

# THE PEOPLE'S PROJECT

POWERED BY THE LA FED  
& CATALYST CALIFORNIA



## CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 9 FACT SHEET

The People's Project, powered by the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, worked with Unemployed Workers United and Catalyst California to survey over 10,000 Angelenos to analyze the economic needs of underserved communities during the onset of COVID-19. The findings are a result of the largest known survey of Angelenos since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. See all findings at <https://thepeoplesproject.la/>

**Current Financial Stability:** City Council District 9 residents were most likely to say that wages (41.5% of all City Council District 9 respondents), housing (24.4% of all City Council District 9 respondents), and nothing (22.5% of all City Council District 9 respondents) keep them financially stable.

**Current Financial Needs:** City Council District 9 residents were most likely to say that higher wages (70.4% of all City Council District 9 respondents), more affordable housing (60.5% of all City Council District 9 respondents), and better health/healthcare (34.9% of all City Council District 9 respondents) were needed to feel economically secure.

**Biggest Impacts from COVID-19:** City Council District 9 residents were most likely to say that lower/lost wages (56.4% of all City Council District 9 respondents), lost or insecure employment (38.4% of all City Council District 9 respondents), and impacted health/healthcare (34% of all City Council District 9 respondents) were the biggest impacts from COVID-19.

### WHAT SHOULD CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 9 REPRESENTATIVES DO?

**Raise The Bar In Low-Wage Industries:** The city of Los Angeles/Los Angeles County continues to suffer

from a crisis of working poverty. While minimum wage has increased, it has not been congruent to the cost of living, especially for workers in low-wage industries. Policymakers and other leaders should support raising wages in targeted low-wage industries, and establish mechanisms for genuine worker empowerment such as anti-retaliation policies.

#### **Build More Affordable Housing & Continue**

**Rental Assistance Programs:** Local governments must double down on subsidizing low-income housing for low, very-low, and moderate level incomes. In addition, increased public funding and incentives for affordable housing construction must require a Community Benefits Agreement that includes strong worker protections, targeted local hire, and a mix of housing at all income levels.

#### **Bring Big-Box Grocers To Traditional Food**

**Deserts:** Allocate subsidies that incentivize big-box grocers to locate in traditionally low-wage communities where food deserts are prevalent. Further, wage standards and targeted local hire provisions must be included in any such incentive program. If executed well, this can provide healthy food options for residents who lack access to affordable, nutritious options, and ensure culturally relevant products for community members.

#### **Modernize local governance to meet today's**

**Los Angeles:** Local government systems should adopt an approach based on human rights to produce more effective and equitable responses to poverty, especially by incorporating funding for mutual aid. Structural changes must occur concurrently in order to achieve sustainable economic justice by addressing structural causes of poverty.

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