Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

November 15, 2023

The Honorable Christine J. Harada Federal Acquisition Regulatory Council Chair Office of Federal Procurement Policy Office of Management and Budget Washington, D.C. 20503

Dear Chair Harada,

We are writing today to urge the swift finalizing of the rule that will fully implement President Biden's Executive Order 14063 on Use of Project Labor Agreements For Federal Construction Projects. We strongly support the objectives of this executive order and, given the significant amount of new planned Federal construction projects, it is critical that the executive order be finalized and implemented as soon as possible.

As you know, in February 2022, President Biden issued Executive Order on Use of Project Labor Agreements For Federal Construction Projects.¹ This order states: "It is the policy of the Federal Government for agencies to use project labor agreements in connection with large-scale construction projects to promote economy and efficiency in Federal procurement," subject to certain exceptions. The order directs the Federal Acquisition Regulatory (FAR) Council to propose regulations implementing the order, to consider and evaluate public comments, and to "promptly issue a final rule." The FAR Council issued its proposed rule in August 2022 and the public comment period closed in October 2022, over one year ago.²

President Biden's leadership on this issue must be realized with the widespread adoption of project labor agreements (PLA) across the federal government. Project labor agreements are effective tools for providing structure and stability to federal construction projects. According to the Department of Labor, PLAs increase the probability that construction projects will be completed on time and on budget. In addition, they provide employers with a reliable source of skilled workers, support equitable and diverse workforce development, and improve workers' health and safety on the job.³ They not only serve the federal government by being a successful project delivery model, but also advance the interests of contractors and subcontractors (including small businesses), and especially workers, who deserve fair pay and benefits on the job.

In accordance with the President's order to promptly issue a final rule, we urge the FAR Council to finalize its regulation as quickly as possible. If you expect any delay in finalizing the rule beyond December 7, we respectfully request a detailed explanation for the cause. Thank you for your time and attention to these important issues. We look forward to continuing to partner with you to advance a pro-worker policy agenda.

Sincerely,

^{1&}lt;u>https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2022/02/04/executive-order-on-use-of-project-labor-agreements-for-federal-construction-projects/</u>

² https://www.regulations.gov/document/FAR-2022-0003-0001

³ https://www.dol.gov/general/good-jobs/project-labor-agreement-resource-guide



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