



ECOS

ENVIRONMENTAL  
♦ COUNCIL ♦  
OF SACRAMENTO

Post Office Box 1526 | Sacramento, CA 95812-1526

December 2, 2024

Sacramento City Council, Mayor Steinberg, and City Manager Chan  
City of Sacramento  
915 I Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: December 3 City Council Meeting, Item 01—Ordinance Adding Chapter 3.156 to the Sacramento City Code, Relating to Community Benefits Agreements**

Dear Sacramento City Council, Mayor Steinberg, and City Manager Chan,

The Environmental Council of Sacramento (ECOS) urges the City of Sacramento to amend the Community Benefits Agreement Ordinance (CBAO) to account for the recommendations made by Sacramento Investment Without Displacement (SIWD). ECOS is particularly concerned that:

1. The proposed CBAO does not include minimum benefits around Affordable Housing, Transportation, Workforce Development, Small/Local Business Protections. The specific minimum benefits recommended by SIWD were chosen to make sure residents and small businesses could stay in their neighborhoods.
2. The proposed CBAO excludes community members from the community benefits negotiations. Presently, community members are limited to an input and feedback role in the CBA process. This role devalues the community's voice, reducing community agency and the effectiveness of the CBA.

We request that the City of Sacramento commit to equitable economic development practices that benefit all communities, particularly our historically underserved neighborhoods. Pushing forward the CBAO in its current state would not support, involve, and protect communities as originally intended and would instead make the City's efforts to support communities seem disingenuous.

Thank you for considering our comments.

Sincerely,

Susan Herre AIA AICP  
President of the ECOS Board of Directors

Ralph Propper  
Chair of ECOS Climate Committee

Luz Lim  
Policy Analyst