

From: [Ryan Murillo](#)
To: [MPClerk](#)
Cc: [Lieu, John](#); [Takahashi, Deborah](#); [Javier Sotelo](#); [Jose Mendivil](#); [Charles Leone](#); [Jenita Igwealor](#); [Kanani Nevels](#); [Robert Feria](#)
Subject: Monterey Park - Public Comment for Closed Session Agenda 7/16/25
Date: Wednesday, July 16, 2025 1:27:03 PM
Attachments: [SEIU Monterey Park - Public Comment 7.16.25.pdf](#)

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Hello,

Please include the attached letter for closed session in tonight's city council meeting.

Respectfully,

Ryan Murillo
Worksite Organizer, LA/OC Cities Team
SEIU Local 721
Cell: 213/321-3776
Email: ryan.murillo@seiu721.org
SEIU Local 721 Member Connection:
877-721-4968



SERVICE EMPLOYEES
INTERNATIONAL UNION, CTW, CLC

OFFICERS

David Green
PRESIDENT &
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Simboa Wright
VICE PRESIDENT

Lillian Cabral
SECRETARY

Adolfo Granados
TREASURER

DIRECTORS

LA COUNTY

Ileana Meza
VICE PRESIDENT
Jerry Clyde, Jr.
VICE PRESIDENT

Sandra Beltran
Lydia Cabral
Cynthia Carreon
Kelley Dixon-Turner
Ruby Dye
Markeitha Harris
Omar Perez
Jose Sanchez
Grace Santillano
Theresa Velasco
Sharonda Wade
Cytha White
Kelly Zhou

LA/OC CITIES

Jose "Joe" Martinez
VICE PRESIDENT
Saundra Dixon
VICE PRESIDENT

Sylvia Alvarado
Dion Cornelius
Chermaine Fontenette
Bruce Hicks
Eric Noreen
Theodore Sanchez
Victor M. Vasquez

TRI-COUNTIES

Ariana Robledo
VICE PRESIDENT
Grace Sepulveda
VICE PRESIDENT

Esperanza Barajas
Mary Birch
Sandra Diaz
Yuri Gomez
Amy Sagar
Maria Zavala

INLAND AREA

Christopher Jones
VICE PRESIDENT
Meghan Boyd
VICE PRESIDENT

Oracio Diaz
Catalina Guitron
Barbara Hunter
Roger Nufiez
Staci Richards
Maria Sneed
Tara Stoddart

BOARD RETIREE

Myran Cotton

<http://www.seiu721.org>

Member Connection (877) 721-4968

Via Email

July 16, 2025

Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
City of Monterey Park
320 West Newmark Avenue
Monterey Park, CA 91754

Subject: Urgent Call for Fair Contract Negotiations: Recognizing the Value of Monterey Park's Largest and Lowest-Paid Union

Dear Mayor and Members of the City Council:

As the representative of the largest union in the City of Monterey Park—comprising the dedicated employees who form the very foundation of our community's operations—I am compelled to write this letter to urge your unwavering support for fair and equitable contract negotiations. Our members are not just workers; they are the unsung heroes delivering essential services that keep Monterey Park thriving: from ensuring public safety and maintaining pristine parks to providing efficient administrative support and vital community programs. Without their tireless efforts, our streets would falter, our services would suffer, and our residents would bear the brunt of diminished quality of life.

Yet, despite being the largest union in the city, our members are shockingly the lowest paid among comparable roles in surrounding communities like Alhambra, Pasadena, and others in the San Gabriel Valley. This disparity is not just unfair—it's unsustainable. How can we expect to retain top talent and maintain the high standards our residents deserve when escalating healthcare costs erode their take-home pay and force difficult choices between family well-being and public service? Rising premiums and out-of-pocket expenses are crippling our workforce, threatening the stability of the very services that define Monterey Park's excellence.

We commend the Council for its commitment to equity and community resilience, but now is the moment to translate those values into action. By prioritizing fair compensation in our negotiations, you will not only honor the immense value our members provide but also position Monterey Park as a competitive employer in the region. A strong contract isn't a concession—it's an investment: one that retains skilled staff, boosts morale, and ensures uninterrupted, high-quality services for every resident. Imagine a city where employees are empowered, not burdened; where dedication is rewarded, not overlooked. This is the future we can build together.

In these challenging times, external pressures only amplify the need for internal strength. We implore you to champion our cause, recognizing that supporting the largest union means safeguarding the heart of Monterey Park.

Thank you for your leadership and for committing to negotiations that reflect our shared vision of a prosperous, inclusive city. We are eager to collaborate and stand ready to discuss how we can advance this critical agenda.

Please include this letter in the public record for the closed session discussion.

Sincerely,

Ryan Murillo

Ryan Murillo
Worksite Organizer, LA/OC Cities Team
SEIU Local 721
Cell: 213/321-3776
Email: ryan.murillo@seiu721.org
SEIU Local 721 Member Connection:
877-721-4968

Cc: Jenita Iqwealor, Regional Director, SEIU 721
Charles Leone, Coordinator, SEIU 721
Monterey Park SEIU 721 Members

