

POLITICAL ADVOCACY

This February, the Government Affairs team advocated, fought (and won!), and met with those who needed to know about our issues. Here are the three things you need to know:

1) Advocacy in the State Capitol



Construction craft laborer Kadarius Player testifies at SB 150 hearing

On Monday, February 26th, ABC NorCal Government Affairs staff and construction craft laborer apprentice Kadarius Player provided testimony before a Joint Legislative Subcommittee hearing on the implementation of SB 150. We emphasized how all state and federally approved apprenticeship programs should be allowed to work on projects funded by SB 150. Panelists approached us afterwards to work with us. Stay tuned to see how we will fight to ensure our apprentices are able to work on public projects coming down the pipeline.



2) ABC NorCal's Latest Win for Private Development in Fresno Is a Win for All!

We are celebrating a **WIN** for free and fair enterprise, and for the economic development of Fresno. The Fresno City Council voted 5-2 to approve the Scannell warehouse development.

For months, ABC NorCal has fought against a CEQA appeal by the unions on a large private development. CEQA is an environmental impact report. It is called **Greenmail** when used by the unions to block private work projects to which they are trying to attach a Project Labor Agreement (PLA). The Unions entered a CEQA (Greenmail) appeal on a Scannell development, because the developer would not negotiate a PLA, saying the development would not pencil out with a PLA. If the City Council had voted to approve this appeal, the development would have been blocked and Scannell would have lost the huge investment they had already made in the Fresno project.

[Link](#) to full article.

[Link](#) to what we were up against.

3) Showing Up in the District Matters!



ABC Board of Director Members Tori Simpson and Mark Kirkes with Assemblymember Juan Alanis, Turlock

Meeting directly with legislators and candidates ***in their home districts with their constituents is one of the most important parts of our advocacy.*** Establishing that connection demonstrates that our members are here, we are watching and we will hold them accountable, if they do not uphold the principles of fair and open competition.

I will do my best to fight every day and night to ensure our voices are heard in the halls of power, but the best advocate for you and your business is **YOU**. If there are any candidates, events or elected officials you would like to meet with in your community, please do not hesitate to reach out. I will schedule a meeting with them and ensure you have a seat at the table—***and if they do not take the meeting, we will use our formidable PAC to make sure they know who we are, nor will they forget us.***



ABC Board of Directors Chair Gino Cellillo and Alexandra Macedo, Candidate for Assembly District 33



Congressman David Valadao with Fresno Area Council Chair Joe Garcia addressing a full room of Fresno Area Councilmembers



PLA Ticker as of February 2024

- Santa Cruz County** – PLA discussed on February 27 and will be brought back before the board in June.
- City of West Sacramento** – PLA discussed on January 17th and at a strategic planning retreat.
- Washington Unified School District** – PLA discussed at a special board of education meeting on January 17th.
- Yolo County** – Board of Supervisors will bring up PLA on March 26th.
- San Joaquin County** – CWA looks likely to be brought up to the Board of Supervisors.
- Sunnyvale** – PLA was discussed as a council item in November and will come back to the council.
- City of Mountain View** – Discussed last year, but did not act and will come back.
- Watsonville** – City staff is discussing whether to propose making changes to citywide PLA.
- Sacramento County Airport Expansion** – We are working with airport staff to ensure fair language is introduced in CWA.

Ask Matthew and Susan

ABC NorCal Government Affairs is working hard to support economic development in Northern California. Have questions or concerns about anything listed above, or a new issue you would like to bring to our attention?

Email: matthew@abcnorcal.org | susan@abcnorcal.org

Thank you for your time, until next month.

Sincerely,

Matthew Estipona, Director of Government Affairs and Community Engagement
Susan Siegert, Government Affairs Program Administrator