



# A BETTER WAY FOR LA

## Coalition Bargaining Teams Vote "Yes!" to Protect City Services and Co-Workers' Jobs Council Passes Plan, Joins Workers in Better Way for LA

June 29, 2009

In the worst economic crisis in decades, the Coalition of LA City Unions Bargaining Teams voted unanimously last week to recommend ratification by the membership of a plan to secure services, jobs, wages and contracts long enough to weather the economic storm.

The agreement will prevent layoffs and furloughs — a 10% pay cut — while helping up to 2,400 workers retire with dignity and saving the City close to half a billion dollars over two years.

On Friday, the Council passed the plan unanimously. Ballots will now go out for a vote of the full membership of all the unions in the Coalition.



*“I urge all Coalition members to vote yes because it benefits everyone. As a single mother, I cannot afford to lose \$400-500 dollars a month that furloughs would take from my paycheck. A COLA delay with recovery payments would be much less painful. I urge you to vote yes.”*

— Yolanda Estrada, *AFSCME Legal Secretary, City Attorney’s Office*

**Coalition of LA City Unions**  
[info@lacitycoalition.com](mailto:info@lacitycoalition.com)

SEIU Local 721 | AFSCME Council 36 | LIUNA Local 777 | Teamsters Local 911  
LA/OC Building & Construction Trades Council | Operating Engineers Local 501



# A BETTER WAY FOR LA

## Coalition Bargaining Teams Vote “Yes!” Recommend Better Way Plan to Members

June 29, 2009

### Highlights of the plan:

- ✓ No mandatory furloughs and no layoffs in Coalition bargaining units for two years —time for the economy to recover.
- ✓ No wage cuts.
- ✓ Pushes raises back two years and extends contract two years to lock them in. All raises guaranteed.
- ✓ Additional money in later years to compensate for delayed raises: cash bonuses of 1.75% in 2011 and 2012 plus an extra 1.75% raise in 2013, the final year.
- ✓ Renewal of the “Mutual Commitment to LA’s Future” through which the Coalition prevented layoffs and furloughs for Coalition union members.
- ✓ No other provisions of the contract change.
- ✓ The Early Retirement Incentive Plan (ERIP) will be part of this agreement, subject to ratification by all the participants in the LACERS system: a combination of age/and or service credits seeking to retire up to 2,400 workers.

### Additional protections and benefits:

- ✓ Coalition unions will receive proportional share of any new money to the General Fund as enhanced or accelerated wages and/or benefits.
- ✓ Savings in proprietary departments and special funds will be used to contract-in services to City workers.
- ✓ Job openings in all proprietary departments including DWP will be filled first by internal promotions.
- ✓ Savings from part-time workers’ sacrifice will go toward increasing the services they provide.
- ✓ City’s commitment to keep Coalition members in step with other city unions that might negotiate contracts before Coalition contracts expire.



*“We’re all leaders here. If deferring my pay increase for two years will save jobs for my brothers and sisters, I’m all for it.”*

— Tim Butcher, *SEIU Heavy Duty Truck Operator, Street Services*

Contact your steward or union representative for more information.

Coalition of LA City Unions  
[info@lacitycoalition.com](mailto:info@lacitycoalition.com)

SEIU Local 721 | AFSCME Council 36 | LIUNA Local 777 | Teamsters Local 911  
LA/OC Building & Construction Trades Council | Operating Engineers Local 501