



23-1046

Prevailing Wage

Finance & Governance Committee
August 1, 2023

Agenda

- What is prevailing wage?
- What problem are we trying to solve?
- What will the proposed legislation do?
- Stakeholder outreach
- Questions & Discussion

Sponsors



Council President Jamie Torres
District 3



Councilmember Stacie Gilmore
District 11



Councilmember Amanda Sawyer
District 5

What is prevailing wage?

- Prevailing wage rates are established to ensure appropriate levels of compensation for employees of organizations who contract with the City to perform a service in construction, repair, and/or maintenance of any public building or public work by or on behalf of the City which costs \$2,000 or more
- Three Types:
 - Davis-Bacon Act (Federal Law) establishes classifications for workers and determines the prevailing wage for these classifications
 - Service Contract Act (Federal Law) (CBA's) sets wages for service jobs performed under government contracts
 - Denver's ordinance includes job classifications that are not covered under either Davis-Bacon or Service Contracts
- Determination of prevailing wage rates are outlined in Denver Revised Municipal Code (DRMC) Section 20-76

What Problem Are We Trying to Solve?

- Denver's current ordinance authorizes the Career Service Board to set prevailing wage in Denver
- Ordinance change aligns with current operational practice. Prevailing Wage Administrator in the Auditor's Office oversees prevailing wage rates in Denver
- By making this ordinance change, it will align with current operational practice and streamline the inspection/clarification process so that Denverites can afford to live, work, and raise a family in Denver

What will the proposed legislation do?

- Amends DRMC Section 20-76 in the following ways:
 - Vests power in the Auditor's Office, rather than the Career Service Board to set/determine applicable prevailing wage rates
 - Vests power in the Auditor's Office, rather than the Office of Human Resources, to issue clarifications/interpretations of the prevailing wage
 - Makes more flexible the procedure for determining and setting prevailing wage rates for classifications not covered by the Davis-Bacon Act

Stakeholder Outreach

- Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce
- AGC Colorado
- Fisher Phillips
- Downtown Denver Partnership
- Kaplan Kirsch
- Colorado Restaurant Association
- Colorado Hotel and Lodging Association
- Colorado SMACNA
- Colorado Association of Mechanical and Plumbing Contractors
- RMC NECA
- Asian Chamber of Commerce
- African Chamber of Commerce
- Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
- BBG Law
- Colorado Poverty Law Project
- A Better Balance
- COJWJ
- Towards Justice
- UFCW 7
- The Kelman Buescher Firm
- IUPAT
- LIUNA
- SW MS Carpenters
- SEIU 105
- Milstein Turner
- CBCTC
- IATSE 7
- Littler

Questions & Discussion