

Communication from Public

Name: EAA Union

Date Submitted: 09/17/2025 02:48 PM

Council File No: 15-1207-S1

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmembers: We write on behalf of the 6,000 members of the Engineers and Architects Association (EAA) to express our grave concerns with the expansion of the Los Angeles Convention Center. While we support efforts to revitalize Downtown post-pandemic, the LA Convention Center expansion puts at risk the thousands of jobs and services that this very Council worked so tirelessly to save just a few short months ago. In the spirit of shared sacrifice, our members voted to reduce their pay through voluntary unpaid days off to close the gap and ensure the vital services we provide to the city could continue to be fulfilled. This was only weeks ago. Furthermore, national economic trends have shifted significantly since the Convention Center expansion was originally proposed. Tariffs and interest rates are in constant flux, while demand for tourism and convention services continues to show weak demand. The scope of the original source contract approved has also changed. According to testimony provided by the Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA) at the September 16, 2025 Budget & Finance Committee meeting, failure to make the Convention Center space available for the 2028 Olympics may also trigger costly legal liabilities for the City at a time of great fiscal uncertainty. Taking on such a significant capital expenditure when we know we are unlikely to realize the necessary revenue streams is a risk for the thousands of union workers that are currently working to provide necessary services from the Airport to the Zoo. We are already doing more with less. Without a guarantee that this expansion will not result in layoffs of city workers, we are concerned that Council will be risking existing services in exchange for projections that may or may not come to pass. Therefore, we ask that Council adopt the thoughtful recommendation put forward by the Budget and Finance Committee on September 16, 2025 to issue a Request for Proposals for a competitive bidding process with a more realistic project design. This approach will allow the City to assess existing commitments to major events such as the 2028 Summer Olympics, major infrastructure projects, wildfire rebuilding efforts, and account for its workforce needs. We also ask for a guarantee that the LA Convention Center expansion and associated general fund obligations will not result in layoffs of EAA members. In Solidarity, EAA Board of Governors



September 17, 2025

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EAA Board of Governors