

## **REBUTTAL TO THE ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE RW**

### **POVERTY WAGES FROM LARGE CORPORATIONS HURT LONG BEACH**

Large corporate hotels received subsidies when they were built, while others got millions in bailouts during the pandemic, and little has been passed on to workers. Meanwhile,unhoused individuals increased 62% during the pandemic because Long Beach residents can't afford rent.

When corporations refuse to pay fair wages, taxpayers foot the bill when their workers have to rely on public assistance.

### **GOOD FOR OUR LOCAL ECONOMY AND SMALL BUSINESSES**

Measure RW would create jobs and generate millions in economic activity due to the multiplier effects of spending by workers affected by the living wage, according to a June 2023 report by Dr. William Lester, San Jose University Professor and Urban Planner.

### **SMALL BUSINESSES SUPPORT MEASURE RW**

Small businesses in Long Beach were in support of Measure N in 2013. Today hundreds have again expressed their support for raising wages for hotel workers. More money in the pockets of working families means they can shop at our local businesses and put it back in our local economy.

### **MEASURE RW IS ALLOWING THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS BY LETTING VOTERS DECIDE TO RAISE THE WAGE AGAIN**

Measure N passed overwhelmingly with voters' support in 2013. Ten years later, the cost of living is still too high and wages are too low. This ballot measure allows the democratic process by letting voters decide to stand with workers again by voting YES on Measure RW. The legislative process in our City remains the same.