After a hotly contentious summer that saw the NorCal Carpenters Union pitted against the State Building and Construction Trades Council of California (SBCTC) on some critical housing policy proposals, there is finally good news out of Sacramento.

In a compromise, two pieces of legislation that had become oppositional rallying points — depending on where you stood — have both passed. Together, the bills, which focus on making it easier and faster to build affordable housing in California, could create thousands of construction jobs in the residential market while increasing statewide housing supply in a time of serious need.

It was a long road to get here, with fights now resolved about the presence of a skilled-and-trained mandate stipulating all work be performed by union building tradespeople and apprentices. Legislatures got together and drew up a deal, and just like that, Senate Bill 6 (SB 6, the Middle-Class Housing Act) and Assembly Bill 2011 (AB 2011, the Affordable Housing and High Road Jobs Act) each passed out of the state house at the end of August.

SB 6 and AB 2011 now await Governor Gavin Newsom’s signature.

The Potential

What’s exciting about these bills is that they connect building trades unions with residential construction. Historically, the housing market has been a tough nut to crack for the trades. SB 6 and AB 2011, both of which are designed to streamline housing production in commercial zones, should help the trades gain a foothold in this problematic sector.

By Robert Fulton
Contributing Writer

Corruption, Retaliation, Bad Morale, Disrespect and Another Ballot Measure

As Crisis Engulfs SF Dept. of Public Works, Its Workers Bear Burden of Agency’s Dysfunction

By Robert Fulton
Contributing Writer

To ‘B,’ or Not to ‘B’?

Prop B Aims to Overturn Identically Named Measure Passed by SF Voters in 2020

By Robert Fulton
Contributing Writer
There’s Only One Way to Vote for Union Construction of Truly Affordable Housing in SF: Yes on Prop E, No on Prop D

By Rudy Gonzalez, Secretary-Treasurer, San Francisco Building & Construction Trades Council

W

e don’t have to look far to see the impacts of the housing crisis in San Francisco. We see it every day in our own networks as friends, family, and coworkers move out of our city. We see it with rising homelessness, which contributes to the crisis on our streets. We see it with construction workers sitting idle, waiting for housing projects to begin so we can finally get back to work after the hard Covid years.

The San Francisco Building and Construction Trades Council firmly supports Proposition E, Homes for Families and Workers, to help address this crisis and create good-paying union jobs.

While many factors that have led to the housing crisis, it’s important that we do what we can to address the causes. One of the biggest ones is a long and drawn-out process to obtain the necessary approvals to move housing from a concept into concrete.

That was at the top of my mind when we began negotiations to put a measure on the November ballot to speed approvals so we could get our workers back to work.

The end result of that long process of collaboration and negotiation was Prop E. This worker-led initiative was truly a group effort, as we collaborated with partners at the Board of Supervisors, members of the development community, tenant and housing advocates, and many more people to create an initiative that would speed up the creation of housing while providing real benefits for our community.

Prop E streamline approvals for proposed housing developments as long as they meet certain criteria. Educator housing or 100% affordable housing automatically qualifies. Mixed-income housing qualifies if it includes more affordable units, including family units (the two- and three-bedroom homes that are in short supply in San Francisco).

Importantly for us, that housing must also be built with a certain number of skilled-and-trained workers. That way, we’re not just ensuring the production of high-quality housing — we’re also getting our members back to work.

Approved projects must break ground within two years because we need housing now. And we included more transparency and oversight because San Franciscans deserve to know how that money is being spent.

I had hoped at the outset of negotiations that we Prop E proponents could come together with Prop D proponents and all of us get behind one unity measure. Yet, they chose to go it alone and pursue their own initiative. That’s their right. Now, it’s in the hands of the voters.

This council urges our members and all San Francisco voters to support Prop E, as the truly innovative and comprehensive measure to speed up affordable housing production.

To learn more about Prop E, visit the campaign’s website at SFHomesForFamilies.com. There you can read more about the measure and learn about volunteer opportunities for voter education and outreach.

Let’s get back to work building housing workers can afford!

In November, incumbent Gordon Mar, a friend of the trades, is running for re-election as supervisor of District 4. He deserves our support.

Published Since February 1900

Organized Labor

122 Years

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Bricklayers & Allied Crafts, Local 3
Carpenters, Local 22
Carpenters, Local 2336
Carpet Layers, Local 12
Cement Masons, Local 300, Area 580
Electrical Workers, Local 6
Elevator Constructors, Local 8
Glaziers, Local 718
Insulators & Asbestos Workers, Local 16
International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers, Local 21
Ironworkers, Field Local 377
Laborers, Local 67
Laborers, Local 261
Lathers, Local 685
Millwrights, Local 102
Operating Engineers, Local 3
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Subscribers: Please send any change of address directly to your local, not to the publication. The locals keep their own membership lists current for all of their correspondence, including subscriptions to Organized Labor. Please contact your local directly with any questions. Thank you.

— The Publishers
San Francisco Building & Construction Trades Council’s
OFFICIAL ENDORSEMENTS

CANDIDATES FOR SF CITY/COUNTY OFFICE
 Supervisor, District 2 ........................................ Catherine Stefani
 Supervisor, District 4 ............................................. Gordon Mar
 Supervisor, District 6 ........................................... Honey Mahogany
 Supervisor, District 8 ........................................... Rafael Mandelman
 Supervisor, District 10 ........................................ Shamann Walton
 SFUSD Board of Education ......................... Lisa Weissman-Ward
 Community College Board of Trustees (3) .......... Susan Solomon, John Rizzo, Thea Selby
 SF Assessor-Recorder ........................................ Joaquin Torres
 SF City Attorney ................................................... David Chiu
 SF District Attorney ........................................... Joseph Alioto Veronese
 SF Public Defender ............................................. Mano Raju
 BART Director, District 8 ................................. Janice Li

CANDIDATES FOR STATE & FEDERAL OFFICE
 11th Congressional District Representative........... Nancy Pelosi
 CA State Assemblymember, District 17 ............. Matt Haney
 CA State Assemblymember, District 19 ............. Phil Ting

STATEWIDE CANDIDATES FOR STATE OFFICE
 CA Governor .................................................. Gavin Newsom
 CA Attorney General ............................................ Rob Bonta
 CA Secretary of State ......................................... Shirley Weber
 CA Controller .................................................. Malia Cohen

SF CITY/COUNTY QUALIFIED MEASURES
 SUPPORT Proposition A: Pre-1996 Retiree Supplemental Cost-of-Living Adjustment
 OPPOSE Proposition B: Elimination of Sanitation & Streets Department
 SUPPORT Proposition C: Homelessness Oversight Commission
 OPPOSE Proposition D: Affordable Homes Now
 SUPPORT Proposition E: Homes for Workers & Families, Affordable Housing Production
 SUPPORT Proposition F: Library Preservation Fund
 NO POSITION on Proposition G: Grants to SFUSD
 NO POSITION on Proposition H: City Elections in Even-Numbered Years
 SUPPORT Proposition I: Vehicles on JFK Drive & Great Highway
 OPPOSE Proposition J: Recreational Use of JFK Drive
 SUPPORT Proposition L: Better Roads and Transit
 SUPPORT Proposition M: Residential Vacancy Tax
 NO POSITION on Proposition N: Golden Gate Park Parking
 SUPPORT Proposition O: Workforce Education & Reinvestment for City College

POLS ARE OPEN ON ELECTION DAY,
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8,
FROM 7 A.M. TO 8 P.M.

If you’re returning your ballot by mail, it must be postmarked on or before November 8, 2022. You can return your ballot in-person to your county elections office or any polling or ballot drop-off location in California by 8 p.m. on November 8. To locate an early voting or ballot drop-off location near you, visit CAEarlyVoting.sos.ca.gov or contact your county elections office.
JERRY NEIL PAUL
An Advocate for the Building Trades
Asbestos-Related Mesothelioma, Lung Cancer and Asbestosis

Have you or a loved one been diagnosed with the cancer MESOTHELIOMA?
You may be entitled to COMPENSATION NO FEES, NO COSTS until we collect monies due you and your family
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35 years of getting justice, verdicts & settlements for the California Union Building Trades.

JERRY NEIL PAUL. ATTORNEY JNP@THEPAULLAWFIRM.COM
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Los Angeles area:
3011 Townsgate Road, Suite 450
Westlake Village, CA 91361
San Francisco:
50 California St. Suite 1500
San Francisco, CA 94111

YES ON L
KEEP SF MOVING

YES ON PROP E
We all know San Francisco has a housing crisis. Proposition E will help speed up the production of affordable, family housing while supporting our workers. That’s why Prop E is the ONLY housing measure endorsed by:

HOMES
for Families and Workers

GO VOTE

UNION PLUS SCHOLARSHIPS
Helping Union Families With the Cost of College
unionplus.org/benefits/education/union-plus-scholarships
Did you know that with early detection, breast cancer has a 5-year survival rate up to 99%? With Breast Cancer Awareness Month coming in October, now is the perfect time to schedule a screening.

Here’s what you should know about mammograms:

- **Mammograms are often covered at no cost as a preventive service.** Check with your health plan for coverage and referral information.
- **While mammograms emit a low dose of radiation, the amount is very small, and the benefit of early detection far outweighs the risk.**
- **According to the American Cancer Society, you should get a mammogram annually from age 45-54, and every 2 years after that.**

The strongest defense against breast cancer is prevention. It could even save your life.

Scan the QR code to read more about mammograms. To learn more about Blue Shield, contact Tera Brandon Clizbe, vice president, Labor and Trust at tera.clizbe@blueshieldca.com.
This guest column was written by Sal Rosselli, president of the National Union of Healthcare Workers. NUHW represents 16,000 healthcare workers in California and Hawaii, including 4,000 Kaiser Permanente mental health clinicians and medical professionals.

Can you envision breaking your arm and your doctor saying, “I think we can squeeze you in, in a month or two”? Unimaginable. Now, close your eyes and picture someone close to you — a friend or family member or maybe yourself — feeling deeply depressed or unbearably anxious, even suicidal. What do you do? You take the first step. You call your healthcare provider to make an appointment with a mental health professional who can help.

But your healthcare provider is Kaiser Permanente. When you call them, you’re told, “I think we can squeeze you in — in a month or two.”

Unfortunately, this is no imaginary scenario. For thousands of people seeking mental health care at Kaiser, it’s the reality.

The delay of this crucial care shouldn’t be acceptable. It’s a gross disservice to those who have paid for it. The denial of mental health care is immoral and unethical, and it’s the reason why therapists employed by the giant HMO are on strike in the Bay Area, Northern California, and the Central Valley.

Two thousand NUHW members have been on strike since August 15. This strike, undertaken by Kaiser therapists, psychologists, social workers, and chemical dependency counselors, isn’t about wages and benefits — those issues were settled before the strike began.

What NUHW members want is for California’s largest HMO to wake up and confront the mental health crisis that’s surging in our state and across the nation. They want Kaiser to create parity with medical services, and they fundamentally want to improve access to care for Kaiser patients in need.

Last month on his HBO show “Last Week Tonight,” host John Oliver pointed out that four in 10 adults in the United States have exhibited symptoms of anxiety disorder or depressive disorder during the pandemic; that more than half of those who need mental health services don’t receive them; and that the rate of needed-but-undelivered mental health care is even higher among minority populations.

“If we want to be a society that truly respects and values mental health,” Oliver said, “we have to respect and value mental health care, and that means supporting the people who deliver it.”

Medical care and mental health care are both healthcare. There shouldn’t be a double-standard. Mental health shouldn’t be treated as an afterthought.
Oliver nailed it.
Many insurance companies and healthcare providers across the country routinely violate federal and state parity rules. In the case of Kaiser, the record of delays and denials of mental health care to subscribers predates the pandemic.
The HMO has been fined by state regulators for denying members timely access to care. It has been sued by local prosecutors. Kaiser is now facing a new state investigation following a sharp rise in patient complaints last year. Another state investigation was announced only two weeks ago.
In response to concerns from Kaiser psychologists, the American Psychological Society told state regulators that Kaiser’s appointment wait times were the worst it had seen.
Kaiser staffs only one full-time-equivalent therapist for every 2,600 policy-holding members in Northern California. In violation of a new state law that requires follow-up appointments be provided within 10 business days, Kaiser patients are routinely forced to wait four to eight weeks between therapy appointments.
It doesn’t have to be this way. Kaiser has the money to beef up services. California’s largest HMO reported $54 billion in reserves and earned over $8 billion in profits last year.
According to Kaiser, the company has trouble hiring therapists. Probably true. But it might have less trouble if it would invest in mental health, follow the laws on the books, put more staff on the phones, improve working conditions, and offer more training. These actions, if taken, would also bring an end to the strike.
Medical care and mental health care are both healthcare. There shouldn’t be a double-standard. Mental health shouldn’t be treated as an afterthought.
When Kaiser needed more medical doctors, it established its own medical school. When it experienced a surge in demand for mental health services, it did next to nothing. Why?
“Strike or no strike, as the regulator, we are going to hold them accountable to the law,” Mary Watanabe, director of the California Department of Managed Health Care, told state senators during a hearing last month.
State regulators are saying all the right things. But they need to do more — much more. Time and again, Kaiser thumbs its nose at state laws requiring timely treatment. It’s time to hold this company accountable.
Governor Gavin Newsom appeared in Fresno recently to promote a $4.7 billion investment in universal screening and support for children’s mental health. That’s great, but Newsom also needs to ensure there’s enforcement of the mental health bills that he’s already signed into law.
The state government has been very good to Kaiser. The Newsom administration recently offered Kaiser a no-bid contract for Medi-Cal services. It was a huge reward.
The state has shown that it knows how to give gifts. Let’s see how it does at enforcing discipline. Our mental health depends on it.

—John Oliver, Last Week Tonight” host
We Regret the Loss of the Following Members

Francis J. McGovern, 88, passed away on August 10, 2022, with 59 years of membership. He is preceded by his wife, Greta, and daughter, Julie. He is survived by his children, Kerry, Carolyn, and Chris McGovern; and his grandchildren, David, Shannon, and Michael Pere; and Dun-


Peter James Tunney, 83, passed away on August 26, 2022, with 43½ years of membership. Pete was a native of Charlestown, County Mayo, Ireland. He is predeceased by his parents, Peter and Mary, and siblings Tommy, Eddie, Maura, Pat, Marty, and Claire. He is survived by sisters Anne, Denise, Eireine (Dominic), and Belb (Reg), as well as many nieces and nephews in Ireland, England, and the United States. He retired working at City College. He resided in San Francisco.

50-Year Honorary Members

Andrew Kovistio
Raymond Lopez
Steven Vasquez

Retired Member

Joseph Ramirez

Election Day: Tuesday, Nov. 8

Remember to vote. Check for your local polling location. More information can be found online at elections.sfgov.org.

Local 22 Has Rendered the Following Political Endorsements

Nancy Pelosi
Gavin Newsom
Brooke Jenkins
Matt Dorsey

CANDIDATES
San Francisco Supervisor, District 2 ...................... Catherine Stefani
San Francisco Supervisor, District 4 ...................... Gordon Mar
San Francisco Supervisor, District 6 ...................... Matt Dorsey
San Francisco Supervisor, District 8 ...................... Rafael Mandelman
San Francisco Supervisor, District 10 ................. Shannan Walton
San Francisco District Attorney ......................... Brooke Jenkins
San Francisco Public Defender ......................... Mano Raju
San Francisco Community College Board ........... Thea Selby, John Rizzo, and Susan Solomon
San Francisco Assessor Recorder ..................... Joaquin Torres
BART Director, District 8 ................................. Janice Li
California State Assembly, District 17 ................ Matt Haney
California State Assembly, District 19 ................. Phil Ting
U.S. Congress ............................................. Nancy Pelosi and Kevin Mullin

BALLOT MEASURES
Yes on Proposition A ................................. Retiree Supplemental Cost-of-Living Adjustment
Yes on Proposition D ................................. Affordable Housing Now
No on Proposition E ................................. Affordable Housing Opposition
Yes on Proposition L ................................. Sales Tax for Transportation Projects

STATEWIDE COUNCIL ENDORSEMENTS
Governor ................................................. Gavin Newsom
Lieutenant Governor .................................. Eleni Kounalakis
Attorney General ..................................... Ricardo Lara
Superintendent of Schools ......................... Tony Thurmond
Insurance Commissioner ......................... Ricardo Lara
Secretary of State ..................................... Shirley Weber
Controller ............................................... Malia Cohen
Treasurer ............................................... Fiona Ma

OTHER ENDORSEMENTS
Martinez City Council ................................. Jay Howard

CONGRATULATIONS
Congratulations to the Winners of the $3,000 Northern California Carpenters/Thomas A. Morton Memorial Scholarship 2022

• Luke Adams, son of Jonathan Adams
• Sergio Alvarez Jr., son of Sergio Alvarez
• Steven Chow, son of Sam Chow
• Caitlin Huse, daughter of Melvin Huse
• Dakota O’Brien, daughter of Thomas O’Brien
• Abigail Jufiar, daughter of Anthony Jufiar
• Angelina McMahon, daughter of Michael McMahon
• Jacqueline O’Connor, daughter of Michael O’Connor
• Terrill Oliver, son of Terrill Oliver
• Sophia Rivera, daughter of Adrian Rivera
• Kaylie Sumi, daughter of Gary Sumi
• Calvin Tan, son of Jin Zhuo Tan

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 Wildfires Disaster: Relief for Members

Please visit ncerc.org/relief 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 ctncrc.org.

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

Hello Brothers and Sisters,

BAC Local 3 has two state-of-the-art facilities for our apprentice and journey-level training. The MDC (Mason Development Center) is located in Tracy, and the Tile JATC is located in Livermore. These facilities have top-notch instructors, with Josh Height, James Mayse, and new brick instructor Robert Miller at the MDC. Our longtime brick instructor Laurie Harris retired earlier this summer after many years of service in the field as well as in the classrooms of the MDC. Mark Ansell, John Rodriguez, and new tile instructor Robert Panak are at the Tile JATC.

I feel wholeheartedly that the future of our union lies within those walls and in the hands of our apprentices. The knowledge that the instructors provide, as well as the real-world teaching from our journeymen in the field, are key to our union’s long-term success.

Earlier this summer, in June, the Board of Trustees at the MDC voted in favor of expanding our brick apprenticeship program to include a pre-apprentice class. This is an eight-week class where the pre-apprentices learn the basics of laying brick and block in a more job-like curriculum. The goal of the program is to produce young people who are eager to work, learn, and provide our contractors with the best apprentice candidates who already know the basics of bricklaying and will be able to perform in the field when hired.

The first class began in July with pre-apprentices enrolled as a trial run to ensure the addition of a new program would not disrupt the current curriculum being taught. These new pre-apprentices are being taught by Instructor Robert Miller, alongside the regular apprentice class being taught that week. I’m pleased to report that the students have progressed very well and graduated from the program as of September 2.

Enrollment for the next class is currently open, with classes scheduled to start on September 19. If you know anyone interested in joining the pre-apprentice program, please have them contact Josh Height at the MDC or visit the MDC website at bac3train.com for information on enrollment.

The responsibility for the advancement and growth of our union rests not only on the shoulders of our current members but also on the next generation of apprentices developing their skills. Visiting the MDC and the Tile JATC and observing the apprentices makes me very optimistic about where BAC Local 3 is headed for the future as we continue growing our union.

Fraternally,
Colin Johnson

Service Awards, September

25 years: Marcellino Hally
50 years: Sereno Zucchiatti

Congratulations on your many years of service.

In Memoriam

We are sorry to announce the passing of our brothers:
• Lorenzo Betti, TW, 8/15/2022, 19-CA, 33-year member
• Freddie Holmes, BL, 8/18/2022, 08-CA, 37-year member
• Joshua Kerr, FN TZ, 8/23/2022, 19-CA, two-year member

Find us on Facebook by searching “BAC Local 3 CA,” on Twitter @ballocal3ca, and on Instagram @ballocal3.

Pre-apprentices Erik Mendoza and Hubert Tercero learn the basic of laying brick and block.

**CHAPTER MEETINGS**

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<tr>
<th>October 2022</th>
<th>November 2022: No Meetings</th>
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<td><strong>SUN</strong></td>
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| **All Chapter Meetings in November Are Cancelled.**
| General Membership Meeting on Nov. 5 (Location and Time TBD). |

**Reminder**

Third quarter dues are due by the end of September. Members with a dues balance should have received a notification in the mail of what they owe. Any member with a question about their balance should call the office at 650-763-5405 and dial extension 1115 for Morgan Worth. Annette Dosier is also available to answer questions at extension 1118.

In Solidarity & With Respect,
Annette Dosier
Morgan Worth
Peter Forni

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Preceded by Time

September is upon us, and so is Dreamforce, the Salesforce event of the year. As of this writing, the office has been busy dispatching the event. Check back next month for a synopsis of what the show was like and a report of things to come.

Thank You

Thanks to Hugh Winslow and Ann Worth for organizing a small picnic on Sunday, September 11, at Cedar Rose Park in Berkeley. Some former members and retirees, as well as a number of current members, made it to the picnic and spent time catching up with their brothers and sisters.

In Solidarity & With Respect,
Annette Dosier
Morgan Worth
Peter Forni
He delivered on his promises to invest in good jobs and investing in America. leader who does more than talk tough the consequences. Among our ranks who are going to back conspiracy theorists. There are some the lies of election deniers and whacky online as we have been inundated by on the job, at the coffee shop, and been the fuel for many heated debates impacts of climate change. infrastructure, and address the harmful establishment worker protections, invest in a Congress that will continue to re-important decisions to make. These 2022 Midterm Election REPORT James McCaffrey Dick K. Tom John C. Tam Christopher K. Steil Best Wishes to Our Recently away on August 19, 2022. Jr., inside journeyman, who passed away. Jg. dle and friends of Milton M. Lipman Dues are due and payable in advance not later than the first Local 6 general membership meeting in January, April, July, and October of each year. Dues can be mailed to Local 6 or paid in person at the Local 6 business office. If they so desire, members can make one payment of $636 for the entire year.

DUES INCREASE EFFECTIVE JANUARY 2023 Effective January 2023, quarterly dues will increase to $159.

With President Joe Biden, we have a leader who does more than talk tough on issues we support, such as protecting good jobs and investing in America. He delivered on his promises to invest in our middle class and to reverse the anti-worker agenda of the previous administration.

The working family has a brighter future under Biden as he pushes back on those corporate leaders who want workers to work for lower wages and to live out of sight. The real wage gains and the growth in union organizing throughout the economy is proof, despite the spike in oil prices resulting from Russia’s unwarranted aggression in Ukraine.

The IBEW and all of labor are working to keep or turn congressional seats blue. We need to support an executive branch that works for working people. I have said it time and time again: When they come after one of our rights today, they will come after them all tomorrow. We saw this with the recent Dobbs decision upending 50 years of precedent for a woman’s right to choose.

Don’t think — not for one minute — that your right to be in a union and collectively bargain for better wages and working conditions is a given.

The increasingly radicalized right wing of the Republican party wants to strip us of that right as soon as they get the chance. They don’t care one bit about the plight of the middle class, and their actions have proven this consistently. All but a handful of Republicans voted against re-establishing good manufacturing jobs, such as those in computer chip factories, and repairing and expanding the electrical grid to better prepare for our future.

These are the kinds of good jobs we in the IBEW have been screaming for all these years. When given the chance to raise the level of opportunity for the average American, the Republicans chose to stand with billionaires who don’t want to pay their share to ensure prosperity.

We need a government led by people who will hear our voices — the voices of working people and their families — and a judiciary that will defend our right to raise those voices. We will not get that government from the reactionary opposition looking to move into power in Washington, D.C. We have candidates from labor and from our communities who will help us to raise our voices in the halls of Congress. We must commit to working to get them elected.

Our endorsed candidates will be listed on ibewvotes.com.

Best Wishes to Our Recently Retired Members
Noel F. Costello
Matt A. Oakes
Christopher K. Steil
John C. Tam
Dick K. Tom
James McCaffrey

BUSINESS MANAGER’S REPORT

2022 Midterm Election
This year, once again, we have very important decisions to make. These decisions include the ability to elect a Congress that will continue to re-establish worker protections, invest in infrastructure, and address the harmful impacts of climate change.

I know that the last 20 months have been the fuel for many heated debates on the job, at the coffee shop, and online as we have been inundated by the lies of election deniers and whacky conspiracy theorists. There are some among our ranks who are going to back one ideology over the other no matter the consequences.

With President Joe Biden, we have a leader who does more than talk tough on issues we support, such as protecting good jobs and investing in America. He delivered on his promises to invest...
smartphone before you fill out your ballot. You can access this information via the IBEW 6 website, and you can also register to vote via the website.

The last day to register online to vote in California in the upcoming election is October 24. Take the time to get yourself registered and to talk to your coworkers to see if they’re registered, too. If they aren’t, help them. Our voice is our vote!

This issue of Organized Labor will provide more information related to San Francisco ballot measures.

**IBEW Women’s Conference**

This year, I was fortunate enough to attend the IBEW Women’s Conference in D.C. It was an inspiring conference, with approximately 600 sisters/brothers/siblings in attendance. IBEW International President Lonnie Stephenson opened the event after being introduced by International Vice-President Gina Cooper, of the fourth district.

With attendees from all across the IBEW and its varied disciplines, the conference was well coordinated and provided multiple workshops, panel discussions, and training seminars for the issues our sisters/siblings face in their day-to-day.

The first IBEW Women’s Conference took place 25 years ago, and we were lucky to have at least a few members who attended that first conference back in 1997. AFL-CIO President Liz Shuler, who’s also an IBEW member, recalled the early years of the conference as she addressed attendees on Saturday morning.

A trip to D.C. is never complete without a walk up to the Capitol to address our representatives. Local 6 members Diana Dooley and Leah Saucedo-Dempsey represented our local in discussions with the Speaker’s office on matters of concern to all of us in Local 6, and I can assure you they did us all proud.

Thank you to Local 6 members Diana Dooley, Leah Saucedo-Dempsey, Jennifer Kramer, Sabrina Hernandez, and Osha Ashworth for their representation of our local at this important IBEW event.

Stay Safe, Save for a Rainy Day, and Come to a Union Meeting!

John J. Doherty
Business Manager
Financial Secretary
Political season is upon us, and Local 718 is supporting the candidates who support labor. Check out the photos alongside this column—they’re snapshots from some of the political events in which we’ve participated during recent months. If you see something that interests you, or if you want more information about how our local gets engaged in politics, I urge you to call me at 415-342-0835 or email nick@dc16.us.

I’m currently looking for Local 718 members to participate in the following activities: phone banking, canvassing, dinners/receptions, video shoots/commercials, and public speaking. Get in touch with me to learn more.

Respectfully,
Nick King
Business Representative
Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Saturday, September 10, was a day that a lot of us had been waiting for. It was the annual Safety Training Awards Recognition (STAR) BBQ and Raffle, and it did not disappoint.

First, a little history about the STAR program. This program was designed entirely for you. In 2008, DC 16 first began working with the associations of various crafts to find a way to provide ongoing training to give you the tools you need to be a highly skilled finishing trades craft worker. The program is funded by your employers who benefit from the certifications and training provided.

Let us not forget the recognition that motivates members to participate: That’s what the STAR BBQ and Raffle is all about.

The event was a day for family, friends, and coworkers to get together, drink beers, eat good food, and let our kids enjoy fun activities such as the rock-climbing wall, face-painting, a super slide, and a dunk tank, which gave them the chance to dunk their favorite representatives.

Every member received a $100 dollar gift card and some DC 16 swag. The raffle is unbelievable for the qualifiers, with cars, jet skis, Quadrunners, TVs, $1,000 gift cards, and much more.

I’m proud to report that Local 12 had its share of big winners, too. Apprentice Ronald Huycx won a new Chevy Malibu. Jesse Cantrell won a Polaris. Ken Zhu won an electric bike. Bud Johnson won $1,000 in the early bird raffle and an 86-inch TV in the main raffle.

Congratulations to all winners, and remember: You must participate in training to attend the STAR BBQ and Raffle, so get your classes done before next year!

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

Respectfully,
Anthony Nuñez
Business Representative

An interesting trend has been taking shape over the past 10 or so years. Positive public opinion regarding unions has been on the rise, with support for organized labor reportedly polling higher now than at any point during the last half-century.

The individual currently serving in the White House has made support for bridge and highway improvements, valued in the tens of billions, in the northwest high-speed rail project and, looking down the road, we’ll also have to continue to address sea level rise and fresh water infrastructure issues, along with other challenges we have yet to encounter.

It’s a good time to be a union pile driver. Be safe, stay well, get plenty of rest, and work on those welding certs. There’s lots to be done.

In Solidarity,
Martin Espinoza Jr.
Senior Field Representative
Why do we organize, and why does it matter? Labor in this country has a long and storied history that I won’t delve into, as I would run out of space, and, besides, many already know. To those who don’t: I encourage you to go out and get educated. Spend some time reading up on your own history and the reasons that organized labor works the way it does today, and the impacts that laws created to help — and hurt — unions across the country.

So, again, why do we organize? And who is our organizer? His name is Nick Moore. His height, quick wit, and experience … well, you know the rest.

But Nick isn’t our only organizer. All of you are our organizers. When you walk onto a jobsite, you are our own advocates. We are all on the hook for getting the word out that organized labor protects and lifts up workers. We don’t buy into “trickle-down.” That economic approach never seems to make it past the stock buybacks for the companies we work for. In fact, our view is to the contrary: We believe wealth should trickle up, as a rising tide lifts all boats.

I recently read an article by NPR journalist Jaclyn Diaz. It was a short piece that quoted Gallup polls indicating that Americans overwhelmingly support unions and union workers. If the polls are to be believed, American approval of labor unions is at its highest level since the 1960s.

American’s attitudes, however, are notoriously fickle, and that one bad experience … well, you know the rest.

We are all organizers. We are all our own advocates. We are all on the hook for getting the word out that organized labor protects and lifts up workers. We don’t buy into “trickle-down.” That economic approach never seems to make it past the stock buybacks for the companies we work for. In fact, our view is to the contrary: We believe wealth should trickle up, as a rising tide lifts all boats.

If we lift up the working class and carry ourselves, and interact with the public and other trades workers, union and non-union alike. When people have a bad experience with a person or a company, it leaves a much deeper impression than a good experience, which puts our attempts to unionize and organize at a disadvantage, and not just for this trade.

When I say we are all organizers, I mean we all ought to be proud of who we are and what we do. Shout it from the rooftops. Celebrate organized labor, and celebrate unionism.

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Organizer's Note:

Do your part to patronize those companies and businesses that see farther than the black numbers on their budget sheets and realize that a skilled-and-trained workforce is worth more than just the revenue for this quarter and this bonus check — that a skilled-and-trained worker is a person who ensures that a skilled-and-trained workforce is worth more than just the revenue for this quarter and this bonus check — that a skilled-and-trained worker is a person who ensures that the job will be done on-time, done safely, and done right the first time.

Be safe out there, brothers and sisters. See you all on the jobsite.

In Solidarity,
Matt Russo
Business Manager
Financial Secretary
Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Work is starting to pick up. We need more roofers/waterproofers to keep up with the demand for skilled workers in our area. If you know someone who’d like to work, please ask them to stop by our office and fill out an application.

At our September meeting, we will nominate officers for the new term, 2022-2025. At our meeting on December 15, we’ll then vote on new officers for that term. Please attend these meetings!

In Memoriam
We are sorry to announce the passing of our brother Cecil W. Skanderup. He was 92 years old and had been a member in good standing for the past 72 years. That’s a record that’ll be hard to break.

In Solidarity,
Jose Oscar Padilla
Business Manager

Hugo Panuco (left) receives his 35-Year Certificate of Good Standing from Business Manager Jose Padilla. Hugo was initiated on December 1, 1986. He worked at ALCAL Roofing, and now he’s enjoying his retirement.
Housing Bills
Continued from page 1

“There’s an area where the building trades don’t have a substantial market share today,” said SBCTC President Andrew Meredith. “It’s one of the few construction sectors where that’s the case in California. Getting our foot in the door on a significant level was really important to us. The fact that we’ve all collectively moved the needle is pretty impressive.”

But this collective moving of the needle almost didn’t happen.

The Rift
SB 6, authored by State Senator Anna Caballero (D-Merced), allows for the creation of housing in existing commercial and retail spaces without rezoning. AB 2011, authored by Assemblymember Buffy Wicks (D-Oakland), accelerates the production of housing in commercial spaces, also without rezoning. Caballero’s bill requires the use of a skilled-and-trained workforce for qualifying projects, while Wicks’ legislation doesn't include such provisions but does provide stronger affordable housing targets. Both pieces of legislation mandate building trades don’t have a substantial market share today,” said SBCTC President Andrew Meredith. “It’s one of the few construction sectors where that’s the case in California. Getting our foot in the door on a significant level was really important to us. The fact that we’ve all collectively moved the needle is pretty impressive.”

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A path forward was unclear. Suddenly, on Thursday, August 25, California Senate President Pro Tempore Toni Atkins (D-San Diego) office issued a news release announcing that a compromise had been reached between the two opposing factions. The agreement would allow both AB 2011 and SB 6 — the latter of which had stalled in the statehouse last year — to move ahead.

The Opportunities
NCCRC Executive Secretary-Treasurer Jay Bradshaw sees the passage of the bills as victories for both affordable housing proponents and organized labor. “The workforce is there,” he said. “It’s the union’s obligation to have the platforms and the on-ramps, and the opportunity to bring them in.”

Bradshaw also spoke passionately about the challenges his members and the working-class in general face in the housing market.

“The workforce needs rights and a raise,” he said. “We need to organize [them], and we need to produce housing.”

The Big Win
The skilled-and-trained provisions in SB 6 have been the primary motivating factor for that bill’s building trades advocates since day one, and their inclusion is seen as a big win.

“What’s really great about this is that SB 6 has skilled-and-trained labor language that creates pathways to the middle class for residential construction workers,” Meredith said. “It drives the van for us to ratchet up our apprenticeship programs around the state to meet this new demand on the residential construction side.”

With the potential for millions of new homes to be built in the coming years, Meredith is confident that the building trades will be able to provide the skilled-and-trained workforce needed to fulfill the requirements in SB 6.

“The only thing that holds back our ability to create apprenticeship slots is demand,” Meredith said. “If the demand is there, we can continue to ratchet up these training numbers exponentially. That’s what we expect to do with the residential construction sector.”

He cited a laundry list of labor law violations that occur regularly on residential job sites and said he sees the legislation passed as a way to raise those standards and hold contractors accountable.

“For the carpenters union, we see it as probably the biggest opportunity we’ve seen or that’s available to us,” Bradshaw said, stressing that it is organized labor’s responsibility to engage residential workers and invest in organizing the sector.

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This guest column was written by Andrew Meredith, President of the State Building and Construction Trades Council of California.

In August, President Joe Biden worked with Congressional leaders to approve a historic measure aimed at curtailing inflation.

The Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 (IRA), the official name of the legislation, marks a milestone achievement for Biden and a massive win for working families in California. With historic investments in renewable and clean energy technologies, coupled with a commitment to skilled and trained craft workers, the IRA could dramatically jumpstart the development of energy projects up and down the state.

During a recent visit with Vice President Kamala Harris in Washington, D.C., I explained how bullish I was that the IRA could be a game-changer in California. Harris was particularly proud of the fact that the legislation incentivizes the payment of prevailing wages and the use of registered apprentices by increasing tax credits for companies that do so — a sentiment we share. This provides significant opportunities for our contractor partners throughout the state to expand their presence in the construction of energy-efficient homes, buildings, and infrastructure, creating substantial job opportunities for our current and future members.

The IRA also focuses on the domestic production of components needed for clean energy technologies such as wind, hydrogen, commercial-scale solar, and carbon capture. The wind industry is an especially exciting prospect, as California is entering a crucial stage in the deployment of off-shore wind energy infrastructure. Under the IRA, substantial incentives will be available for wind developers to manufacture components in California ports, examples of which could include steel towers, blades, or floating platforms, to name but a few.

Our goal at the State Building Trades has always been to leverage offshore wind generation potential into good-paying union jobs in the construction of these technologies and the manufacturing of components needed to deploy them. The Newsom Administration has fought for the same, and Biden is helping us all to deliver on those ambitions.

The IRA similarly takes a practical approach as it relates to bridge technologies such as biofuels, hydrogen, and carbon capture. The Biden Administration has long touted the benefits of these technologies, just as we have here in California. Now, thanks to the framework of the IRA, we might see substantial investment in these technologies in our state.

Instead of laying regulatory roadblocks at the base of these technologies — something we’ve seen California politicians trying to do — the IRA embraces these technologies, offering substantial extensions for incentives in these industries. As we transition to a cleaner and more renewable energy portfolio in the Golden State, these technologies can keep manufacturing alive, transportation functioning, and agriculture producing in the short-term — important priorities if we are to keep our budget in the black.

While naysayers have been quick to label this a tax increase for the working class, the truth is that the IRA will not raise taxes on families making less than $400,000 per year. What the IRA does do is go after those wealthy and large corporations that have made dodging tax obligations into an art form. The largest ones, who often pay little to no federal taxes, will see a flat 15% corporate tax thanks to the IRA. As Biden has consistently said, these measures are an “important component of building an economy that rewards work rather than wealth.”

As we all know, our members embody that spirit every day, from San Diego to Redding, and from San Francisco to Lake Tahoe. I’d be remiss not to acknowledge that in addition to Biden, many labor allies in D.C. played a part in ushering this landmark legislation to the finish line, including some familiar faces from our state. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Vice-President Harris, two of California’s own, unsurprisingly played a role. As my good friend Rudy Gonzalez, Secretary-Treasurer of the San Francisco Building Trades, likes to say: These two are no strangers to “bringing home the Davis-Bacon” (a reference to federal prevailing wages) for workers. Bring home the Davis-Bacon they did.

Above all else, the IRA presents a tremendous opportunity for the State Building Trades and our nearly half-million members in California. Hundreds of thousands of jobs will potentially be made available here thanks to Biden’s bold action.

To deliver our end of the bargain, we must work tirelessly to organize new members, engage new contractors, train a diverse and inclusive workforce in our apprenticeship programs, and continue to build projects on time and under budget, just like we’ve done for generations.

Biden is the most pro-labor president in most of our lifetimes. Let’s show the rest of America why he put his faith in the building trades.
Continued from page 1

In August, the disgraced former head of the SF Department of Public Works (DPW), Mohammed Nuru, was hit with a seven-year prison sentence after pleading guilty to federal fraud charges. Nuru, who had been in charge of street sweeping and other operations for the department since as early as 2000, served as DPW’s director from 2011 until his arrest in January 2020. In his plea deal, the man many called “Mr. Clean” admitted to handing out lucrative contracts to friends and cronies in exchange for bribes, among other transgressions.

Whistleblowers tipped off the U.S. Department of Justice to Nuru’s corruption, and members of Laborers Local 261, which represents more than 360 DPW workers, have been vocally critical of goings-on in the department.

Many in Local 261 believe they have been retaliated against for speaking out.

One example: Theresa Foglio, Local 261’s public-sector business agent, cites DPW’s refusal to provide bathrooms for workers while out in the field. Before the Covid pandemic, workers would frequently take breaks at local businesses. When these establishments closed in 2020, some permanently, DPW workers were left with nowhere to relieve themselves.

Despite numerous requests, DPW management refused to provide the necessary facilities. Foglio relayed the story of a member who was steriley strip-searched by DPW management for taking a bathroom break in a popular big-box retailer adjacent to — but technically outside of — his designated work zone.

Laborers 261 isn’t the only union affected by the culture at DPW, which also employs dozens of operating engineers, teamsters, cement masons, sheet metal workers, glaziers, roofers, carpenters, electricians, and others.

IBEW Local 6 Business Manager John Doherty shared stories of open positions in the department being filled by “special friends” of Nuru, rather than Doherty’s members. Most egregious were cases of unqualified candidates filling supervisorial positions in violation of Local 6’s contract.

“We’d like to see a return to the traditional chain of command, where there was an understanding that the people you were reporting to had an idea of what they were asking you to do on a daily basis,” Doherty said, adding that he knows of Local 6 members who transferred from DPW to get away from the poor morale and lack of opportunity.

In 2020, in response to the corruption charges and the rapidly degenerating condition of San Francisco’s streets, voters passed Proposition B. The ballot measure, which was supported by the San Francisco Building and Construction Trades Council, splits DPW in two, creating a new Department of Sanitation and Streets, and institutes greater oversight over both departments.

The new Sanitation and Streets department is expected to launch on October 1, but in a political maneuver that could happen only in San Francisco, the Board of Supervisors voted to place a measure on this year’s ballot that would roll back much of 2020’s Prop B, therefore jeopardizing the newly formed department.

It gets better: By sheer coincidence, the 2022 ballot measure is also called Prop B — meaning those who voted for the original Prop B in 2020 must now vote against the new Prop B in 2022 if they want to save the original Prop B and keep the Department of Sanitation and Streets as an independent entity.

The SF Building Trades are strenuously against these shenanigans, and they aren’t alone. Assemblyman Matt Haney, who, as an SF supervisor in 2020, spearheaded the original Prop B effort, called this year’s ballot measure “completely ridiculous and dysfunctional.”

Speaking of DPW, Haney said, “The corruption within this department costs our city tens of millions of dollars and leads to filthy streets and sidewalks. This is impacting everyone’s quality of life, and 2022 Prop B keeps the status quo.”

It’s a “blatantly disrespectful move” to overturn the will of the voters, he said. Honey Mahogany, who once worked as an aide for Haney and is running to fill his former supervisorial seat in District 6, was part of the team that got Prop B passed in 2020 and opposes the current effort.

“I don’t think that this is actually taking into consideration what would be best for our city and getting our streets cleaned,” Mahogany said.

Foglio, for one, said she hasn’t witnessed much change at the DPW since Nuru’s arrest, seeing an institutionalized culture and no effort of training managers who are already in place. She also opposes the new Prop B and wants the original 2020 Prop B reform seen to fruition; it would move the entire DPW laborers workforce under the new department.

Until that happens, she expects the status quo to remain in place.

“Of course, when the director of a department is indicted and subsequently convicted, it affects the whole staff,” Foglio said. “The workers internalized it.”

“The corruption within [DPW] costs our city tens of millions of dollars and leads to filthy streets and sidewalks.”

— Matt Haney, Former SF Supervisor & Current California Assemblymember, 17th District
needed. Furthermore, with the condition of the City’s streets a national embarrassment, a standalone department would be better equipped to address the needs of the citizenry.

In its pre-election endorsement of a yes vote on Prop B 2020, the San Francisco Bay Guardian offered this sarcastic remark (which would wind up being oddly prophetic): “If you liked the way Mohammed Nuru ran the Department of Public Works and you are happy with the condition of the City’s streets, then you should vote no.”

It seemed most voters in November 2020 were fond of neither Nuru’s management style nor the potholed roads.

With wide support from elected officials and community organizations, including the San Francisco Building and Construction Trades Council, Prop B 2020 passed with more than 61% of the vote. The new Sanitation and Streets Department is set to start operations on October 1 of this year.

But before the department could open and put Prop B 2020 into effect officially, a new ballot measure squeaked out of the woodwork. This proposition, sponsored by Supervisor Aaron Peskin, would roll back much of Prop B 2020’s stipulations.

Peskin’s new ballot measure that would undo the old before it’s rightfully implemented? Well, it’s also called Prop B. (For the purposes of this article, we’ll just refer to it as Zombie Prop B.)

“It would be hilarious if it wasn’t something that would have really terrible impacts on the city,” said California Assembymember Matt Haney, who, as District 6 supervisor, lead the charge on Prop B 2020. “The voters overwhelmingly passed something two years ago, and the city should implement it — period. The fact that they would go back just two years later and try to overturn the thing when none of the problems that it set out to fix have been solved is sad and wrong.”

The SF Building Trades stands in fierce opposition to Zombie Prop B and has collaborated with affected workers to help coordinate a No on B campaign. “The original Prop B in 2020 was in direct response to the corruption issues,” said SF Building Trades Secretary-Treasurer Rudy Gonzalez. “Now, there’s a cynical attempt to undo it before it ever gets started.”

Of the attempt to overturn Prop B 2020, IBEW Local 6 Business Manager John Doherty said, “We went out and campaigned and fought for this. We’d like to see how it works. Clearly, they have an oversight problem if the director of your Department of Public Works is being sentenced to seven years in prison. I think the general public would like to know there’s somebody watching the store and that there’s a plan to restore the public faith in that institution.”

Reasons cited by those who support Zombie Prop B include implementation costs and redundancy. Peskin did not respond to a request for comment by press time.

Honey Mahogany, who was an aide to Haney and is running for his old District 6 seat, isn’t having it. “As someone who actively worked on the original Prop B, we really took a comprehensive look at what was going wrong and what we could do better, and we came up with something that had accountability,” she said. Haney sees Zombie Prop B as reflecting a “huge disconnect between the politicians at City Hall and the people of San Francisco.”

Mahogany took it one step further. “I think that this is part of the dysfunction of San Francisco,” she said. “We get the voters to pass one thing, and then we’re trying to undo it immediately. We are constantly at a standstill, and people are upset because we’re not making progress.”
Arm yourself against the flu

It’s never fun to be sick, but the flu is more serious than the common cold. It can be dangerous — especially for older people, children under 4, and pregnant women. Protect yourself and the people you care about with these simple tips.

Get your flu shot
It’s your best defense. The vaccination can’t give you the flu — but it can help protect you against this year’s most common strains and prevent spreading the flu to others. Don’t get the flu — get the flu shot!

Boost immunity with healthy habits
Simple things that support overall health can also help you fight the flu. Wash your hands often, and keep hand sanitizer handy. Make sure to get enough sleep, eat lots of fruits and veggies, and drink plenty of water.

Keep your germs to yourself
If you do get the flu, do yourself and your co-workers a favor and stay home. You need rest, fluids, and time to recover — and going to work sick can make symptoms worse and spread the illness around your workplace.

Visit kp.org/flu.

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.