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CONNOR FORD
OPEIU 3

VICE PRESIDENT FOR AFFILIATE SUPPORT
LARRY MAZZOLA, SR.
Plumbers 38

VICE PRESIDENT FOR COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES
HOWARD WALLACE
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United Educators of San Francisco

GUNNAR LUNDEBERG
Sailors Union of the Pacific

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FRANK MARTIN DEL CAMPO
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LARRY MAZZOLA, JR.
Plumbers 38

OLGA MIRANDA
SEIU 87

ROBERT MORALES
Teamsters 350

JOHN O'ROURKE
IBEW 6

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ILWU 6

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MICHAEL THERIAULT
SF Building Trades Council

JOHN ULRICH
UFCW 101

BILL WONG
Carpenters 22

JAMES WRIGHT
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SERGEANT AT ARMS
HENE KELLY
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TRUSTEES
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Teamsters 856

HOWARD GRAYSON
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Statement by SFLC Executive Director Tim Paulson and IFPTE 21 Executive Director & SFLC Public Employee Committee Chair Bob Muscat on City Employees

SAN FRANCISCO, February 9, 2010 – San Francisco city employees have made wage and benefit contributions 8 out of the last 10 years that have been worth hundreds of millions of dollars, including in many years when they were under no contractual obligation to do so. They contributed anyway because they are concerned about the city, the services they provide and the people they serve.

Labor was dismayed to read headlines in the newspaper today about a 37.5 hour work week. There have been no discussions about a 37.5 hour work week option. In fact, today's briefing with the Mayor was scheduled to hear a financial report, and for the Mayor to hear from Labor. The fact that we woke up to the 37.5 hour work week story in the press is distracting and counter productive.

Before any options are put on the table, city employees need to be convinced and understand that there is a problem and that everyone, including the Mayor, is prepared to do their part.

Many city employee unions reached multi-year agreements with the City that included concessions because we anticipated a challenging budget for the upcoming fiscal year. We're not sure why more concessions than those already agreed to are needed.

We asked the Mayor today to help create a positive environment for future talks about the upcoming fiscal year by publically confirming the extent to which city employees have helped in prior years. We also asked him to honor the process and not announce their latest thinking to the press, as he did today, rather than to us.

Part of what motivates city employees to help the city is to understand where the money is going. A guarantee about how many jobs can be saved, for example, would help. But we're not going to throw money in a big pot that the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors can fight over. Every concession we have made over the last 10 years has taken its toll on our members and their families, and frankly, not all of this money has been put to the best use.

If we are convinced there is a problem, there has to be an intelligent and coordinated process where everyone knows what all parties are willing to do to solve this problem. And we need to look at the revenue side, not just continue to slash and burn with ever-more concessions from city employees.

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