

**RESOLUTION**  
**Willie Naulls**  
**2026 Boys & Girls Clubs of the Los Angeles Harbor**  
**Hall of Fame Distinguished Alumni Inductee**  
*Posthumously*

WHEREAS, Willie Naulls, a member of the San Pedro Boys Club from 1943 through 1952, Willie immersed himself in virtually every activity the Club had to offer. The Club became a place where he developed not only his athletic talents, but also the character, discipline, leadership, and teamwork that would define his remarkable life; and

WHEREAS, as a student at San Pedro High School, Willie emerged as one of California's most accomplished young athletes. He was named California Mr. Basketball in 1952, served as team captain, and earned recognition as one of the state's premier players. His success continued at UCLA, where he played under legendary coach John Wooden, served as team captain, earned All-American honors, and was named Pacific Coast Conference Player of the Year; and

WHEREAS, Willie's accomplishments on the basketball court would ultimately place him among the pioneers of professional sports in America; and

WHEREAS, after being drafted into the NBA, he became an All-Star with the New York Knicks and made history as the first African American to serve as captain of a major professional sports team in the United States. During his distinguished professional career, he later joined the Boston Celtics, where he was part of the first all-Black starting lineup in NBA history and helped lead the team to three consecutive NBA championships from 1964 through 1966; and

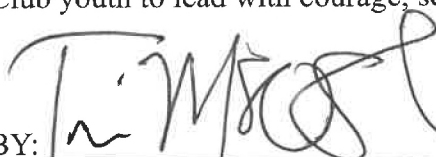
WHEREAS, following his basketball career, he became a successful businessman, entrepreneur, author, and eventually an ordained minister. Through Willie Naulls Ministries, he dedicated himself to inspiring young people and promoting the importance of academic achievement, physical wellness, spiritual growth, and hope. His life's work reflected a deep belief that true success comes from using one's gifts to uplift others; and

WHEREAS, in 2016, the Boys & Girls Clubs of America recognized Willie as a member of its National Alumni Hall of Fame, honoring both his extraordinary accomplishments and his unwavering commitment to helping young people realize their potential; and

WHEREAS, Willie Naulls' journey from a Club member in San Pedro to a trailblazing athlete, champion, businessman, minister, and mentor stands as a powerful reminder of what can happen when a young person is given the opportunity to dream big and the support to pursue those dreams:

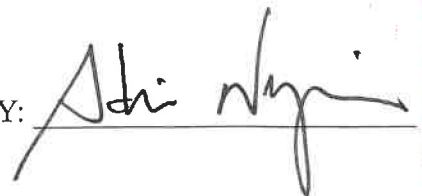
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that by the adoption of this resolution, the Los Angeles City Council does hereby congratulate and recognize WILLIE NAULLS' legacy as he is posthumously inducted into the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Los Angeles Harbor Hall of Fame, and continues to inspire generations of Club youth to lead with courage, serve with purpose, and strive for excellence in all they do.

PRESENTED BY:



TIM McOSKER  
Councilmember, 15th District

SECONDED BY:



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**RESOLUTION**  
**Gary Herrera**  
**2026 Boys & Girls Clubs of the Los Angeles Harbor**  
**Hall of Fame Distinguished Alumni Inductee**

WHEREAS, few individuals embody the life-changing impact of the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Los Angeles Harbor more completely than Gary Herrera; and

WHEREAS, Gary's connection to the Club began long before he was officially old enough to become a member. Growing up, he moved frequently with his family and has often shared that the Boys & Girls Club was the one constant in his life. In fact, Gary has said that while he lived in many places, the Club was the only place that ever truly felt like home; and

WHEREAS, at the Club, Gary found stability, caring mentors, positive role models, and a safe place to learn, grow, and belong. Those experiences helped shape the values of perseverance, leadership, and service that would guide him throughout his life and career; and

WHEREAS, a standout athlete at San Pedro High School, Gary continued his basketball career at the collegiate level and later played semi-professional basketball both in the United States and overseas; and

WHEREAS, his first job was at the Boys & Girls Club that had helped shape his own childhood. He eventually rose to serve as Athletic Director, giving back to the next generation of young people and helping countless youth discover their own potential through sports, mentorship, and positive relationships; and

WHEREAS, Gary later became a successful small business owner before beginning a distinguished career on the waterfront. Since joining the International Longshore and Warehouse Union, he has served in numerous leadership roles, including Vice President, Coast Negotiating Committee member, Executive Board member, and most recently, served as President of ILWU Local 13, one of the most influential labor organizations in the nation; and

WHEREAS, throughout his career, Gary has remained committed to serving others. He has volunteered as Head Varsity Basketball Coach at both San Pedro and Banning High Schools and has mentored at-risk youth through Sunburst Academy; and

WHEREAS, the impact of the Club on Gary's life has extended beyond his own story. Both of his children attended the Boys & Girls Club and participated in the College Bound program. Today, his daughter is a graduate of UCLA, and his son is a graduate of California State University, Long Beach. Gary credits the Club and its College Bound program with helping create opportunities for their success as well; and

WHEREAS, Gary often says that he owes much of who he is to the Boys & Girls Club. His journey from Club kid, to staff member, to community leader, labor leader, mentor, parent, and Board Member serves as a powerful reminder of what is possible when young people are given the support, encouragement, and opportunities they deserve; and

WHEREAS, today, Gary continues to give back as a member of the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Los Angeles Harbor Board of Directors, helping ensure that future generations of youth have the same opportunities that helped transform his own life. For his lifelong commitment to service, leadership, and

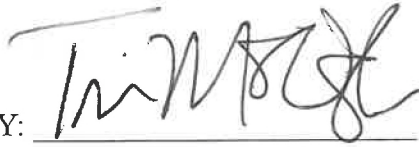
  
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the mission of the Boys & Girls Club, we proudly induct Gary Herrera into the 2026 Boys & Girls Clubs of the Los Angeles Harbor Hall of Fame:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that by the adoption of this resolution, the Los Angeles City Council does hereby congratulate and recognize GARY HERRERA's legacy as he is inducted into the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Los Angeles Harbor Hall of Fame, and continues to inspire generations of Club youth to lead with courage, serve with purpose, and strive for excellence in all they do.

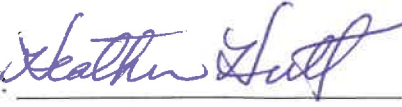
PRESENTED BY:



TIM McOSKER

Councilmember, 15th District

SECONDED BY:



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