

For Immediate Release
June 14, 2025
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Disponible en Español

Mayor Karen Bass Appoints The Miguel Contreras Foundation's Armando Loza MSSE to the 2025 Workforce Development Board



Armando Loza at City Hall, May 23, 2025

LOS ANGELES, Calif. – Mayor Karen Bass has appointed **Armando Loza, MSSE**, Executive Director of the Miguel Contreras Foundation and a proven leader in workforce development, as a **City of Los Angeles Workforce Development Board** Member.

Loza is a **first-generation Mexican American, the son of a union member, and a native Angeleno** proudly carrying forward the dreams and sacrifices of his family with every step. Growing up in a union household instilled in him a deep sense of solidarity, resilience, and the belief that standing together is key to overcoming systemic barriers.

“As a proud first-generation professional from Southeast Los Angeles, I’ve seen firsthand how workforce development can transform lives,” said Loza. “This work is not just a concept — it’s a lifeline that opens doors to opportunity and builds pathways to success for our communities. I’m honored to represent Los Angeles — a city rich with stories, dreams, and diversity — and to contribute to a future where we all rise by lifting each other up.”

Armando brings over **25 years of experience** creating high-impact, community-based programs across Los Angeles County. He has successfully managed over **\$35 million in public and private workforce development funds**, using a strategic, data-driven approach to deliver tangible outcomes for workers and families. His leadership is marked by a blend of innovation, cultural awareness, and commitment to redefining workforce development.

“Armando Loza’s appointment brings the voice of frontline workforce innovation and labor-community partnerships to the table,” said Yvonne Wheeler, President of the Los Angeles Federation of Labor AFL-CIO. “His commitment to equity, strategy and culture, and impact measurement through qualitative and quantitative data will help shape the city’s workforce system for the better.”

Loza views this appointment as a continuation of the legacy of labor leader Miguel Contreras. “The seeds of change that leaders like Miguel planted are blossoming into a vibrant testament to what can happen when we unite in solidarity,” Loza shared. “The warriors for workers that Miguel dreamed of are emerging, standing tall in their commitment to justice and equity.”

His appointment underscores Mayor Bass’s focus on building a Workforce Development Board that is both diverse and deeply experienced in meeting Los Angeles’s evolving economic needs. His term will run through **June 30, 2027**.

Learn more about Armando at
www.miguelcontrerasfoundation.org/about/staff.

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