



## News Release

### **Thank the San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors for Protecting Workers and Taxpayers for the construction of \$41M San Joaquin General Hospital Phase 2 Acute Care Patient Wing Expansion**

For Immediate Release  
October 12, 2016

Contact: Nicole Goehring  
209-482-1697  
[nicole@abcnorcal.org](mailto:nicole@abcnorcal.org)

Please take a moment to [thank the Board of Supervisors](#) for their important vote to preserve Fair and Open Competition in San Joaquin County.

After a last minute attempt by construction unions to stifle competition and block opportunities for a majority of San Joaquin County residents, neighbors, friends and local construction professionals from having the opportunity to work in their community on a long planned major construction project that was up against critical timelines involving the ability of San Joaquin County General Hospital to continue to provide inpatient services in the non-compliant old Towers building beyond 2017, on October 11, Fair and Open Competition prevailed when the San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors voted 4-1 to build the hospital project without a union supported Project Labor Agreement (PLA) and stated their number one goal is for ALL San Joaquin County residents to have an opportunity to work on the project.

Associated Builders and Contractors Northern California Chapter (ABC NorCal) opposes government-mandated PLAs because they create barriers for local, minority and women-owned construction employers and their employees from participating in building their community because they contain provisions that do not allow for the utilization of their own workforces and exclude the men, women, and veterans who have chosen to enter into state approved, unilateral apprenticeship training programs in pursuit of a construction career from the opportunity to work and gain the invaluable on-the-job training experience that provides stability for them, their family and their community.

Companies that employ San Joaquin County residents are encouraged to bid the project and can find more information at: [https://www.sjgov.org/departments/pss/open\\_bids](https://www.sjgov.org/departments/pss/open_bids) and click on BID number "BID #7060".

Complete timeline of Project Labor Agreement discussion before the Board of Supervisors: (The date series below can be hyperlinked to the complete timeline sentence.)

September 13, 2016 - Union officials attend the September 13 board meeting and call on the Board of Supervisors to negotiate a Project Labor Agreement for the construction of the Phase 2 Acute Care Patient Wing Expansion Project. Supervisor Villapudua makes the motion, and the board votes 3-2 to direct staff to negotiate a Project Labor Agreement (PLA) for the Phase 2 Acute Care Patient Wing Expansion; and bring the Project Labor Agreement back to the Board for consideration on September 27, 2016. There was nothing on the September 13, 2016 meeting agenda to indicate board discussion – let alone action – concerning a government-mandated Project Labor Agreement.

September 26, 2016 - San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors receive a letter from Attorney Stephen R. McCutcheon, on behalf of Western Electrical Contractors Association (WECA), Associated Builders and Contractors Northern California Chapter (ABC NorCal), and Coalition for Fair Employment in Construction (CFEC) demanding the Board of Supervisors rescind its action of September 13 relating to the Project Labor Agreement alleging the discussion and action of the Board violated the Brown Act because neither were identified on the Agenda.

October 4, 2016 – Board of Supervisors vote 5-0 to rescind the September 13 Board Action to negotiate a Project Labor Agreement for the Phase 2 acute Care Patient Wing Expansion; and bring the Project Labor Agreement back to the Board for consideration on September 27, 2016 and direct staff to prepare a report addressing the many representations that had been made to the Board regarding Project Labor Agreements.

October 11, 2016 – Board of Supervisors vote 4-1 to direct staff to take no action to include a Project Labor Agreement (PLA) into the Hospital Annex project, and direct staff to develop a policy to govern the use of PLAs on future County projects and develop a model PLA for consideration by the Board.

November 23, 2016 – Bid Opening Date

###

*Nicole Goehring is the Community and Government Relations Director of Associated Builders and Contractors Northern California Chapter.*

Today [ABC NorCal](#) represents 500 companies across Northern California and trains close to 400 apprentices per year in its five state and federally approved apprenticeship programs. Members and their employees are also offered Construction Craft Training, Green and Renewable Energy Training,

Management and Supervisory Education, Safety, and Labor Compliance. As the solution for today's skilled and trained workforce, ABC NorCal is committed to educating the current and future workforce and values the importance of educating today's youth on the benefits of careers in construction.