

Jon Alvino
Business Manager

Eric Kiefer
Southern Business Agent



Lon A. Comstock Jr.
Denver Business Agent

Ian P. Fick
Denver Business Agent/FST

BY EMAIL

April 17, 2026

Matthew Fritz-Mauer
Denver Auditor's Office
1437 Bannock St.
Denver, CO 80202

Dear Mr. Fritz-Mauer,

I am writing this letter on behalf of the 1,500 sheet metal workers I represent as Business Manager of SMART Local 9, as well as the additional 90,000+ union workers I represent across the metro area.

We strongly disagree with the City Attorney's interpretation of the Prevailing Wage Ordinance. That interpretation is inconsistent with both the plain language of the law and the clear intent of City Council.

Prevailing wage protections are not abstract policy; they are essential safeguards for the working people you represent. They prevent a race to the bottom on wages, uphold industry standards, and ensure that workers on City-funded projects earn a fair, decent, and dignified wage.

As long as I have been a union representative representing workers—and dating back to at least 2016, when Auditor O'Brien collaborated with unions, trade organizations, and subject-matter experts—the Prevailing Wage Ordinance has been consistently understood and applied to City-funded projects on private land. That longstanding interpretation reflects both the law as written and the policy goals behind it.

It is unacceptable that this law has not been consistently followed. Any deviation undermines worker protections and erodes trust in the City's commitment to fair labor standards.

The Auditor's Office must enforce the ordinance as written and as intended—without exception or reinterpretation that weakens its application. In my view, the current interpretation raises serious concerns about whether the law is being interpreted consistently with its intent.

We support City Council's efforts to clarify the language to eliminate any ambiguity and ensure full compliance moving forward. We are grateful for Council's continued support of working people and applaud Councilmembers Sawyer, Torres, Gilmore, and Parady for their leadership in advancing these necessary clarifications.

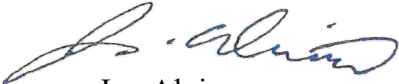
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The City Attorney's position is not only incorrect—it is out of step with the law, its intent, and the City's responsibility to protect its workforce.

We respectfully urge the city to reaffirm and enforce the ordinance consistent with its original intent.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jon Alvino".

Jon Alvino
Business Manager, SMART Local 9
President Denver Area Labor Federation

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