



**Los Angeles
Urban League**

*Empowering communities.
Changing lives.*

October 07, 2025

Los Angeles City Council
City Hall
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Support for Higher Wages for Residential Construction Workers

Dear Members of the Los Angeles City Council,

On behalf of the Los Angeles Urban League, I am writing to express our strong support for the Western States Carpenters' effort to establish a minimum wage and health benefits for residential construction workers on qualifying projects.

Los Angeles is at a critical crossroads. We face a growing housing crisis and an equally urgent shortage of skilled construction workers. The city needs tens of thousands of additional workers to meet its housing goals, yet many are being driven out of the industry by low wages, job insecurity, and unfair labor practices. At a time when we are striving to build a more equitable and sustainable future for all Angelenos, it is unacceptable that the very people building our homes cannot afford to live in them.

The Los Angeles Urban League has worked for over a century to ensure economic empowerment and equity for underserved communities. We know that good jobs—those that provide fair pay, benefits, and dignity—are the foundation of strong families and stable neighborhoods. Establishing a minimum wage and health benefits for residential construction workers is not just a matter of fairness—it's a matter of economic justice and community sustainability.

A stronger, locally based construction workforce will help ensure that the dollars invested in housing development remain in our communities, supporting small businesses, local hiring, and long-term economic growth. By setting fair labor standards, Los Angeles can lead the nation in demonstrating that economic development and worker dignity go hand in hand.

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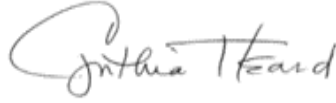
Caprice Willard Bent

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The Los Angeles Urban League stands in solidarity with the Western States Carpenters in urging the City Council to adopt a minimum wage and benefit standards for residential construction workers. Together, we can build not just more housing—but a more just, equitable, and resilient Los Angeles.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Cynthia Mitchell - Heard". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Cynthia" being more prominent and the last name "Heard" following in a similar style.

Cynthia Mitchell - Heard
President & CEO

