IBEW Local Union Number 11

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS, AFL-CIO

ROBERT CORONA – BUSINESS MANAGER / FINANCIAL SECRETARY

May 13, 2024

Assemblywoman Buffy Wicks
Chair, Assembly Committee on Appropriations
1021 O Street, Suite 8220
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Assembly Bill (AB) 2986 (W. Carrillo) Local Agency Formation Commission for the County of Los Angeles: East Los Angeles Task Force

Dear Chairwoman Buffy Wicks:

IBEW Local 11 strongly opposes Assembly Bill (AB) 2986 (W. Carrillo) Local Agency Formation Commission for the County of Los Angeles: East Los Angeles (LA) Task Force. I am deeply concerned about the negative impact it would have on the community if this bill were to pass.

As you are aware, East LA is a primarily Latino community with a high number of low-income residents. Previous analyses have shown that East LA does not have the tax base to sustain itself as a city or even a special district. In the first year after incorporation, the region could face a huge deficit – $19 million based on an assessment from 2012; in 2024, I imagine this deficit would be much higher. This potential deficit means that East LA residents would either face the reality of decreased services or higher taxes – neither of which I would want. Alternatively, East LA may need to turn to the state to cover its deficit.

Preliminary estimates show that $750,000 is needed to conduct this study and establish a taskforce on East LA incorporation. At a time when resources from the state are limited and scarce, this seems like an irresponsible use of funds. I am sure there are better opportunities for these funds to be spent in East LA in a manner that would better serve the East LA community.

IBEW Local 11 asks that you oppose AB 2986.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Robert Corona
Business Manager/Financial Secretary

RC/bcm opeiu #537/afl-cio