

RESOLUTION NO. 11-85

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANCASTER, CALIFORNIA, DECLARING THE NEED FOR A LOCAL HIRING PREFERENCE IN PUBLIC WORKS CONTRACTS

WHEREAS, the unemployment rate in the City of Lancaster (“City”) and the Antelope Valley has consistently been higher than in the State of California and County of Los Angeles as a whole. According to the Labor Market Information Division of the Employment Development Department, the average annual unemployment rate in the City as of February 2011 was approximately 16.6% (<http://www.calmis.ca.gov/file/lfmonth/lasub.xls>); and

WHEREAS, statistics indicate that the Antelope Valley’s higher unemployment rate correlates to a higher number of families living in poverty and to a higher crime rate; and

WHEREAS, due to the lack of local jobs, a high percent of the workforce residing in the City must commute long distances to find work, causing increased traffic on state highways, increased pollution, increased use of gas and other fuels and other serious environmental impacts; and

WHEREAS, due to the lack of local jobs, many residents of the City must leave for work very early in the morning and return late in the evening, often leaving children and teenagers alone and unsupervised during the hours between school and the parents’ return from work outside the area; and

WHEREAS, absentee parents and unsupervised youth can result in increased problems for families, communities and the City, including, but not limited to, increased crime, more frequent and serious injuries, poor homework accomplishments, failing grades, and increased high school drop out rates.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANCASTER AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The City Council (the “City Council”) of the City of Lancaster (the “City”) has concluded that the City and the Antelope Valley need an expanding employment base.

Section 2. A local hiring preference in public works contracts will benefit the City as a whole. This practice would provide job opportunities to City residents, expand the City’s employment base, lessen the drain on public assistance resources and reduce the impacts on the environment caused by high unemployment and long commuting times to jobs outside the area.

Section 3. City staff is hereby directed to and shall prepare, draft and present to the City Council for its consideration a proposed ordinance that encourages contractors who receive City public works contracts to hire residents of the Antelope Valley.

Section 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage.

PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED this ____ day of _____, 2011, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

GERI K. BRYAN, CMC
City Clerk
City of Lancaster

R. REX PARRIS
Mayor
City of Lancaster

STATE OF CALIFORNIA }
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES }
CITY OF LANCASTER }

CERTIFICATION OF RESOLUTION
CITY COUNCIL

I, _____, _____ City of Lancaster, CA do hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of the original Resolution No. 11-85, for which the original is on file in my office.

WITNESS MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THE CITY OF LANCASTER, on this _____ day of _____, _____.

(seal)