

# **CORRESPONDENCE**

**FROM**  
**JUNE 26, 2013-**  
**JULY 4, 2013**



**RON MILLER**  
Executive Secretary

# Los Angeles / Orange Counties Building and Construction Trades Council

Affiliated with the Building & Construction Trades Dept., AFL-CIO

1626 Beverly Boulevard  
Los Angeles, CA 90026-5784  
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June 26, 2013

Brenda Green  
Interim City Clerk  
Costa Mesa City Council  
77 Fair Drive  
Costa Mesa, California 92626

Dear Ms. Green:

Please consider this letter a formal request to incorporate the prevailing wage language listed below into the proposed City Charter. We specifically request you forward this letter to Costa Mesa City Councilpersons, as well as the Chairperson of the Costa Mesa Charter Commission, for their consideration for the inclusion into the proposed Charter.

The language is as follows:

***Prevailing Wages.***

***The provisions of California Labor Code Section 1770 et. seq. regarding prevailing wages on public works and related regulations, as now existing and as may be amended, are accepted and made applicable to the City, its departments, boards, officers, agents and employees.***

Thank you for your consideration. If we can be of any assistance, please contact me at Council Offices.

Sincerely,

Ron Miller  
Executive Secretary

Jim Adams  
Council Representative

cc: Mayor Righeimer, Mayor Pro-Tem Mensinger  
Councilpersons: Sandra Genis, Wendy Leece, Gary Monahan

RECEIVED  
CITY CLERK  
13 JUN 28 AM 9:20  
CITY OF COSTA MESA  
BY

## GREEN, BRENDA

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**From:** news@costamesaca.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 26, 2013 10:55 PM  
**To:** GREEN, BRENDA  
**Subject:** weigh in on charter

### Submission information

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Submitter DB ID : 2475  
Submitter's language : Default language  
IP address : 76.169.172.140  
Time to take the survey : 41 min. , 26 sec.  
Submission recorded on : 6/26/2013 10:55:02 PM

### Survey answers

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**Name:**  
Mike Harmanos

**Address:**  
173 E Wilson Street #C  
City: Costa Mesa  
State: CA  
Zip Code: 92627

**E-mail:**  
mike.harmanos@gmail.com

Give us your thoughts on the charter:

Dear Brenda,

Please inform Ms. Barlow that, on Page 4 of 6 of Attachment 1 of the document "General Law City v. Charter City", that there has been an error since the creation of the staff reported dated April 23, 2013. The California Supreme Court weighed in on this case on July 2, 2012. The case number is #S173586 and the case is "State Building and Constructions Trades Councils of California, AFL-CIO v. City of Vista. It decided that wages paid to workers on charter city projects are not subject to California's prevailing wage law.

Additionally, please inform Ms. Barlow of the following: I am a nobody. I am a stupid citizen who pays his taxes on time and makes about one hundredth of the salary of Ms. Barlow. I will never make an hourly rate anywhere comparable to hers. Yet a simple nobody like me with no background in the law figured out this stark, glaring error. I can only conclude that our tax dollars are paying for

poor performance. That angers me.

Please also inform Ms. Barlow that I informed The Mayor and The Mayor Pro Tem of this error in my interview for the Charter Committee on Thursday, May 30. The Mayor and The Mayor Pro Tem both strongly supported the Supreme Court's decision. It would stand to reason that the Mayor and the Mayor Pro Tem would want this information known to the public immediately. The documents have not changed since my meeting.

Finally, please inform Ms. Barlow that she is paid by me. When she makes major errors in staff reports, and then jokes that speaking of Measure V is "verboden", I find major faults in her judgment and her ability to facilitate the legal aspects of the Charter Committee.

Most Sincerely,

Mike Harmanos

## GREEN, BRENDA

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**From:** news@costamesaca.gov  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 27, 2013 6:20 PM  
**To:** GREEN, BRENDA  
**Subject:** weigh in on charter

### Submission information

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Submitter DB ID : 2511  
Submitter's language : Default language  
IP address : 108.207.78.242  
Time to take the survey : 5 min. , 35 sec.  
Submission recorded on : 6/27/2013 6:19:58 PM

### Survey answers

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**Name:**  
Richard Alexander

**Address:**  
347 Vista Baya  
**City:** costa mesa  
**State:** Not answered  
**Zip Code:** 926271808

**E-mail:**  
rich@alexanderpublications.com

Give us your thoughts on the charter:

First, please define the problem that a charter would solve. Many of us suspect this move it just a power grab by certain council members. If that's the case, we definitely need oversight by the state to remain in place. So, again, what's the problem?

## GREEN, BRENDA

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**From:** Harold Weitzberg [hweitzberg@cs.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 27, 2013 6:38 AM  
**To:** kbauermeister@nmusd.us  
**Cc:** Kimberly Hall Barlow - City Attorney; GREEN, BRENDA  
**Subject:** Committee Goals

Dear Kirk,

Thank you and everyone else for your efforts last night. I feel we had a good start to this process. As per our discussion, please note the following;

Jim Righeimer at the June 4th meeting said the following at 03:04:45 on the counter on the streaming video, ***"I want to thank everybody so far whose made it on the committee. These are gonna be the last final people that will be on the committee. I think it's going to be a committee made in heaven for Costa Mesa and to decide whether we want to do a charter or not in the city."***

So, I think that makes the mandate pretty clear. I look forward to our next meeting.

Sincerely,

Harold Weitzber  
714 313 6334

## GREEN, BRENDA

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**From:** news@costamesaca.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, June 28, 2013 9:56 AM  
**To:** GREEN, BRENDA  
**Subject:** weigh in on charter

### Submission information

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Submitter DB ID : 2513  
Submitter's language : Default language  
IP address : 98.148.94.111  
Time to take the survey : 1 min. , 51 sec.  
Submission recorded on : 6/28/2013 9:55:52 AM

### Survey answers

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**Name:**  
Carol L Beck

**Address:**  
700 Hamilton St  
City: Costa Mesa  
State: CA  
Zip Code: 92627

**E-mail:**  
therealmrsbeck@yahoo.com

Give us your thoughts on the charter:

Why is there a Charter committee at all. If I recall correctly the voters said no in November to a Charter. What's up?

## GREEN, BRENDA

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**From:** news@costamesaca.gov  
**Sent:** Friday, June 28, 2013 3:33 PM  
**To:** GREEN, BRENDA  
**Subject:** weigh in on charter

### Submission information

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Submitter DB ID : 2527  
Submitter's language : Default language  
IP address : 204.126.64.99  
Time to take the survey : 15 min. , 44 sec.  
Submission recorded on : 6/28/2013 3:32:56 PM

### Survey answers

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**Name:**  
Sheila Pfafflin

**Address:**  
1750 Whittier Dr., sp 42  
**City:** Costa mesa  
**State:** CA  
**Zip Code:** 92627

**E-mail:**  
Spfafflin@gmail.com

Give us your thoughts on the charter:

First, I must question the information given on the summary page for the Charter Committee. It was my understanding that the job of the Charter committee was first to determine whether we needed a charter. I must further object to the biased point of view presented in the statements about the Committee. They presuppose that cities are better off with charters. Considering the source, this is not surprising, but the overview materials should at least have indicated that there are other views of the matter, and what they are.

Specifically, I note that being a general law city provides some protections to the city residents from capricious and arbitrary actions by their City Council. A Charter does indeed hand over power, but it does so to the City Council, and there are numerous examples, of which Bell is merely a recent, if notorious, example. of situations in which those Councils have not served the best interests of the city residents.



Before they proceed further, I would like the Committee to generate a list of all the protections we would lose as a charter city, and to indicate how they plan to compensate for these losses, in so far as it may be possible to do so.

**GREEN, BRENDA**

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**From:** GREEN, BRENDA

**Sent:** Tuesday, July 02, 2013 11:13 AM

**To:** 'bobsimonson@att.net'

**Cc:** CITY COUNCIL; BORA, DANE; SHELTON, KELLY; HATCH, THOMAS; FRANCIS, RICK

**Subject:** Transparency

Good Morning Mr. Simonson,

Your e-mail to CEO Tom Hatch has been forwarded to me for a response.

Does anyone record minutes of these meetings or are they secret?

Answer: I do an audio tape recording of the meetings to facilitate the preparation of the minutes.

Can a citizen of Costa Mesa discover the full context of such meetings?

Answer: If a citizen cannot attend a Charter Committee meeting and would like to listen to the audio tape recording of a meeting they can contact me to arrange a date and time to come to the City Clerk office and listen to the tape recording.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any further questions.

*Brenda Green*

City Clerk

City of Costa Mesa

714/754-5221