Sample Letter on PLA Issue For County of Sonoma

To Supervisor
I representand I am concerned about how the County of Sonoma may revise their Project Labor Agreement policy. I understand there is to be public discussion on May 21, 2024 regarding the considered PLA revisions. Please consider this document my comments in lieu of my missing work and being present on May 21.
Our company has approximatelylocal workers that live in Sonoma County and could be negatively impacted by the County Project Labor Agreement.
My primary concern is regarding local workers and their ability to work on Sonoma County Publicly funded projects in the future. Since prevailing wage is already a requirement on public works projects, there is no wage differential for the non-signatory trucker vs the signatory truck driver.
Trucking of materials from the source to the project site, is not unionized to any great degree today. Should local trucking be included in the PLA, I fear many local trucking families will be excluded from working on projects. Some of those that would not be able to work on PLA projects are the same workers who showed skill and heroism during the 2017 wildfires and subsequent historic debris cleanup.
I understand that the revised PLA will not include local material suppliers, and that is a good decision. However, excluding the local suppliers such as quarries and ready-mix concrete plants and asphalt plants, from the PLA is not enough to protect our local workforce. Requiring the local materials to be trucked from the quarry, plant, or ready-mix facility to the project site by trucking covered by the PLA, will prohibit some material providers from being able to furnish their products to the County projects. Should out-of-the- area truckers be used to meet the PLA requirements, the County would lose out on road use fees and the local workforce would be negatively impacted. Not only would there be economic consequences, but there would also be climate change impacts due to truckers having to travel greater distances to furnish the products to the job sites.
We urge you to exclude local material suppliers and local trucking from any revised Project Labor Agreement to protect local workforces and the environment.
Thank You for your consideration.