

MOTION

Due to the complexity and environmental risks of maritime shipping operations, the Port of Los Angeles (Port) and its tenants and operators maintain a need for engaging highly specialized contractors and subcontractors to conduct services related to hazardous materials, materials handling, waste collection or removal, and site remediation. The need for these contracts and subcontracts is most readily apparent in emergencies, as in cases of oil or sewage spills. Addressing these types of emergencies swiftly and effectively is required to protect the health of Angelenos, the workers, others living in affected areas, and the marine environment.

This work requires a skilled, trained, and swift response to spills, leaks, environmental crises, or other hazardous materials emergencies. Recent events at the Port underscore how imperative it is to make sure that workers on hazardous materials contracts are immediately available, well trained, experienced, and are ensured safe working conditions. Safe working conditions include employer-provided Personal Protective Equipment (“PPE”), operable equipment and supplies, lawful breaks and hours, adherence to Occupational Safety and Health Administration (“OSHA”) regulations, and the like. A trained, experienced, skilled, and safe workforce will result in better health and environmental outcomes for the workers, the surrounding community, and the ocean.

For these reasons, all services in hazardous materials, materials handling, waste collection or removal, and site remediation in the Port would be best served by a skilled and trained workforce. Consistent with other occupations, trades, or services, such a workforce is best achieved by a policy to require a Labor Peace Agreement, Project Labor Agreement, or similar enactment for all hazardous materials work associated with Port operations, whether conducted under the authority of the Port, by Port tenants, or through any authorized agent.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council request the Port, in consultation with the Public Works Bureau of Contract Administration and the Office of the City Attorney, to report within thirty (30) days on the appropriate ordinance, regulation, or policy, such as Project Labor Agreements, Labor Peace Agreements, or similar mechanisms, to ensure that the workforce on hazardous waste collection, site remediation, or waste removal contracts, whether contracted directly by the Port or subcontracted through tenants or other authorized agents, is skilled, well trained, experienced, and is ensured safe working conditions.

PRESENTED BY:



TIM McOSKER
Councilmember, 15th District

SECONDED BY:



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