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June 14, 2022

Long Beach Mayor and City Council  
City of Long Beach  
411 W. Ocean Blvd.  
Long Beach, CA 90802

**Re: City Charter Amendment to Consolidate Water, Sewer and Natural Gas**

Dear Mayor Garcia and Long Beach City Councilmembers:

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local #47, AFL-CIO, strongly supports the City of Long Beach proposal to consolidate the City's gas, water and sewer into a single utility department, to be overseen by the existing Commission.

Our nearly 13,000 members work throughout southern California, and we are particularly proud of the work we do with the Long Beach Water Department and of our members working in the City's water, sewer and natural gas utility field operations.

- Gas serves 916 miles of gas main pipelines, and another 1,019 of gas service lines
- Water supports 946 miles of water main pipelines and 464 miles of water service lines
- The Water Department also oversees the maintenance and operation of about 700 miles of sewer pipelines

Consolidating the City's public utilities is a good decision. Many of our members in the City's Energy Resources Department do similar pipeline work as members in the Long Beach Water Department, and vice versa. Long Beach is the only city in California that separates this work into two different departments. A consolidation of resources and staff will help us do our job better in the community.

IBEW Local 47 strongly supports this proposed charter amendment.

Sincerely,

Colin Lavin  
Business Manager/Financial Secretary