



P.O. Box 24526 • San Jose, CA 95154-4526 • (408) 723-3934

AN ADVOCATE FOR LABOR

Jim Beall has been an advocate, ally and leader for labor in San Jose. His record demonstrates that he has the skill to advance labor issues. His strength of character and conviction go beyond mere support. Jim is a friend.

- * On the City Council, Jim has been a leader supporting policies to avoid layoffs or reducing direct public services. He made the majority of budget adjustment proposals during "crisis" years (1982, 1987) to save jobs, prevent layoffs, and retain services.
- * Publicly supported "Justice for Janitors" campaign, including having name listed and writing letters to CEO's regarding hiring of non-union labor.
- * Lead fight against Fairmont Hotel plan to put street through the middle of Plaza Park after developer stated his "distaste" for customer's taxis driving in front of United Food and Commercial Workers Office.
- * As Vice-Chair of the League of California Cities' Transportation and Public Works Committee, Jim voted against proposals to repeal and/or weaken Davis-Bacon prevailing wage laws. Led debate at committee meetings and succeeded in obtaining endorsement opposing Davis-Bacon proposals.
- * Actively opposed and voted against Weisscal (a non-union contractor) \$35 million Transit Mall contract. The contract was awarded on a 6-5 Council vote, and Weisscal subsequently was convicted of bribing inspectors and doing faulty work.
- * Initiated a change in the Public Works contract rules defining a "responsible bidder", to include enhanced quality standards and observances of all safety and fair labor laws.
- * Voted to deny a low bidder a City contract because of labor law violations.

- * Voted to increase health and dental benefits for City Retirement System members.
- * Supported City policy on notice to workers regarding plant closures.
- * Opposed court room tactics, injunctions, etc., as a negotiation strategy.
- * Succeeded in having the City Attorney overrule the practice of charging for building plans and map searches for unions and individuals.
- * Initiated efforts to strengthen prevailing wage policy.
- * As a member of the Board of Directors, proposed procedures to improve the involvement of labor organizations in City Federated Retirement System.
- * Supported and assisted labor organizations' right to collective bargaining in City's garbage contracts. Lobbied for "transition plan" protecting workers' jobs.
- * As a member of the County Transportation Commission supported bus drivers' opposition to County Transit District "privatization policy", pointing out that meet and confer rights had been denied.
- * Supported "Statement of Concern" by retail clerks for Gemco/Lucky workers who were victims of company take-over attempts.
- * Actively supported and voted for "comparable worth" adjustments for female-dominated classes of employees.
- * Co-chair of City's Child Care Task Force. Supported policies to establish child care for City employees. Stated that this should not be a bargaining issue opposed by City Management.
- * Voted to increase benefits to survivors of deceased retired employees.

Labor

Justice for Janitors

Jim has consistently supported all aspects of the labor movement, including publicly standing behind the Justice for Janitors effort which has sought fair wages and working conditions for largely Spanish-speaking, low income workers. He has written letters to presidents of local companies in support of hiring union janitors.

General labor support

Jim has consistently supported all labor efforts, including respecting picket lines, and avoiding establishments on the "do not patronize" list. Jim has made sure that he and his office are accessible for the labor community to receive information about the City, guarantee prevailing wages, and efforts to protect labor's interest in City bids. He eased the way for individuals in the construction trades to receive copies of plans and other documents from the City's building departments by getting rid of excessive copying and search fees.