## Marina del Rey Lessees Association

C/o Mr. Timothy C. Riley, Executive Director 8537 Wakefield Avenue Panorama City, CA 91402 Telephone: 818-891-0495; FAX: 818-891-1056

September 13, 2021

The Honorable Board of Supervisors County of Los Angeles Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street Los Angeles, California 90012

RE: Labor Peace Agreement, Agenda Item #31 Wednesday, September 15, 2021 Board of Supervisors meeting

## Dear Supervisors:

The Marina del Rey Lessees Association is composed of nearly all of the residential, commercial, and anchorage leaseholds in Marina del Rey, including most of the hotels and restaurants in the hospitality industry. The Association is opposed to the proposed Board policy for a Labor Peace Agreement as a condition for new, amended, or renewals of leases, licenses, or concession agreements with hospitality operators at Los Angeles County-owned or operated properties.

The proposed Policy is not only ill-advised on the substance, but the lack of transparency during the process of developing this proposed Policy is also a fundamental flaw.

This proposed Policy would adversely affect the hospitality industry while it is still reeling from the disastrous economic impacts on the ongoing pandemic.

Also, its adoption would be particularly inequitable to the existing businesses that were never consulted nor invited to participate in discussions with County staff on the implications of a Labor Peace Agreement.

At a minimum, the Labor Peace Agreement needs to be continued until such time that the relevant County departments, including the Department of Beaches and Harbors and the Chief Executive Office, hold stakeholder meetings with affected parties to discuss the ramifications in great detail of establishing this policy. Putting this proposed policy on an agenda without any discussion with tenants and stakeholders is an affront to good governance and an unfortunate manner of dealing with businesses, especially those that generate revenue for the County under Ground Leases.

A delay of the Labor Peace Agreement to afford meaningful dialogue with your tenants and stakeholders, especially during a pandemic when the hospitality industry is struggling to regain its footing, does no harm to the workers, who, to our knowledge, have not engaged in picketing, work stoppages or boycotts of the hospitality businesses operating on County-owned land in Marina del Rey. The revenue stream of hospitality businesses in Marina del Rey has not been disrupted by any labor conflicts.

The hospitality industry is well-represented in Marina del Rey by the Marina del Rey Convention and Visitors Bureau, an entity that has an excellent track record in drawing visitors to enjoy the restaurants, hotels and recreational activities in our community. The Convention and Visitors Bureau has submitted its own letter that details the challenges that have faced the hospitality industry and the reasons why a Labor Peace Agreement needs discussion with the affected industry prior to the Board moving forward with a policy.

The unincorporated Marina del Rey hospitality businesses, surrounded by competing restaurants in the City of Los Angeles, would be subject to a policy that applies only to enterprises on County-owned parcels, thereby being placed unfairly at a competitive disadvantage due to potentially significant increased operational costs not incurred by neighboring businesses.

On behalf of our hospitality businesses that make Marina del Rey an attractive tourist and County-visitor destination, the Association urges the Board of Supervisors to delay consideration of the Labor Peace Agreement until (at the very least) meaningful conversations have taken place with the County's own Marina del Rey tenants and stakeholders.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Respectfully,

David O. ferne

President, Marina del Rey Lessees Association