MAYOR VILLARAIGOSA CELEBRATES SIGNING OF NEW PROJECT LABOR AGREEMENT AT THE PORT OF LOS ANGELES

PLA Will Create 20,000 Jobs Including at Least 6,000 for Local Residents and 2,000 for Disadvantaged Workers

Since 2005, City Departments Have Entered into Nearly 30 PLAs Covering Over 180 projects

LOS ANGELES – Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, Councilmember Janice Hahn, Los Angeles Harbor Commissioner President Cindy Miscikowski and labor leaders celebrated the signing of a five-year Project Labor Agreement (PLA) at the Port of Los Angeles. The agreement ensures safety, quality, and timely construction on the Port of Los Angeles’ capital projects and will provide job and apprentice opportunities for local and disadvantaged residents.

“This Project Labor Agreement gives thousands of our local workers in some of the most economically disadvantaged communities the jobs and job training opportunities they need to get back on their feet,” said Mayor Villaraigosa. "As we have seen over the past few years, when Angelenos take advantage of local employment opportunities, we can build projects faster, cheaper, and with fewer interruptions. That’s why Project Labor Agreements are a win-win: a win for our City and a win for our working people.”

The PLA will serve as a blanket agreement between the Harbor Department and the construction trade unions affiliated with the Los Angeles/Orange Counties Building and Construction Trades Council working on the designated Capital Improvement Projects. The PLA covers 95 percent of the Port’s projected $1.5 billion five-year capital budget. Approximately 20,000 jobs are expected to be
created in the region under the agreement, including at least 30 percent for local residents or 6,000 jobs and 10 percent or 2,000 jobs for disadvantaged workers. "The only way that we are going to get our economy back on track is by creating more good-paying, middle-class jobs," said Los Angeles Councilwoman Janice Hahn, whose district includes the Port. "One way we are working to create more good jobs in our City is by expanding and greening our Port, and ensuring that all construction is done through this Project Labor Agreement."

The PLA states that at least 30 percent of total work hours must be performed by local residents within targeted areas of Los Angeles focused primarily on residents within 10 miles of the Port. At least 10 percent of the total PLA work hours will be performed by disadvantaged workers residing within Los Angeles. Additionally, at least 20 percent of total work hours will be performed by apprentices to advance the skills of the local labor pool, and at least half of these apprentices will be local residents.

"With this PLA, we are improving the L.A. Waterfront with critical infrastructure projects and at the same time, creating thousands of local jobs," said Harbor Commission President Cindy Miscikowski. "And this agreement saves valuable negotiating time so that we can keep the Port's five year, $1.5 billion capital improvement project on schedule."

The Port PLA is the latest City Department to work with labor to create local jobs. At the end of last year, the Board of Public Works, with Council endorsement, approved a 5-year, $2.1 billion PLA that will cover 100 projects.

Since the Mayor took office in 2005, City Departments including Public Works, the Port, and Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) have entered into nearly 30 PLAs covering over 180 projects. During the terms of all previous mayors, just 3 PLAs were signed covering a total of only 3 projects.

The Port of Los Angeles is America’s premier port and has a strong commitment to developing innovative strategic and sustainable operations that benefit the economy as well as the quality of life for the region and the nation it serves. As the leading seaport in North America in terms of shipping container volume and cargo value, the Port generates 919,000 regional jobs and $39.1 billion in annual wages and tax revenues. A proprietary department of the City of Los Angeles, the Port is self-supporting and does not receive taxpayer dollars.