

RESOLUTION NO. 16030

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF REDWOOD CITY IN SUPPORT OF COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AND WORKER WELLNESS

WHEREAS, Redwood City strives to be a community where people of all backgrounds and income levels can thrive; and

WHEREAS, collective bargaining is a process by which workers can have their voices heard about their hours, working conditions, and wages to advance safety, opportunity, and living wages; and

WHEREAS, collective bargaining is recognized as an international human right; and

WHEREAS, the San Mateo Labor Council recognizes 79,797 union members in nearly 35,000 households in this County and 5,800 union members in 2,644 households in Redwood City; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) reported that only 10.8% of all workers in the United States are covered by a union contract, and the Economic Policy Institute reported that only 12% of essential workers in the United States are covered by a union contract; and

WHEREAS, the BLS reported that among full-time wage and salary workers in the United States, union members earn higher median weekly earnings than nonunion workers; and

WHEREAS, the BLS reported that 95% of civilian union workers have access to employer-provided healthcare benefits while 68% of nonunion workers have access to the same; and

WHEREAS, the BLS reported that 94% of civilian union workers and 67% of nonunion workers have access to retirement benefits through their employer; and

WHEREAS, the Center for American Progress reported that union membership narrows the racial wealth gap for families of color, as evidenced by higher median wealth in households headed by a union member, with a ten-fold difference in wealth between

union and nonunion households with African American or Hispanic/Latinx heads of household; and

WHEREAS, research by the National Bureau of Economic Research indicates both workers and small business owners continue to struggle in an uneven economy that tilts benefits towards the wealthiest Americans; and

WHEREAS, according to research by the Economic Policy Institute, unions and union members have historically faced resistance to collective bargaining and some continue to struggle to reach labor agreements satisfactory to workers in a range of workplaces today; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Labor recognizes collective bargaining agreements and labor organizers as contributors to worker protections such as reasonable working hours, retirement security, access to affordable healthcare, safer workplaces, and living wage compensation.

NOW THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF REDWOOD CITY DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

1. That Redwood City supports workers who seek to form a union and calls on organizations to respect the will and dignity of workers by allowing them to hold free and fair union elections and, if it is the will of the workforce, to recognize them as members of a union.

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Passed and adopted by the Council of the City of Redwood City at a
Joint City Council/Successor Agency Board/Public Financing Authority Meeting
thereof held on the 7th day of March 2022 by the following votes:

AYES: Aguirre, Espinoza-Garnica, Gee, Howard, Reddy and
Mayor Hale
NOES: None
ABSENT: Smith
ABSTAINED: None
RECUSED: None



Giselle Hale
Mayor of the City of Redwood City

Attest:



Pamela Aguilar, CMC
City Clerk of Redwood City

I hereby approve the foregoing resolution this
8th day of March 2022.



Giselle Hale
Mayor of the City of Redwood City