



City of Seattle

November 12, 2013

R.C. Hedreen Co.
PO Box 9006
Seattle, WA 98109

Dear Mr. Hedreen,

Thank you for your letter dated September 27, 2013 regarding labor activities at the Grand Hyatt Hotel and Hyatt at Olive 8 Hotel in Seattle.

We understand that you are not party to the agreement between the Hyatt Hotel Corporation in Chicago and Unite HERE regarding a modified election process for your workers, but we also understand you may choose to adopt what has been approved by the Hyatt Hotel Corporation. We write today to encourage such a collaborative approach that would provide a model for family wage jobs and benefits for your workers.

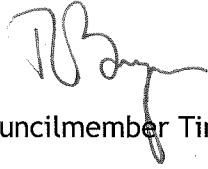
We understand from your letter that you are currently paying competitive wages to many of your employees. That said, we support a fair elections process in which workers feel they can express their choice to create a union or not without fearing retaliation from anyone. To avoid extended labor disputes, we encourage you to consider the alternative election process agreed to in Chicago, or another alternative where workers can organize freely in a neutral environment and if employees choose to organize for representation, an independent third party is engaged to receive ballots. While you are under no obligation to do so, agreeing to a process that would bring an end to the disruptive boycotts seems like a step in the right direction for you, the workers in your hotels, and the City.

Ensuring that service workers are able to support themselves and their families with living wage jobs, including medical benefits, is critical to a healthy economy in Seattle. Our economy is strengthened when we build from the middle out. Our environment is healthier when people can live near where they work. Our community is more vibrant when working people can afford to live in the city.

Sincerely,


Council President Sally J. Clark


Councilmember Sally Bagshaw



Councilmember Tim Burgess



Councilmember Richard Conlin



Councilmember Jean Godden



Councilmember Bruce Harrell



Councilmember Mike O'Brien



Councilmember Nick Licata



Councilmember Tom Rasmussen