NEWS @ 11

IBEW11.ORG | THE NEWSLETTER OF IBEW LOCAL 11 | NOVEMBER 2026



Danger All Around: More Than a Year After the LA Tunnel Collapse

The danger was all around them.

For IBEW Local 11 inside wireman and tunnel electrician James Streip, who worked on the project until about three months ago, the daily work environment consisted of an extremely noisy, greasy tunnel, where temperatures routinely climbed to 95 degrees during the summer months.

But on the night of July 9, 2025, those hazards became life-threatening when a section of the tunnel collapsed five miles from the access shaft, trapping Streip and 16 other workers underground. While all of the workers escaped without serious injuries, the ordeal prompted several to leave the jobsite and serves as a stark reminder of the risks construction workers face every day.

Noisy, Dirty Work

Getting to work was far from a simple commute for Streip. The 22-year Local 11 member began each shift by riding down the access shaft before boarding a multi-service vehicle (MSV) that transported workers and equipment miles into the tunnel.

The seven-mile project was designed to supplement and eventually replace two century-old treated wastewater outfalls from the A.K. Warren Water Resource Facility, said Streip, who worked on the project from 2021 until about three months ago. The existing tunnels were not seismically qualified, and the new tunnel would create an 18-foot-wide, seven-mile pathway from the Joint Water Pollution Control Plant in Carson to Royal Palms Beach in San Pedro.

Streip's primary responsibility was keeping the tunnel boring machine (TBM) operational. Powered by a 13.2-kilovolt circuit, the machine required constant maintenance in an

(continued on page 6)

Making LA Move

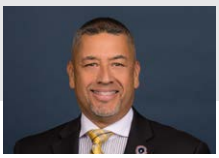
Los Angeles is still when workers arrive at the Kinkisharyo Train Factory before dawn. By the time most of the region wakes up, IBEW Local 11 members are already hard at work keeping Southern California moving.

At the company's Palmdale facility, Local 11 members refurbish aging rail cars, transforming them with modern technology and upgraded systems before they return to service.

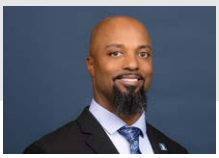
"Everything we do down in L.A. or here at the Palmdale facility – we actually make LA move," said DeRandy Morgan, an eight-year Local 11 member. "The trains look old when they come in, but they look brand-spanking new when they roll out of here."

Every refurbishment begins with a detailed inspection. Morgan and his team examine each rail car with a "fine-toothed comb" to identify what can be repaired and what needs to be replaced. From there, the trains are stripped down and rebuilt, from the interior and HVAC systems to the brakes and

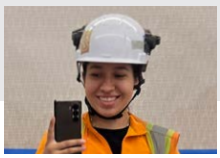
(continued on page 7)



Business Manager's Message pg.2



President's Message pg.3



Member Spotlight: Chrystal Pineda pg.4

BUSINESS MANAGER'S MESSAGE



135 Years of Brotherhood, Pride, and Goosebumps

Brothers and Sisters,

There's nothing quite like seeing the strength of our brotherhood firsthand. At the recent 43rd IBEW International Convention in San Diego, delegates from across the United States and Canada came together to elect our international leadership and help shape the future of our union. Seeing that level of camaraderie and solidarity still gives me goosebumps.

That experience was especially remarkable as we prepare to celebrate the IBEW's 135th anniversary on Nov. 28. Think about that: 135 years of electrical workers standing together, fighting for better pay, benefits, and working conditions, and building a brighter future for the next generation.

Local 11 is part of that legacy, and I'm proud of how we're carrying it forward. From a historic contract ratification and retirement improvements to organizing successes and major projects on the horizon, we have much to celebrate.

A Historic Contract Victory

First, I want to thank our Inside Wireman members for their engagement throughout the recent contract negotiations. After months of bargaining, discussions, and member feedback, we ratified an agreement that I believe will deliver significant benefits to our members.

What stands out most is the unprecedented participation. Nearly 4,300 members cast ballots, representing 61% of the bargaining unit, with about 71% voting in favor. In my 36 years in the trade, I've never seen participation like that in a contract vote. That level of member engagement speaks volumes about our union's strength.

We worked hard to ensure members understood the agreement, particularly the paid time off provisions. Through informational webinars, including one attended by about 900 members, we answered questions and addressed concerns. We also put Connect Plus+ to work, sending text reminders in the morning, afternoon, and evening for two days straight. I warned members they were going to get sick of hearing from me, but I wanted everyone to have a chance to cast their vote.

The record turnout speaks for itself. When members are informed and engaged, our brotherhood is stronger.

Building Long-Term Financial Security

Another historic accomplishment is the establishment of a defined-benefit pension plan for our Sound and Communications members, who previously had only a defined-contribution plan. When I became Business Manager, members raised the possibility of establishing this benefit, something many believed contractors would never agree to. My philosophy has always been simple: You never know unless you ask.

Thanks to the advocacy of our members, negotiating team, and NECA partners, we made it happen. I'm especially grateful to the members who brought this idea forward and helped demonstrate why it matters. Their efforts secured a benefit that will serve members for generations.

We're also preparing another retirement enhancement. Beginning in January 2027, members participating in our defined-contribution plans will have access to a self-directed investment option for a portion of their retirement funds. We'll hold a meeting with our investment provider to explain the options and answer questions.

These improvements are about more than benefits on paper. They're about giving our members financial security and more control over their futures.

Organizing for Our Future

Organizing is the lifeblood of Local 11. We continue bringing nonunion electricians into our brotherhood and organizing the contractors who put our members to work. Earlier this year, Local 11 received an IBEW-wide award for organizing more contractors than any other local across the United States and Canada. It's not the first time we've earned this distinction. Our organizing team deserves tremendous credit for this achievement. Their work expands our market share, puts more of our members to work, and builds a stronger Local 11.

We're also investing in the next generation through apprenticeship recruitment and workforce development, opening doors for women,

(continued on page 4)

IBEW 11'S NEWS@11

Main offices of IBEW Local 11

297 North Marengo Ave.
Pasadena, CA 91101

(626) 243-9700 Phone

(626) 243-9750 Fax

Business Manager/ Financial Secretary
Robert Corona

President
Alton Wilkerson

Vice President
Kelly Oliver

Recording Secretary
Irene Valenzuela

Treasurer
Gary Tomlin

Produced By
NEP Services, Inc.

Publisher
Jordan Tolila

Managing Editor
Nicole Kirgan

Art Director
Mary Scholten

www.NEPservices.com





Building Strength Through Unity

Sisters and Brothers,

As we enter November, I am proud to reflect on the progress we have made as a union and the important victories we have achieved for our membership. The past several months have been an important reminder of what we can accomplish when we stand together, remain committed to our goals, and continue fighting for the people who make this union strong.

Inside Wireman

Our Inside Wireman membership has ratified a new contract that delivers meaningful wage increases, annual allocations, and improvements designed to address the financial pressures many working families are facing today.

One of the important improvements is moving to once-a-year allocations, putting more money into our members' pockets throughout the year and providing greater financial flexibility. Along with the wage increases and other negotiated improvements, this agreement addresses the immediate needs of our membership while continuing to strengthen the overall value of our union contract.

We understand that the cost of living continues to put pressure on working families. These improvements represent real progress and demonstrate our commitment to making sure our members receive the wages, benefits, and protections they deserve.

Intelligent Transportation Systems

Our Intelligent Transportation Systems classification has also successfully ratified its new agreement. This is another tremendous accomplishment for Local 11 and the members who keep our transportation infrastructure moving.

This agreement delivers meaningful improvements to compensation and benefits, with negotiated provisions that address the needs of the classification and the people who work in it. Just like our other recent contract victories, this agreement reflects our commitment to improving our members' quality of life, protecting their interests, and building a stronger future.

Every classification plays an important role in our union, and it is important that we continue delivering agreements that recognize the value, skill, and contributions of the members who make our work possible.

Sound & Communications – History Has Been Made!

There is another milestone worth celebrating. Our Sound and Communications members are now contributing to their very first Defined Benefit Pension Plan!

This is a historic achievement for the classification and an important step toward providing members with greater retirement security. A Defined Benefit Pension Plan provides a structured retirement benefit, helping members build a more predictable financial future as they approach retirement.

For years, the goal has been to strengthen retirement opportunities for our Sound and Communications members. Today, we can proudly say that history has been made. This is about more than a new benefit; it is about creating long-term financial security, the ability to retire with dignity, and knowing that years of hard work will contribute to a stronger retirement.

This achievement is something our entire Local 11 family should be proud of.

Thanksgiving

As Thanksgiving approaches, I want to take a moment to remind everyone of the importance of family, friendship, and the people who make our lives meaningful.

Our work is important. The contracts we negotiate, the benefits we secure, and the progress we make as a union all help provide better lives for our families. But at the end of the day, the most important thing we have is the time we get to spend with the people we love.

I encourage everyone to take a step back from the daily demands of work, gather around the table, break bread with family and friends, and appreciate those who stand beside us. Whether you are celebrating with a large family gathering or sharing a quiet meal with a few loved ones, take the time to enjoy those moments. They are what truly matter.

I also want to recognize those who may be working through the holiday to keep our communities running. Your dedication and sacrifices do not go unnoticed.

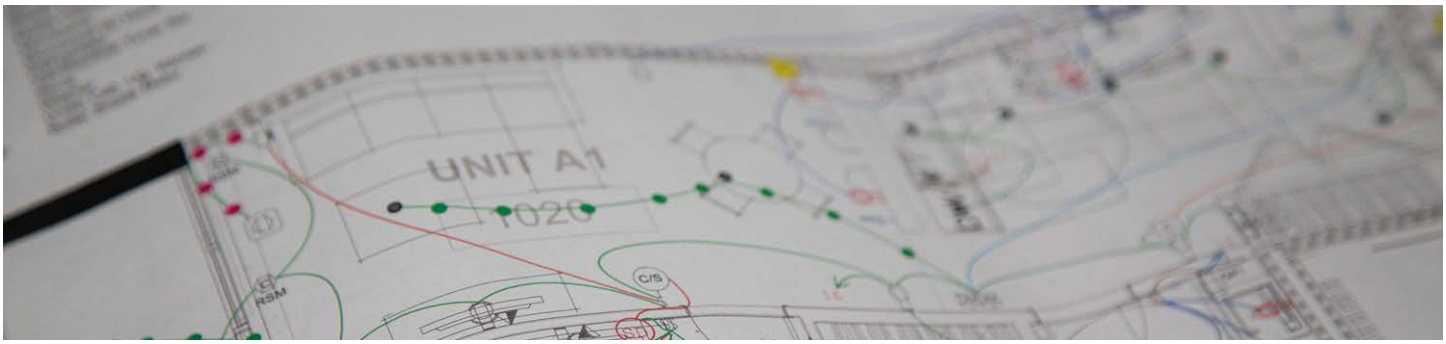
I am proud of what we have accomplished, but our work is never finished. We will continue fighting for better wages, stronger benefits, safer working conditions, and opportunities that improve the lives of every member and their family.

Thank you for your continued support, your hard work, and your commitment to IBEW Local 11. Our strength has always come from our members, and together, we will continue building a stronger future.

On behalf of the leadership of IBEW Local 11 and myself, I wish you and your families a safe, happy, and healthy Thanksgiving.

In Solidarity,

Alton Wilkerson
President



BUSINESS MANAGER'S MESSAGE

(continued from page 2)

veterans, and people from all backgrounds to build rewarding careers in the electrical industry.

That commitment extends beyond the jobsite. We're advancing our Knowledge Is Power Scholarship Foundation, with a committee developing the program and plans to share application information in the new year. We look forward to expanding educational opportunities for our members and their families.

Advocating for Union Jobs and Working Families

Our work outlook remains promising, with major projects moving forward across Los Angeles County, including LAX, school districts, and public facilities. The Los Angeles Convention Center renovation is also moving forward, and we're preparing for additional work associated with the 2028 Olympic Games and other major regional investments.

We're also looking toward data center development as some municipalities raise concerns or consider moratoriums. Labor must have a voice in these conversations before decisions are made. We're working with industry partners and local officials to address community concerns, improve communication, and advocate for projects that create good union jobs.

Our advocacy extends into the political arena. During the recent election cycle, Local 11 members stepped up to support candidates who stand with working families, including traveling to Las Vegas twice to assist fellow IBEW members. I want to thank everyone who volunteered their time. That willingness to help our brothers and sisters, even beyond our own jurisdiction, is solidarity in action.

Political engagement isn't about one party or one election. It is about protecting the interests of working people and ensuring labor has a seat at the table. When we stand together and speak with one voice, our influence extends far beyond our individual locals.

135 Years Strong, and Just Getting Started

The solidarity I witnessed in San Diego is the same spirit I see in our members every day. It's what has carried the IBEW through 135 years of challenges and victories, and it's what will carry us into the next 135.

As we approach Thanksgiving, I want to thank every member of Local 11. Whether you cast a ballot, attended a meeting, volunteered your time, stood up for a fellow member, or simply showed up each day and took pride in your work, you helped make our brotherhood stronger.

We've accomplished a great deal this year, but what excites me most is what comes next. New projects to build, new generations of electrical workers to train, and new challenges we'll tackle together. Through it all, our greatest strength remains what it has always been – each other. That's something worth celebrating and something we should never take for granted.

I wish you and your families a safe and blessed Thanksgiving. I'm grateful to serve this brotherhood and stand alongside each of you.

In solidarity,



Robert Corona

Business Manager / Financial Secretary

IBEW Local 11

corona@ibew11.org

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Making a Difference For Women in Construction

This time last year, Chrystal Pineda was at a crossroads. A college student studying computer engineering, Pineda believed she was on a clear path toward a degree and career. After spending two years in school, she learned she still had more than three years remaining before graduation.

Faced with years of additional coursework and uncertainty, she decided to explore another route. That decision led her to a job fair and ultimately to a career she never imagined.

"There was someone there promoting the MC3 apprenticeship readiness program through HireLAX," Pineda recalled. "They asked me, 'Do you want to do something where you'll eventually be able to afford a house?' And I thought, 'Of course I do.'"

She signed up for the Multi-Craft Core Curriculum (MC3) program and discovered the opportunities available in the building trades. The electrical trade immediately stood out, given Pineda's computer engineering background.

"I love working with my hands. I love learning new things and doing something different every day," she said. "Once I was exposed to the trades, I knew becoming an electrician was what I wanted to pursue."

After completing the MC3 program, Pineda attended a contractor meeting where she connected with representatives from CSI Electric and was offered a position as a construction wireman. Today, she is a first-year inside wireman apprentice and proud member of IBEW Local 11.

Looking back on her first year in the trade, Pineda says the experience has been transformative.

"If you had told me two years ago that I'd be doing this, I wouldn't have believed you," she said. "I've grown so much, not just professionally, but personally."

Coming into the industry with no construction experience, she had to learn everything from the ground up.

"I joined completely green," she said. "I didn't know the names of the tools. I didn't know what they did. Now I can walk onto a jobsite and understand what's happening, what tools are being used, and the sequence of construction. It's amazing how much you can learn in a year when you're willing to learn."

That willingness to learn has become one of the guiding principles of her career.

"As long as you're open to learning, there's no limit to what you can accomplish," she said.

(continued on page 5)

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT CONTINUED

(continued from page 4)

Working in a traditionally male-dominated industry has also pushed Pineda to find her voice and grow her confidence.

"It's given me confidence to speak up for myself," she said. "I work with a lot of men, but I can still be myself. I'll put pink on my clothes and bring my own personality to the job. I've learned that I belong here, too."

One accomplishment she is particularly proud of is being recognized as a "Tradeswoman of the Week," an honor that reflected her hard work and dedication on the jobsite.

"Hearing positive feedback from my foreman or supervisor means a lot," she said. "When they tell me I'm doing a good job or that I'm a hard worker, that's really rewarding."

Before entering the trade, Pineda wasn't aware of career opportunities available. Now, she sees a future filled with possibilities.

"I didn't know I could become a foreman. I didn't know I could become a superintendent or even a teacher at the ETI," she said. "Now my vision has opened up."

Supporting her family remains one of her biggest motivations.

"I want to be able to retire my mom one day," she said. "The opportunities and wages in this trade can change lives."

At just 24 years old, Pineda is also thinking about how she can help others find the same opportunities she found through the union. She remains active with the MC3 program that helped launch her career and recently volunteered to speak with prospective apprentices about her experience.

"I know what it's like to feel lost," she said. "If I can help someone get into the union faster or make the process easier for them, I want to do that."

She hopes mentoring future apprentices will become part of her legacy. For those just starting their journey, or waiting for an opportunity to be sponsored, Pineda offers simple advice: Don't give up.

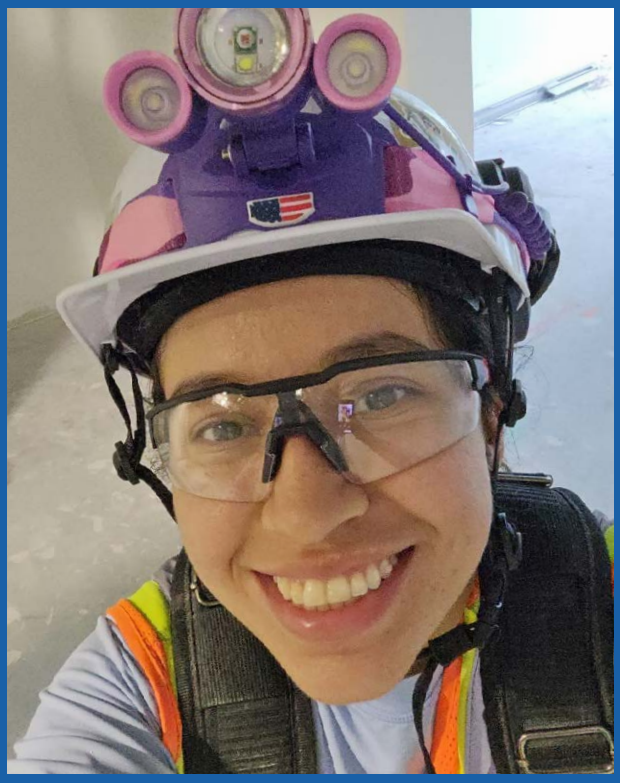
"Keep showing up. Keep learning. Ask questions. Speak up for yourself," she said. "Don't get discouraged."

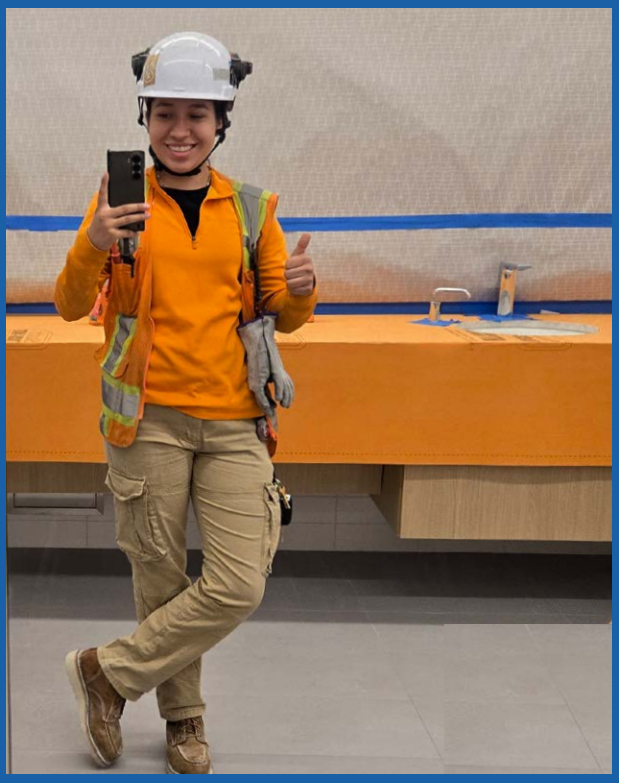
One year into her journey, Pineda already understands the value of the union support system that helped her get started.

"The union is a brotherhood and a sisterhood," she said. "Everyone was once where you are. They want to help you succeed. They teach you, support you, and look out for you."

While her career is just beginning, Pineda hopes her story can inspire others, especially women, to see a future for themselves in the trades.

"I want to be remembered as someone who made a difference for women in construction," she said. "I want to help open doors for other women and show that they belong here too."





MORE THAN A YEAR AFTER TUNNEL COLLAPSE

(continued from page 1)

environment crowded with heavy equipment, high-pressure hydraulic lines, and diesel exhaust.

While standard safety precautions remained in place, such as powering off equipment before performing maintenance, the fast-paced nature of tunnel construction added another layer of pressure.

"It's extremely noisy, and when something does break, you're under the gun to get it fixed as quickly as possible," Streip said. "So you're stressed out. You got a guy breathing down your neck trying to get you to fix that thing so they can get back to mining."

Day of the Collapse

On July 9, Streip was working a swing shift from 2 p.m. to 10 p.m. But since the crew was operating roughly six miles into the tunnel, he expected it would be after 1 a.m. before he reached the surface.

Around 7:30 p.m., Streip and his crew were working near the six-mile mark when a distant noise caught one worker's attention. Unsure of what caused it, the crew briefly joked about the sound before returning to work.

A short time later, Streip needed to troubleshoot an issue at a grout pumping station about three miles behind the crew. He boarded an MSV and began traveling back through the tunnel when he and the driver encountered something blocking their path.

"We pulled up to the collapse section where it's a huge mound of wet material already, and there's just a huge inflow of water coming at us," he said. "This is a huge train that weighs probably 150,000 pounds or something. And he's trying to get it up a little closer, and it just won't go any further, because it's already slumped out from the side."

The driver immediately turned back to retrieve the workers still beyond the collapse. As Streip assessed the situation, he assumed the communication lines had been severed because the tunnel had breached on the side where they were located, leaving the crew unable to contact anyone outside the tunnel for help.

In total darkness, armed only with a flashlight, Streip climbed over the debris pile.

"All the lights are out already, and there's just like a little pathway up to one side," Streip said. "I had my flashlight, and I tried to get up over it, and I was able to get over to the other side. I had, like, a rock fall about two feet away from me while I was going over the top."

Once across, he made his way to a nearby pump station to call for help. Streip shut down one of the two 13.2-kilovolt circuits that the trapped workers would need to cross as they made their escape, while an electrician on the surface shut down the other.

About 20 minutes later, the MSV driver returned with the remaining workers. One by one, all 16 climbed over the debris pile and squeezed through a narrow opening at the top. As the pile continued to grow, some of the last workers had to crawl on their stomachs to get through the "muck pile."

"I saw their flashlights coming over and felt a great wave of relief," Streip said, noting that the entire ordeal lasted about 45 minutes from the time they first heard the collapse. "Luckily, the shift superintendent and another MSV driver came in and got us, and we all got out of there."

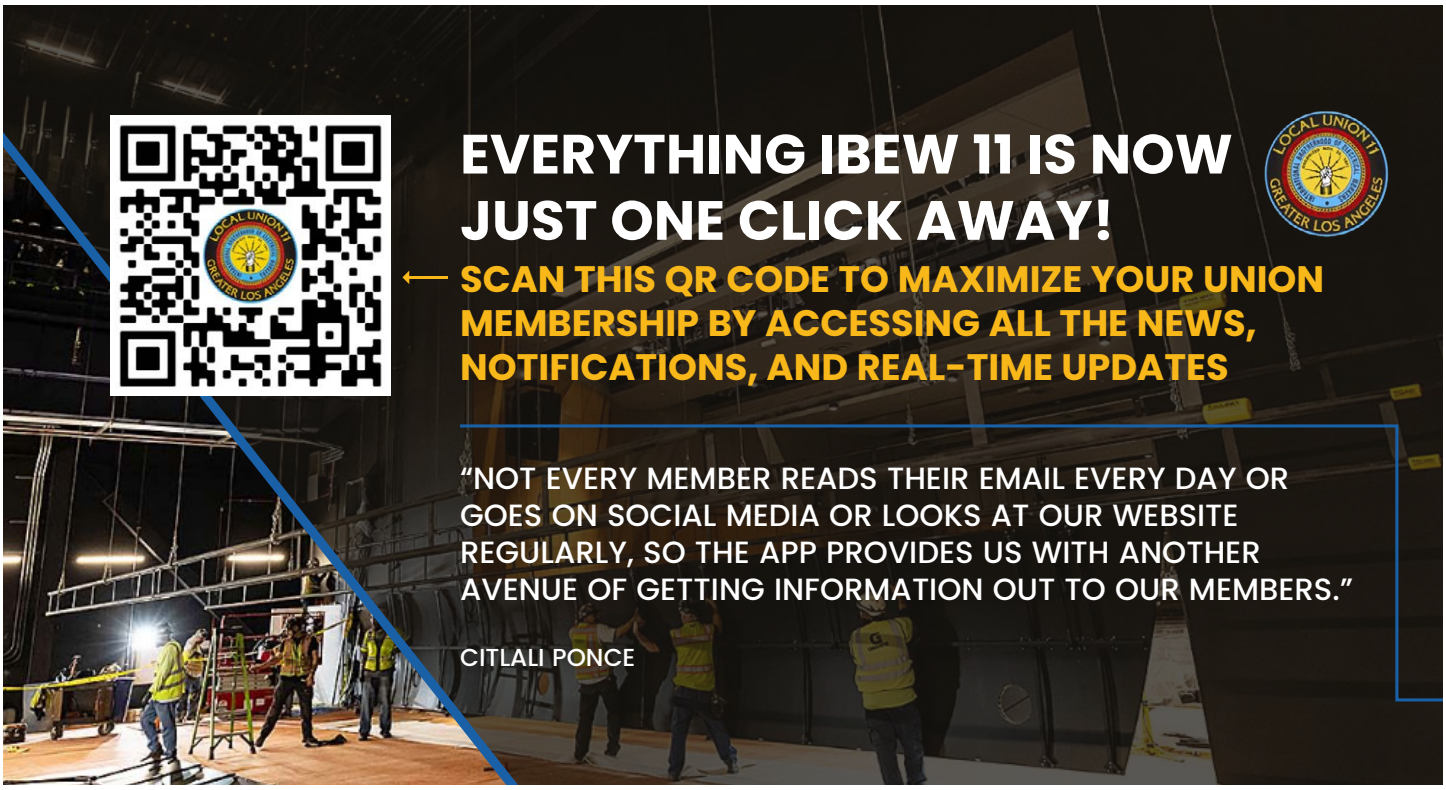
Aftermath

More than a year later, work inside the tunnel remains limited Although no one suffered physical injuries, Streip said several workers chose not to return after the incident because of the emotional, "traumatizing" toll it took. The experience affected him as well. Streip said he sought therapy after the collapse and continues to deal with anxiety related to the incident.

"I have a wife and a kid. My son is young, so I don't think he gets it yet, but it took a big toll on my wife," Streip said. "I definitely have some anxiety issues around that place now."

The incident still comes to mind whenever Streip drives over the tunnel on Western Avenue near his home, knowing the situation remains unresolved. Asked what advice he would give other workers considering tunnel work, Streip emphasized that segmentally lined tunnels are generally very safe.

"Segmentally lined tunnels are generally very safe, and tunnel work can be both challenging and rewarding, although the special conditions require you to stay alert and trust your gut when something feels out of place," he said.



(continued from page 1)

propulsion equipment.

Each day starts with a crew meeting to review assignments and identify potential hazards. Safety, members say, is always the top priority on the jobsite.

"We talk about safety, and our lead gets us our jobs, and then we go ahead and get into attack mode and make it happen," said Dominic Ellis, who's also been a Local 11 member for eight years. "We get on it and do the best job that we can, make it as quality as possible, and, at the end of the day, you feel good about what you've done."

At Kinkisharyo, Local 11's safety culture extends beyond the shop floor. Members know that the quality of their work directly affects the thousands of passengers who rely on the trains every day.

"If you follow directions, then these trains will be safe, and that means a lot to us, because our family might be on this train, other families could be on this train, and we want everybody to be safe," said Ellis, who works in sub-assembly at the facility. "The first thing that we talk about is safety here. We jam that in everybody's head, we practice it, we preach it, and everybody's on the same page."

For Ellis, the job is about more than earning a paycheck – it's about seeing the results of his work serving the public long after a project is complete.

"Every time I see a train," Ellis said, "I look at the number to see what the number is on the train, and I go, 'Yep, I touched that. I had something to do with that train that's on the track.'"

While Ellis takes pride in his work, he's quick to note that his work as a Local 11 member allows him to maintain a work-life balance that gives him ample opportunity to see his family every day.

"Family is amazing, and that's everything to us," Ellis said. "That's why we come to work here, to work hard, go home to our families, and support them like we should. That's what we do."

Morgan echoed Ellis' sentiments, noting that his union career has helped him build skills and confidence both on and off the job.

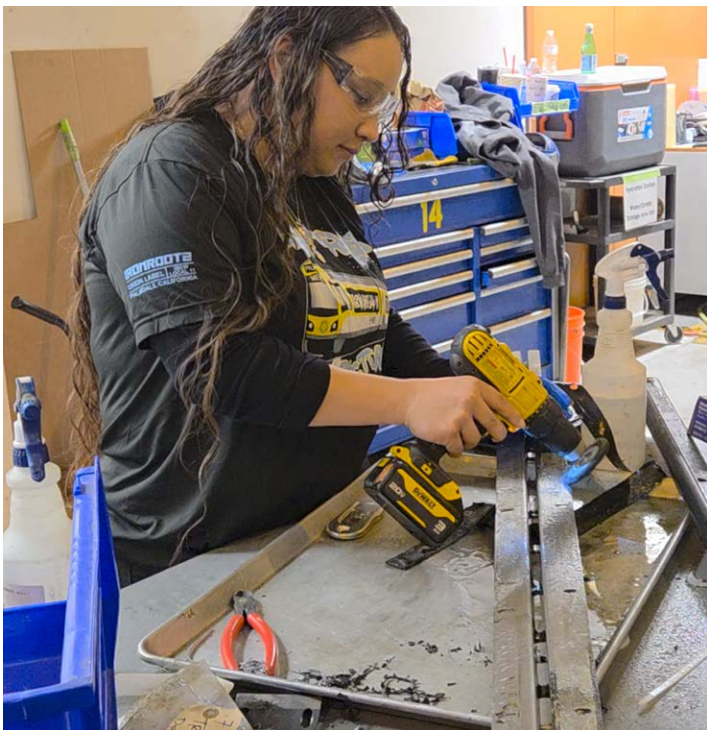
"I've remodeled my entire house based off of what I've learned with the company and being a part of the union," Morgan said. "It just shows that if you work together and you want to move forward, it creates a hell of an experience and a family-type environment."

> **"Every time I see a train, I look at the number to see what the number is on the train, and I go, 'Yep, I touched that. I had something to do with that train that's on the track.'**











BUSINESS AGENT REPORTS



DISTRICT 2
GARY TOMLIN

The Long Beach Amphitheatre officially opened June 6 with Snoop Dogg headlining the event. Built by Local 11 members, the venue will continue bringing major events to the area. The Special Olympics Summer Games were recently held at Cal State Long Beach, and the annual Plane Pull fundraiser will return to Long Beach Airport in 2027. If you're interested in joining a Local 11 team, please contact me.

Several major projects are creating future work opportunities, including redevelopments at Cerritos Mall, Lakewood Mall, Long Beach Towne Center, and The Pike. Additional projects include a new building at Long Beach City College Carson Campus, the Belmont Pool Complex, and a six-building Aerospace Campus near Long Beach Airport.

Recently a member called me on a Sunday to reach out for help. I gave them Zach's information as he sponsors our Recovery Meetings. The member was immediately contacted and helped. If you or someone you know is struggling, please reach out. Our upcoming D2 Christmas party is Friday December 4th 5pm at Hollywood Sports Park In Bellflower.



DISTRICT 4
BRETT MOSS

Greetings from District Four. I hope this report finds you and your families well.

I want to thank Ray "Baby Ray" Juarez and Tim McArdle for their work as stewards at the Burbank Airport. They both did a fantastic job and kept a watchful eye, making sure no issues got out of hand on their watch. Winter is here, and the change in season can bring hazardous road conditions. Be careful driving to and from work in rainy weather.

As a reminder, D4 unit meetings are on the first Tuesday of the month at 5 p.m. at the D4 Hall. Please join us – the door is always open. The D4 Welfare Committee meets the last Tuesday of each month at the D4 Hall. If you need assistance, please contact me.

Stay safe and be well. Always feel free to reach out via email, phone, or text.

Brett Moss
(626) 379-0651 | bmoss@ibew11.org



DISTRICT 6
TOMMY ZIELOMSKI

Greetings from D6.

As 2026 comes to an end, I hope you and your families are doing well. The work picture remains steady, with a few big projects underway in District 6. We have two 400-megawatt battery storage jobs, with about 40 members on each. Comet still has a large project underway at Mt. San Antonio College, with about 45 members on site.

Thank you to all the members who signed up for and completed the LAQSP class here at District 6 in October. We'll have a CPR class here soon. Look for more information about the upcoming class.

The next District 6 unit meeting will be held Tuesday, November 24 at 5 p.m. at the D6 Hall. The District 6 holiday party will be held in the Diamond Bar Golf Course Banquet Room on Wednesday, December 16 from 6 to 9:30 p.m. Hope to see you there. As always, please call me if you have any questions.



UNIT 9
DEON MAYES

Work is still slow for our unit, but there is a lot to look forward to. Notable projects we expect to break soon include local school districts, local airports (LAX, Long Beach, and Burbank), the Los Angeles Convention Center, and several community colleges. Please ensure your certifications and licenses are up to date so you're ready when you're called for work.

This year brought an important moment for Unit 9. For the first time in the unit's history, members were able to direct their wage increase toward a defined-benefit (pension) plan. I'm a 25-year member, and I remember when people said this would never happen. The road was long, but our commitment never wavered.

Members made it clear this mattered, and our leadership, including Business Manager Robert Corona, delivered it at the bargaining table. Allocations happen twice a year. If you only make two meetings, make these two your priority. Those meetings are when you decide where your money goes.



UNIT 14
YEZDAN MARQUEZ

Hello, Brothers and Sisters!

Thank you, L.A. County members, for ratifying the contract. Record voter participation shows our strength and unity. Negotiations for Los Angeles Community College District members begin soon, and we're committed to securing the best contract possible.

As the 2028 Olympics approach, our L.A. City members' dedication and expertise are on display. Thank you to our LAUSD members for keeping schools safe and supporting a brighter future for children. We're preparing to negotiate a contract recognizing our HACLA members' contributions and public service.

Thank you to the Electrical Workers Minority Caucus (EWMC) for recognizing the Latin American Electrical Club (LAEC) as a subcommittee. Everyone is welcome as we strengthen our bond and serve our community. Thank you for your solidarity.

BUSINESS AGENT REPORTS CONTINUED

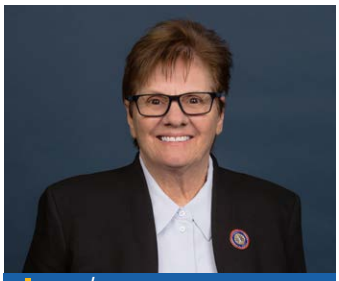


ITS
RUBEN RIVAS

The transportation sector continues to gain momentum, creating opportunities for our members. Upcoming work includes PLA projects and projects related to the 2028 Olympics. As demand increases, electricians will be essential to meeting these needs. We encourage members to take advantage of training opportunities through the Electrical Training Institute (ETI) to prepare for these large-scale projects.

Transportation members have ratified an agreement that improves wages, working conditions, and benefits. This includes a new paid time off (PTO) package, hazard pay multipliers, and benefits that recognize our members' dedication.

Our union remains committed to protecting our work, expanding market share, and advocating for our members in Sacramento and Washington, D.C. Through unity, training, and solidarity, Transportation members will continue building the infrastructure that keeps our communities moving forward.



CW/CE
JACKIE WALTMAN

Please make sure your ET Card remains current. Do not wait until the last minute to renew it. Renewals should be completed at least three months before your expiration date.

Also, remember to place yourself on the Daybook each day you are available to take a job call.

For new CWs, insurance eligibility begins after working 1,000 hours. Once you reach 1,000 hours, you must work at least 140 hours per month for the next two consecutive months. Your insurance coverage will begin in the third month.

For CW6s through CE2s preparing for the State Certification exam, the Dakota study app is available to help you succeed. You should have received an email with instructions on how to access it.

It is an honor to serve as your representative. As always, please reach out if you need assistance. Look out for one another, work safely, and stay safe out there.



COMPLIANCE
VERONICA MARTINEZ

Effective June 1, 2026, the Labor Commissioner's Office transferred administration of electrician certification exams from PSI to CPS HR Consulting. Exams are administered at Pearson VUE testing centers.

The Electrical Certification Unit (ECU) launched its online application system on June 15, 2026. Applicants can use it to submit applications, pay fees, track their application status, renew certifications, request retests, and obtain replacement cards.

Applicants must be approved to take the exam before scheduling it and must complete it within one year of approval. The minimum passing score is 70%. Applicants receive their results immediately and can expect their certification cards to be mailed within two weeks of passing. Applicants who fail must wait 60 days before applying for a retest.

Electrician trainee registration applications must still be submitted by mail. For additional information, visit the DIR Electrical Certification Unit website.



ORGANIZING REPORTS



DISTRICT 2
MYRA HILDRETH

I continue to organize, conduct outreach, and engage with members throughout our jurisdiction. I've attended local city council meetings to advocate for projects that support union labor and job opportunities for our members.

A significant development was Carson City Council's approval of the 157-acre redevelopment project at the site of the former Cal Compact Landfill. The project is expected to attract businesses, stimulate growth, and create union jobs.

I also participated in outreach efforts at high schools, promoting apprenticeships and educating students about trade careers and the benefits of union membership.

Following member leads on non-union work, I joined organizing blitzes, meeting unrepresented electricians about union membership. These efforts expanded outreach and strengthened member relationships.



DISTRICT 4
RUBEN MENDOZA

Greetings from District 4!

We are proud to announce the official Latin American Electrical Club (LAEC), now sanctioned under the EWMC/Local 11 umbrella.

Our group has long been dedicated to volunteering and giving back to the community through voter registration efforts, clothing drives in the San Fernando Valley, and holiday outreach events. During Thanksgiving, members volunteer at the Hollenbeck Youth Center, helping distribute turkeys and assist families. At Christmas, we return to grill hamburgers and hot dogs for families attending the holiday celebration and toy giveaway.

The LAEC is focused on unity, service, and supporting our communities through volunteerism. If you are interested in volunteering or joining, please reach out to any member for more information. Everyone is welcome!



DISTRICT 6
CHRIS ROSALES

Organizing efforts are at an all-time high. During the first half of the year, I attended several conferences focused on strengthening our skills and tools as organizers. For IBEW Local 11, organizing remains essential to empowering electricians and protecting fair wages, strong benefits, and safe working conditions.

As our industry evolves with new technologies and clean energy projects, the need for a skilled, union workforce continues to grow. Local 11 is meeting that challenge through targeted outreach efforts designed to engage unrepresented workers and introduce them to the advantages of union membership. Through community events, workshops, informational sessions, and one-on-one conversations, we are breaking down barriers and building a stronger, more inclusive labor movement.

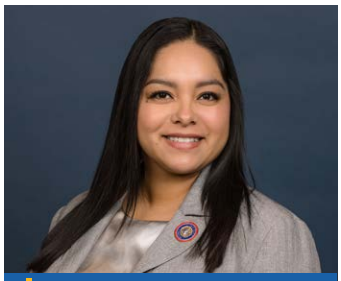


CONTRACTORS
BENJAMIN FRANK

Organizing contractors remains one of the most effective ways to grow market share and create opportunities for our members. Thanks to the collective efforts of Local 11's organizing team, business development staff, business agents, International Representatives, and members, Local 11 has organized more contractors than any local in the Ninth District and more than any local in the entire IBEW.

Every newly organized signatory contractor that calls the hall creates work opportunities for our members across all classifications. Each day, I have the privilege of meeting with contractors, answering questions, and addressing misconceptions about what it means to be a union contractor. That momentum continues to grow, with several contractors from our recent Contractors Class preparing to join our ranks.

Whether you're a contractor looking to expand your business or a member interested in obtaining a C-10 or C-7 license, we're here to help. When our contractors succeed, our members succeed.



SOUND & COMMUNICATIONS
CITLALI PONCE

Greetings, Unit 9!

This year is coming to a close, and we are looking forward to a good start in 2027. The organizing department continues to be part of everything going on in our city, from representing our local at career fairs to attending city council meetings and finding new job sites to visit year-round.

Our efforts to bring new members into our local depend on members from all classifications volunteering to show up and be part of the process. There are always opportunities to give back, and we encourage everyone to be part of the VOC and find out what's next.

We are looking ahead to more work, projects, and events in the new year. We are all organizers. Let's spread the union word together.

Stay safe and happy holidays!

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS



LOCAL 11 RECOVERY GROUP

WE'RE HERE FOR YOU.

A GROUP OF IBEW MEMBERS DEDICATED TO ASSISTING AND UPLIFTING OTHERS IN THE RECOVERY PROCESS. AS WELL AS HELPING TO REDUCE THE STIGMA SURROUNDING SEEKING HELP FOR MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY.

WEEKLY 12-STEP MEETING FOR THOSE INTERESTED.

MONTHLY MEETING TO DISCUSS OUR GOALS AND SHARE INFORMATION.

ZOOM MEETING

Every Wednesday

7:00pm

Meeting ID:
932 9482 0929

Password:720751

https://zoom.us/j/93294820929?pwd=j8AVaGrHF8hAL5LqaY5EoqUXX-9jD3U.1

Powering Los Angeles Since 1942