

# 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:

## Advocacy in the State Capitol

Advocacy in the State Capitol

The Fight Against California Senate Bill 984

SB 984 (Wahab) – This bill would authorize a state agency to undertake a major state construction project only if that project is governed by a Project Labor Agreement (PLA). It provides that existing law authorizes a public entity to use, enter into—or require contractors to enter into—a PLA for a major state construction project.

We have focused our efforts on SB 984 and are happy to see that it has been postponed until April 23rd. This signals that a win is still possible for ABC NorCal members. Due to the meeting of our Government Affairs Director Matthew Estipona's with the Senate Government Organization Committee Members, in which he provided a broader education of the issue, there were not enough votes to pass this bill. Members of the committee did state they had received many letters of opposition from our members, which proves that members joining us to fight PLAs can protect everyone's right to work!

If you have not already, please send an email to Senator Wahab: [senator.wahab@senate.ca.gov](mailto:senator.wahab@senate.ca.gov) and Senator Dodd: [senator.dodd@senate.ca.gov](mailto:senator.dodd@senate.ca.gov) and cc: [matthew@abcnorcal.org](mailto:matthew@abcnorcal.org) letting them know why you are opposed to PLAs.

## Advocacy in the Cities

Vallejo City Council – Vote on Project Labor Agreement for Contracts of \$750,000

Last week we sent a PLA alert to our members in Solano, Contra Costa and Alameda counties, requesting they attend the Vallejo City Council meeting where voting would take place on a citywide PLA with a threshold of \$750,000. One of our members responded that they were being awarded a 3.1 million contract the same night at the City Council and were relieved they got it in under the wire. Another member from California highway construction attended the meeting and has joined our member advocacy group to fight PLAs. The only vote against the PLA was by the mayor, who knew it was the wrong thing to do for Vallejo. 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.

## PLA Ticker as of February 2024

- 1. Santa Cruz County** – PLA discussed on February 27 and will be brought back before the board in June.
- 2. City of West Sacramento** – PLA discussed on January 17th and at a strategic planning retreat.
- 3. Washington Unified School District** – PLA discussed at a special board of education meeting on January 17th.
- 4. Yolo County** – Board of Supervisors will bring up PLA on March 26th.
- 5. San Joaquin County** – CWA looks likely to be brought up to the Board of Supervisors.
- 6. Sunnyvale** – PLA was discussed as a council item in November and will come back to the council.
- 7. City of Mountain View** – Discussed last year, but did not act and will come back.
- 8. Watsonville** – City staff is discussing whether to propose making changes to citywide PLA.
- 9. 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?

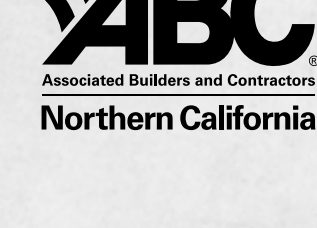
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Thank you for your time, until next month.

Sincerely,

**Matthew Estipona**, Director of Government Affairs and Community Engagement

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