



IAMAW DISTRICT LODGE 947

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March 9, 2011

Budget Oversight Committee
City of Long Beach
333 W. Ocean Boulevard
Long Beach, CA 90802

RE: Street Sweeping Optimization

The Machinists Union challenges various statements in Chair Gary DeLong's memorandum to support Street Sweeping Optimization. As the employee representative, we support true optimization of City Services that yield increased service to the citizens, especially considering 71%, or 16 of the employees potentially impacted are Long Beach residents!

Chair DeLong's brief report outlining the general functions of street sweeping completely omits the additional services provided by the Environmental Services Bureau during and after major events like the Long Beach Grand Prix, various parades and festivals. The Bureau is also available during and after emergencies where a contractor would not be.

Chair DeLong's presumptive proposal is limited to contracting out a service where the money they bring in is \$.22 million more than they cost. The union will demand that if staff is directed to only explore contracting out this service, the cost of the study should be included in the cost of contracting out. We will also request fixed cost information and request corresponding reductions in pay or elimination of management positions which currently have oversight – a step consistently missed by the management in Long Beach. With regard to the 75% customer satisfaction rating, the union would explore the reasons behind the 25% dissatisfaction rating and seek to deliver a better product to the residents.

Many of the cities listed as using contracted street sweeping services are contract cities that contract out most of their services. The union fully supports converting the fleet to a green fleet, especially utilizing Compressed Natural Gas to keep services in-house. The union also supports an expansion of contracted-in service such as we do with Animal Care and Control.

Chair DeLong sites USA Today as his source for public sector employees being paid more than their private sector peers, and that public sector pay has risen 28% above the inflation rate. That is not the case in Long Beach, and this level of local control would be lost if you were to privatize this service. Long Beach consistently ranks last or close to last in terms of wages. Please review the following chart of actual pay increases versus the Bureau of Labor Statistic's history of inflation by year:

MOU Pay Increases vs. BLS Inflation
(MOUs on file with Human Resources – see attached for BLS)

04/01/00	3%		Inflation:	3.4
01/01/01	2%			
07/01/01	1%			2.8
07/01/02	0%			1.6
10/01/03	3% (2% for Non-career)			2.3
10/01/04	0%	-1% to pay PERS		2.7
10/01/05	0%			3.4
03/04/06	3%	-1% to pay PERS		3.2
01/01/07	2%			
07/01/07	3%	-1% to pay Medical		2.8
04/01/08	2%			
10/01/08	3%	-1% to pay Medical		3.8
10/01/09	0%	-1% to pay Medical (deferral negotiated)		-.4
22% - 5% = 17% - 25.6% inflation = -8.6%				

It is time to stop demonizing your constituents, the residents of Long Beach who also happen to be City employees. Recognize that this is a marketable service to surrounding cities and begin exploring the process of contracting in rather than contracting out. Your constituents make a livable wage as City employees with benefits for which they now share the cost, and they provide services beyond that which a contractor would provide.

This Committee should instead explore a complete restructuring of management as rank and file employees represented by the IAM have been reduced by roughly 1000, whether contracted out or eliminated out right, but management ranks have grown and garner higher and higher salaries. Rather than targeting services that are being delivered with revenue to spare, this Committee should consider the delivery of benefits – a service where the costs have increased exponentially while benefits have been cut. Utilizing a multi-employer trust fund would also shift the multi-million dollar GASB45 obligation from the City to a Trust.

Sincerely,

Janet Schabow, BR
IAMAW DL947

1981	87.0	87.9	88.5	89.1	89.8	90.6	91.6	92.3	93.2	93.4	93.7	94.0	90.9	8.9	10.3
1982	94.3	94.6	94.5	94.9	95.8	97.0	97.5	97.7	97.9	98.2	98.0	97.6	96.5	3.8	6.2
1983	97.8	97.9	97.9	98.6	99.2	99.5	99.9	100.2	100.7	101.0	101.2	101.3	99.6	3.8	3.2
1984	101.9	102.4	102.6	103.1	103.4	103.7	104.1	104.5	105.0	105.3	105.3	105.3	103.9	3.9	4.3
1985	105.5	106.0	106.4	106.9	107.3	107.6	107.8	108.0	108.3	108.7	109.0	109.3	107.6	3.8	3.6
1986	109.6	109.3	108.8	108.6	108.9	109.5	109.5	109.7	110.2	110.3	110.4	110.5	109.6	1.1	1.9
1987	111.2	111.6	112.1	112.7	113.1	113.5	113.8	114.4	115.0	115.3	115.4	115.4	113.6	4.4	3.6
1988	115.7	116.0	116.5	117.1	117.5	118.0	118.5	119.0	119.8	120.2	120.3	120.5	118.3	4.4	4.1
1989	121.1	121.6	122.3	123.1	123.8	124.1	124.4	124.6	125.0	125.6	125.9	126.1	124.0	4.6	4.8
1990	127.4	128.0	128.7	128.9	129.2	129.9	130.4	131.6	132.7	133.5	133.8	133.8	130.7	6.1	5.4
1991	134.6	134.8	135.0	135.2	135.6	136.0	136.2	136.6	137.2	137.4	137.8	137.9	136.2	3.1	4.2
1992	138.1	138.6	139.3	139.5	139.7	140.2	140.5	140.9	141.3	141.8	142.0	141.9	140.3	2.9	3.0
1993	142.6	143.1	143.6	144.0	144.2	144.4	144.4	144.8	145.1	145.7	145.8	145.8	144.5	2.7	3.0
1994	146.2	146.7	147.2	147.4	147.5	148.0	148.4	149.0	149.4	149.5	149.7	149.7	148.2	2.7	2.6
1995	150.3	150.9	151.4	151.9	152.2	152.5	152.5	152.9	153.2	153.7	153.6	153.5	152.4	2.5	2.8
1996	154.4	154.9	155.7	156.3	156.6	156.7	157.0	157.3	157.8	158.3	158.6	158.6	156.9	3.3	3.0
1997	159.1	159.6	160.0	160.2	160.1	160.3	160.5	160.8	161.2	161.6	161.5	161.3	160.5	1.7	2.3
1998	161.6	161.9	162.2	162.5	162.8	163.0	163.2	163.4	163.6	164.0	164.0	163.9	163.0	1.6	1.6
1999	164.3	164.5	165.0	166.2	166.2	166.2	166.7	167.1	167.9	168.2	168.3	168.3	166.6	2.7	2.2
2000	168.8	169.8	171.2	171.3	171.5	172.4	172.8	172.8	173.7	174.0	174.1	174.0	172.2	3.4	3.4
2001	175.1	175.8	176.2	176.9	177.7	178.0	177.5	177.5	178.3	177.7	177.4	176.7	177.1	1.6	2.8
2002	177.1	177.8	178.8	179.8	179.8	179.9	180.1	180.7	181.0	181.3	181.3	180.9	179.9	2.4	1.6
2003	181.7	183.1	184.2	183.8	183.5	183.7	183.9	184.6	185.2	185.0	184.5	184.3	184.0	1.9	2.3
2004	185.2	186.2	187.4	188.0	189.1	189.7	189.4	189.5	189.9	190.9	191.0	190.3	188.9	3.3	2.7
2005	190.7	191.8	193.3	194.6	194.4	194.5	195.4	196.4	198.8	199.2	197.6	196.8	195.3	3.4	3.4
2006	198.3	198.7	199.8	201.5	202.5	202.9	203.5	203.9	202.9	201.8	201.5	201.8	201.6	2.5	3.2
2007	202.416	203.499	205.352	206.686	207.949	208.352	208.299	207.917	208.490	208.936	210.177	210.036	207.342	4.1	2.8
2008	211.080	211.693	213.528	214.823	216.632	218.815	219.964	219.086	218.783	216.573	212.425	210.228	215.303	0.1	3.8
2009	211.143	212.193	212.709	213.240	213.856	215.693	215.351	215.834	215.969	216.177	216.330	215.949	214.537	2.7	-0.4
2010	216.687	216.741	217.631	218.009	218.178	217.965	218.011	218.312	218.439	218.711	218.803	219.179	218.056	1.5	1.6
2011	220.223														