively recent, we plan to write more about Brother Minero in the coming months. Members should check the Local 510 message line at 650-871-8374 for any word the union receives of a memorial.

Respectfully,
Annette Dosier
Morgan Worth
Peter Forni
Moving ahead on the project that they hope will address the rising waters of San Francisco Bay. The project has a price tag of just under $600 million, though it is believed to increase to well over $1 billion upon completion of the project. The seawall will be constructed of concrete-capped steel sheet pile walls and steel king pile walls, which will be placed along SFO’s shoreline border. It is with projects such as these that our membership will be leading the charge, with the majority of work hours coming out of Local 34. We’ve also been participating in career fairs and trade shows throughout Northern California. Collaborating with our training department at these events has generated success in providing a career pathway for many individuals. It’s nice to see young individuals so interested in our craft in today’s age. Our future workforce is definitely out there and more than willing to become a part of the brotherhood.

We are currently working on updating our apprenticeship standards. The primary reason we’re doing this is to add new language allowing Kie-Con employees to gain direct entry into our apprenticeship program. After they’ve successfully clocked more than 2,000 consecutive work-hours, they’ll become eligible to gain direct entry. This new language will add experienced apprentices to Local 34’s ranks while also helping Kie-Con staff the yard to full capacity. That being said, Kie-Con is currently hiring and is starting the new year with a newly negotiated contract that offers competitive starting pay and benefits. Please call down to the local for more information.

We regret the loss of our brother Shelby “Butch” Crocker. Shelby was a 56-year-proud member in good standing. He joined our local back in March 1965. Shelby and many pile butts of his time helped to pave the way to where we are today. He will definitely go down in the record books as one of the all-time greats. Goodbye, Butch, and may you rest in peace.

Now, let’s get into training. We’ve had some leadership changes in the department, and with change comes growth and opportunity. With training now under the direction of Scott Lewis, who is executive director of the Carpenters Training Trust Fund for Northern California, things are moving quickly and looking good. I’m more than pleased to announce that we finally have all four training centers’ weld shops open for the membership to access. This is great news for our people, who reside throughout Northern California. So, remember: If you’re currently out of work or if you have some free time after work or on Saturday, please utilize the weld shop.

A big shout-out goes to Ebony Jenkins, a first-period apprentice who applied herself and secured two welding certifications at the Pleasanton Training Center. Also, a shout-out is due to Morocco Lesov, another first-period apprentice who put the time in to secure two welding certifications from our training center.

The future is bright for our craft. We just need to continue putting in the work and becoming more innovative with the ever-changing construction industry.

Please don’t forget that our next scheduled union meeting will be held on January 27 at 7 p.m. We’ll be serving dinner for the membership and honoring our newly indentured apprentices. Let’s pack the house.

Thank you and stay safe.

In Solidarity,
Martin Espinoza Jr.
Senior Field Representative
Pile Drivers Local 34

Thank you to all the union front-line workers going above the call of duty to keep us safe during these trying times.

Be Safe. Stay Strong. Buy Union.

Labor 411
www.labor411.org
improvement work] because people aren’t really going back to the office, it doesn’t negate the fact that that building has to properly maintain the fire extinguisher system.”

Torres admitted that while maintenance and installation might not be perfect equivalents in terms of hours delivered and wages paid, maintenance work certainly beats no work.

“The tenant improvement market has been severely impacted,” said John Doherty, business manager and financial secretary at IBEW Local 6. “[Everyone] has COVID fatigue. We just want to see this in the rearview mirror.”

However, it’s not all bad news. Doherty expressed his expectation that after the Omicron wave passes — and assuming no further variants emerge — companies will begin returning workers to the office, even if for just a few days a week. He said this shift back to on-site work could restart tenant improvement projects.

Doherty also expects new projects to begin ramping up by spring 2022. “It’s an excellent opportunity to get good-quality people,” he said. “I don’t think it’s going to start all at once, but it will pick up faster than we see normally when we come out of a downturn.”

Over at LIUNA Local 261, Business Manager Ramon Hernandez was bullish on 2022 should Omicron prove to be the final major COVID-variant wave. “I say this is going to be a hell of a good year for us,” he said. “There’s a lot of work coming up — all the infrastructure and sewers in the city and county of San Francisco — so I expect a good year.”

Hernandez cautioned that January and February will be bellwether months for the rest of 2022 but concluded that “so far, labor is doing pretty good.”

Mazzola was optimistic as well, saying his people are raring to go. “Everybody’s ready to go,” he said. “Our members are used to safety, used to wearing respirators. We’re used to wearing masks. These are construction [workers]. They know how to be safe, and they’re ready to work. I have over 400 guys who are ready to take a job tomorrow.”

So, if the beginning of this year is already feeling a bit like a painful flashback, with a receding COVID wave and a glimmer of hope on the horizon that might or might not be a mirage, keep in mind that there is good news this time around. Omicron seems to result in milder symptoms than past variants, and the general population is now more inoculated against the disease than ever before, thanks largely to vaccinations. While it’s slow-going, jobsites are indeed reopening.

And as those sites reopen, it is union members able to meet new safety protocols who are the ones returning to work first. “I know people don’t like being told what to do — I don’t like being told what to do,” Mazzola said. “But in this case, when every top doctor in the United States is telling you that the shots are safe and it’s okay and that it’s going to help everybody else, I just urge people who are still on the fence to do it, because it’s the only way we’re going to get through this thing.”

“Everybody’s ready to go. Our members are used to safety, used to wearing respirators. We’re used to wearing masks. These are construction workers. They know how to be safe, and they’re ready to work.”

—Larry Mazzola Jr., Business Manager, Plumbers and Pipefitters UA Local 38

ENHANCE YOUR SKILLS
ADVANCE YOUR LIFE
benefits, better treatment of immigrants in the construction industry, and the encouragement of green energy, including offshore wind production,” Chiu said. “Offshore wind energy will result in new jobs for union members.”

Chiu was appointed by Mayor London Breed in September 2021 and swore in as city attorney on November 1, 2021. One of the first meetings he took in his new role was with members of the San Francisco Labor Council.

“I asked for their feedback on multiple issues, including bad actors and COVID-19 safety,” Chiu said. “I invite feedback from members of locals. We also started an internal discussion within the Office of the City Attorney about worker protections.”

Chiu comes to the office after seven years in Sacramento representing District 17, which covers the City.

“As a state assembly member, I supported SB 1, the gas tax,” Chiu said. “I authored 75 laws that were signed by the governor. I am proud of my work with labor allies. I’m still in touch with my former state legislative colleagues.”

Chiu said his interest in supporting labor unions and immigrants comes from growing up a child of immigrants.

“After law school, I worked in public interest law and civil rights,” he said. “That’s how I first got to know the City’s labor community.”

Prior to serving in the California Assembly, Chiu was San Francisco District 3 supervisor between 2008 and 2014. For most of his tenure, he was president of the Board of Supervisors, a role that he first took on in January 2009.

Chiu said that when he served as D3 supervisor, he was the lead author for a number of major infrastructure bonds.

“On the residential side, I worked to advance residential housing complexes in Hunters Point and on Treasure Island,” he said. “Now I want there to be more construction of residential housing in the City — particularly affordable housing. We should make sure folks building the housing can afford to live in the City.”

Chiu said the San Francisco Office of Labor Standards Enforcement’s November investigation of DoorDash is a step in the right direction. The inquiry resulted in a $5.3 million settlement. The funds will compensate approximately 4,500 workers who were the victims of labor law violations related to healthcare security and paid sick leave.

“There are so many labor concerns right now, it’s like drinking from a fire hose,” Chiu said. “Particularly coming out of the years of the Trump administration, it’s critical that workers are treated well. They should get the wages and benefits they are rightfully due.”

Chiu added he thinks it’s necessary that he and staff in the city attorney’s office understand how COVID safety protocols work in practice on construction sites.

“We need more housing and other construction projects to continue,” he said. “At the same time, we need to balance that with rules that protect building and trades workers from becoming infected. The Office of the City Attorney and I have been involved with that every step of the way. We want to continue that movement forward.”

“I prioritize worker protections, the preservation of job benefits, better treatment of immigrants in the construction industry, and the encouragement of green energy.”

—David Chiu, San Francisco City Attorney

Chiu (fourth from left) stands with apprentices from Laborers Local 261 in October 2018.
OLD BUSINESS

• budget update

• meeting with state to discuss how to handle non-union crews

• discussions on the impacts of Prop B on train operators and the city's overall budget

• request for a meeting with the City's pension fund representatives to discuss the future of the city's pension plan

• call for action to unionize the non-union workers

REPORTS OF UNIONS

* Local 261 on the future of the Salesforce Transit Center
* Sheet Metal 104 on the importance of maintaining a strong union
* Laborers Local 261 on the challenges of working in the construction industry

REPORTS OF LABOR

* report on the status of the Sing Sing prison
* report on the progress of the San Francisco Bay Bridge project

REPORTS OF CORRESPONDENCE

* letter to the mayor requesting funding for the new building
* letter to the governor requesting a meeting on the City's budget

REPORTS OF BUSINESS

* request for a meeting with the City's financial department to discuss the City's budget
* request for a meeting with the City's legal department to discuss the City's labor laws

NEW BUSINESS

* discussion on the future of the City's public transportation system
* request for a meeting with the City's transportation department to discuss the City's public transportation system

CONCLUSION

* call for action to unionize the non-union workers
* request for a meeting with the City's pension fund representatives to discuss the future of the city's pension plan

ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 5:27 p.m.
of the law to help them resolve wage issues — for instance, collective bargaining, grievance procedures, access to legal experts, ongoing relationships with contractors, and other remedies — their non-union counterparts usually do not. So, they frequently fall victim to wage theft schemes and face an uncertain battle to get their pay recovered, as the state lacks sufficient resources to enforce labor laws effectively.

In San Francisco, legislation introduced by District 6 Supervisor Matt Haney seeks to target construction wage theft on a project-level basis. If passed, his Wage Theft Prevention Act could help make construction work less exploitative for non-union construction workers and fairer for their unionized counterparts.

Immigrants Often Targeted, Wages Often Unrecovered

“The No. 1 thing we see is that immigrants are being cheated out of some or all of their wages,” said Matthew Miller, senior field representative for labor compliance with the NorCal Carpenters Union, who estimated that 99% of the people he helps are immigrants, 80% of whom aren’t conversant in English. “So, you see a system that’s taking advantage of people who don’t necessarily understand the law or their rights. That leads to fair contractors not getting jobs and taxes not being paid to the state. It’s billions per year in taxes that the state’s missing out on and we as the public are also missing out on.”

Miller, who has worked in the field since 2007, said that issues haven’t improved and that even when workers win settlements, they don’t always recover the entirety of the wages that were stolen from them.

“These are the people who can least afford to go without a paycheck,” Miller said.

According to the state’s data, just about 2% of construction wage theft claims are collected. Ways to address this issue include bolstering enforcement resources, changing the collections process, and providing education to those entering the workforce.

Getting Out in Front of Wage Theft

Of course, another solution is to prevent the theft from occurring in the first place, and that’s what Haney’s wage theft ordinance intends to do. The proposal is set to be heard in the Land Use Committee in February.

“This legislation is designed to make sure that when we get paid what we’re owed, requires project owners to accept responsibility for the completeness of their contractors’ payroll records, and prevents the issuance of certification and final completion and occupancy until any outstanding labor violations have been resolved,” Haney said. “This is a simple but necessary fix to a loophole to ensure that project owners certify that workers have received legally required pay stubs. That protection for workers makes it more effective, if there is a violation, to go after the project owner and make sure people get paid.”

If passed, the legislation would essentially require property owners and contractors to maintain a labor compliance bond, which would be released for labor-standards compliance on any given project. San Francisco wouldn’t be the first city to establish such a law, but it’s the City’s existing strong labor protections that could give the law the teeth necessary to make a difference.

“We see over and over again how non-union contractors really use the exploitation of workers as a fundamental business strategy, undercut union contractors, profit, and hurt workers,” said San Francisco Electrical Construction Industry Director of Research and Advocacy Alex Lantensberg, who noted that property owners and contractors are currently required to provide more documentation on how construction waste is disposed of than on how their workers are paid. “This legislation asks developers to basically just put up a bond to ensure the workers are paid on the project. It creates an accountability and a responsibility mechanism to make sure that workers get paid if problems should arise in the project.”

How Legislation Can Help

Although the primary beneficiaries of the wage theft legislation would be non-union workers, union members also stand to gain because their employers will be competing on a more level playing field. Currently, fair contractors who don’t cheat their workers struggle to compete with bad actors who are underbidding them by using wage theft.

“Those wanting to participate in the underground economy and engage in wage theft have gotten very creative at doing so,” said Jesse Jiminez, executive director with Alameda-based wage-law advocacy nonprofit Foundation for Fair Contracting. “So, legislation like this is really long overdue. We’ve been in the front seat of combating this. It’s time for the developers and owners to really get involved and do their part in preventing wage theft.”

Some changes have already materialized on the state level. On January 1, AB 1023 took effect, requiring all contractors and subcontractors on public works projects to provide electronic payroll records or face penalties.

Dina Morsi, the executive director of Sacramento-based NorCal Construction Industry Compliance who helped draft the bill, said the requirement to submit electronic certified payroll records to the Department of Industrial Relations is a big deal because it provides wage transparency to the public and exposes potential underpayments and misclassification of workers.

Moris said she has witnessed discrepancies in payroll records where employers intentionally misclassify workers in order to pay them at a lower rate. Now that they’re subject to penalties by the Division of Labor Standards Enforcement for failure to submit the records, there’s a mechanism in place to hold non-compliant contractors accountable.

The possible changes to San Francisco’s building code through the proposed Wage Theft Prevention Act should also provide greater accountability — not just for public works projects, but for everything built in the city.

“This legislation is an example of what is possible when an elected official engages with organized labor to create pro-worker policy,” said Charley Lavery, district representative with Operating Engineers Local 3. “Matt Haney is a champion for working families.”

“…”This legislation is an example of what is possible when an elected official engages with organized labor to create pro-worker policy.”

— Charley Lavery, District Representative, Operating Engineers Local 3

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**New Business**

- **Charles Lavery (OE 3)** introduced Representative Ethan Lester, who was welcomed by all.
- **Bart Pantoja (DC 16)** reported that he will be taking a position to lead the San Mateo County Building Trades Council and is working on finding his replacement.
- **Bob Noto (Plasterers 66)** reported on issues sub, Carnie’s Plaster, which currently owes monies to members. Also, a report of non-union workers at 1550 Evans site. Ramon Hernandez (LIUNA 261) concurred that there have been problems and issues arising in the project.

**Reports of Unions**

- Chris Puglisi (Pile Drivers 34) reported on Hunters Point jobsite and some of their covered work that’s assumed to have been done by non-members.
- **Giac Aplin**, federal contractor for Navy, Check-in required to enter site due to radio frequency activity.
- OE 3, LIUNA 261, and SFBTCI to conduct site visit.
- **Larry Mazziola (UA 38)** reported that the Walgreens at 30 Van Ness has gates up, Silverado for demolition.

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**Adjournment**

Adjourned at 10:48 a.m.
Finding your way back to fitness

We all know about the benefits from and importance of exercise for maintaining a healthy lifestyle. However, as our lives get busier and more curve balls get thrown our way as adults, exercising is sometimes easier said than done. To get back on track, follow these simple tricks to stay active.

Choose the plan you’ll stick to
At the end of the day, your fitness goal needs to be realistic to be sustainable. For many, this requires a lot of trial and error. Start with small goals then work towards a longer-term daily exercise habit. Whatever your fitness plan, it needs to be the one that you feel you can commit to. Just believing you can do it, is half the battle and the first important step.

Incorporate resistance training
Building strength doesn’t have to mean lifting weights or hitting the gym. There are plenty of resistance exercises that use the weight of your own body or portable fitness bands. Muscle mass naturally declines as we age, so resistance training and building muscle helps counteract those effects by increasing your metabolism, preventing injuries and improve your overall energy and mood. So, in addition to the cardio, be sure to build strength as well.

Keep it convenient
Research shows that to make behavior change stick, it needs to be as easy as possible. When it comes to fitness, for some that means setting out their workout gear before going to sleep, for others that means stashing their athletic shoes or whatever else they need to get moving in their car. For others, maybe that includes multi-tasking - treadmill standup desk anyone? Keep fitness gear within reach and convenient so you never have an excuse to stay put.

Visit kp.org/fitness

Serving unions for more than 70 years.
Since Kaiser Permanente first opened its doors, we’ve been providing high-quality, affordable care to union members. Decades later much has changed, but our commitment has not. Here’s to many more years of helping to keep union workers on the job. Learn more at kp.org/laborandtrust.