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June 19, 2018

The Honorable Jane Kim
Chair, Government Audit and Oversight Committee
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Suite 244
San Francisco, CA 94102

Re: File No. 170205 Citywide Project Labor Agreements

Dear Supervisor Kim:

The San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, representing the interests of thousands of local businesses, urges the Government Audit and Oversight Committee to protect the city's smallest contractors by amending the proposed Project Labor Agreement (PLA) legislation.

The San Francisco Chamber of Commerce has supported every major construction project PLA that this city has proposed. The Boston Harbor case gave local jurisdictions the authority to insure projects that are delivered on-time and on-budget, and we support labor peace agreements for major infrastructure projects.

At the same time, the city has historically given a financial and contracting leg-up to small locally owned businesses. As drafted, this legislation seems to undo decades of progress in this field. The Controller's report states: "The PLA should be designed to not conflict with any existing City ordinances such as preferences for local businesses and resident workers."

We urge the Board of Supervisors to amend this legislation to either exempt LBEs from its terms or to raise the dollar threshold as suggested in the Controller's report, at a minimum above \$20 million.

We look forward to working with the Board of Supervisors, labor and our small business community to draft a workable PLA ordinance, one that does not conflict with the city's long-standing to protect and grow local, women and minority-owned small businesses.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Lazarus", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Jim Lazarus
Senior Vice President, Public Policy

Cc: Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, to be distributed to all Supervisors; Mayor Mark Farrell