QUESTIONS TO PROMPT FEEDBACK AND DISCUSSION

When we talk about "local hiring", how should "local" be defined? (Sunnyvale only? Santa Clara County? Bay Area? Other?)

This is a subjective criteria that is up to the council. Whatever it is it cannot be mandated and it will probably increase your costs if it is given too much weight because a worker or contractor that resides, let's say, 1 mile outside of the boundary might not bid the job or get the job.

To which public works projects should a local hiring program apply? (e.g., All projects? All projects above a certain square footage? Above a certain dollar value?)

You cannot legally require a "local hire" program. Regarding which one(s) it should apply to, that again is up to the council so long as they understand that again, it may increase their costs.

To which private development projects should a local hiring program apply? (same questions as above)

See above.

Should the City offer incentives for participating private developers? (e.g., bidding advantages or financial rewards for achieving specific hiring targets?)

That is the only legal way to engage in a "local hire" provision.

Should developers be required to submit a local hiring plan, and if so, what should be included?

I would make it optional and that way you can see the difference in bid pricing. I have attached the San Bernardino Community College local hire example that saw them achieve 80% local hire without a mandate.

Should developers be required to target a certain percentage of a projects' jobs for "local" applicants? If so, what should that percentage be, and what classification of workers should it affect?

Answered above.

Should there be a requirement that developers limit their employment advertising to local venues for a specific period of time? If so, for how long, and what venues or tools should they be required to use to advertise?

I would not recommend. This would severely increase your costs.

Should there be a requirement that developers use a local referral agency? If so, what agency or agencies should serve in that role?

Again, this cannot be required and seeing how contractors use their own workforces, I am not sure how it would work if this was "encouraged."

Should there be a requirement that developers utilize local job training and/or apprenticeships to fulfill their local hiring obligation? Who provides that service?

On public works projects this is already required. Both union and non-union training programs exist. What should not be done is to limit these programs to union-only programs (aka "Joint-Labor/Management Programs"). That would be discriminatory to towards the state certified non-union programs.

Should the City monitor compliance with program requirements? If so, what should be monitored and which work unit should be tasked with that work? How much will that cost?

If you have such a program then yes, you would need to monitor it. There would be costs the amount of which would be determined by whether or not you did it in-house or hired a third party. The SBCCD example would be a good one to investigate with regards to costs.

Should builders and developers be required to self-report progress toward program requirements? If so, how often?

This would make more sense. Quarterly would be my suggestion.

Should a developer's completion of specific steps and/or attainment of specific targets be required, or should "good faith" efforts constitute compliance?

Legally you can only ask for a "good faith" effort.

Should there be penalties for non-compliance? If so, what should those be?

This requires legal consultation as applying such penalties could open you up for legal action.

If deemed necessary, who should be tasked with enforcement efforts? How much will that cost?

A construction management firm. It will be costly.

In conclusion:

Big labor special interests will no doubt use this as an opportunity to claim a Project Labor Agreement (PLA) is a way to achieve this. That is not true as I have shown you with the SBCCD example. As most local contractors and workers are in fact union-free, the effort to increase local hire would in fact be made harder under a PLA because of certain anti-competitive provisions contained in the PLA. If the council determines that a local hire policy is needed then having ALL parties involved in its creation is the way to go (contractors, developers, unions, non-union associations like AGC and ABC, etc.)

Thank you for your time.

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