



## 2023 Governor Candidate Statements



**Tiffany Hall**  
Governor At-Large

My name is Tiffany Hall and I've worked for the City of Los Angeles for over 14 years. Throughout that time, I have actively served my fellow union members. I started off as a Steward for AFSCME 3090 and ended my tenure as a member of the Executive Board. In that capacity, I attended meetings, participated in events, recruited new members, met and conferred with management, solved problems on behalf of our members, made financial decisions, conducted Steward training for the members, approved of donations/contributions to our community, and I also attended trainings so that I was constantly learning and evolving. I joined the EAA family in April 2020 and I immediately signed up to be a Steward to apply what I learned to support my fellow EAA members. I've already resolved several grievances, I keep my worksite apprised of union activities, and I consistently attend to the concerns of our members. In 2021, members elected me to serve on Unit Council for MOU 20 and the EAA leadership then recruited me to serve on the 2023 Contract Negotiation Team. I have listened to your proposals, provided feedback, and acted as secretary during these negotiations. Your wants, needs, and concerns are important to me. I'm running for an At-Large position on EAA's Governing Board because I believe that I can successfully assist you in a bigger capacity. I hope you will consider what I can bring to the position and vote for me.

Thank you!



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**David Somers**  
Governor At-Large

A dues-paying member since 2006, I got involved with EAA leadership during a time of uncertainty in the health of our civic institutions. In 2020, I locked arms with dedicated EAA members and was elected to serve on the EAA Governing Board. As Governor, my priorities were to reflect your priorities in EAA's governing policies and negotiation positions accomplished through continual engagement. This resulted in negotiating a tentative agreement that met the fiscal challenge while earning another COLA, championing a permanent citywide telecommuting program, and endorsing political champions that took on an ineffectual status quo and won. It is with this commitment to member priorities that I bring to serve on the 2023 Negotiation Team so our contracts meet the moment of high cost of living and address the feelings of burnout due to high vacancies. As a member-run union, I strive to reflect the professionalism, dedication, and commitment to service that we bring to our jobs everyday.

My positions for EAA currently include Unit Governor and Council Chair for MOU 19, Board Secretary, and Political Action Committee Chair. While this seems like a lot of work, any success we have had is due to our dedicated member-leaders I serve alongside to make change possible. A union that engages and empowers our members is a strong, healthy, and impactful union. I hope to earn your vote on the EAA Governor Board along with Tiffany Hall (for the other At-Large seat), Jackie Cornejo, and Betty Barberena.



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**Jovita Salazar**  
Governor At-Large

My name is Jova Salazar. I have worked for the City of Los Angeles for 16 years; 10 years with the Office of Finance and 6 years with the Bureau of Engineering. I highly respect all my City colleagues, especially the ones serving (or who have served), and the Board of Governors since their job responsibilities involve dealing with membership discrepancies, including addressing any and all areas of concern within the BOG, EAA, and the membership. I have a Bachelor of Science degree with an emphasis in accounting. I consider myself a professional with a high level of integrity, and I promise I will play my role once in the Board of Governors. Throughout my time with the City, I have taken advantage of the ample employee resources the City offers to educate myself on City established policies and procedures as these relate to employee issues, and I will use this knowledge to support the Board of Governors, the Engineers & Architects Association, and ultimately the membership. I have firsthand experience on the membership needs, such as more benefits and more everything. I have started working on more benefit proposals which have been submitted to EAA and the BOG to be placed in the MOU negotiation agendas. The current MOUs need updating with more benefits to shorten or remove the gap on so many issues. Our ancestors City fellows along with EAA, and the BOG have work very hard for what we have, and I plan to continue this hard work. More importantly, we MUST NOT allow any of this hard work to get lost or any of our members to be left behind due to the lack of professionalism from some City staff. I am willing to do any amount and kind of work to support the Board of Governors and the Engineers & Architects Association to smoothly address and resolve any areas of concern. My goal is to be a contribution to the BOG and EAA!  
Thank you



## 2023 Governor Candidate Statements



**Betty Barberena**  
Governor MOU 19

My name is Betty Barberena and I am a City Planner (Department of City Planning) represented by MOU 19. I joined the Department in February of 2020 as part of the Citywide Housing Policy Unit where I conducted extensive research into the high cost of housing and living in Los Angeles. I know how crucial it is to work towards making our jobs more secure, better paid, and more responsive to our existing and future economic and wellness needs.

Over the past year, I have held an At-Large Governor role with the EAA Board and also acted as a unit council representative for MOU 21, and along with other EAA members have been part of the negotiations team working towards achieving better outcomes for all our members. With my At-Large Governor term coming to an end, I would be honored to have the opportunity to lead MOU 19 members' interests in the role of Unit Governor as our union continues to negotiate the best possible outcomes for us. Thank you for your consideration! - Betty Barberena.



## 2023 Governor Candidate Statements



**Jackelyn Cornejo**  
Governor MOU 21

I have been a dues-paying EAA member since I joined the City of Los Angeles in 2020. The challenges and uncertainty of the COVID-19 pandemic, and desire to be involved in my union in a meaningful way led me to pursue a leadership position. As an At Large Governor, I have focused on developing the tools and programs necessary for increasing member engagement and identifying our top priorities for contract negotiations. With President Samaan, we conducted an in-depth analysis of the 2021 EAA Telecommuting Survey that has been the basis for our advocacy efforts as we remain THE union in the city fighting for a permanent telecommuting policy.

I am proud of being part of the Executive Committee that took on the very necessary overhaul of by-laws and policies, restarting the stewards program that is now managed by staff, proposing the development of the Negotiations Committee to ensure we have the participation of Governors and member leaders in effectively representing our union in our current contract negotiations, and transitioning member elections from an antiquated low-participation process, to our use of a safe, U.S. Department of Labor-approved electronic voting system that has dramatically increased member participation in our elections and contract ratifications at a fraction of the cost.

If I am elected MOU 21 Governor, I will continue to focus our efforts on strong member engagement, starting with recruitment and retention of unit council members, and enforcement of our contract so that our classifications are compensated fairly.