

EMBER DE BOER'S  
COMMON SENSE GUIDE TO ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW

# YOUR POWER



# INTERDEPENDENCE



CITY OF  
**SACRAMENTO**  
INCLUDING  
NORTH AND WEST SACRAMENTO



*City of*  
**SACRAMENTO**

ZINE #08

2026 marks the 250th  
Anniversary of the United  
States of America.

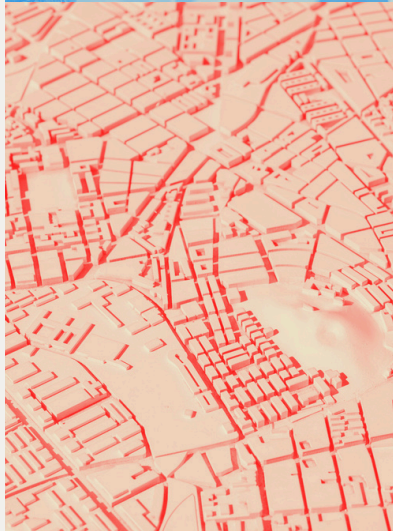


ASSIGNMENT	DR. BY
UNIT 8	CH. BY



What Do You Envision the Next  
250 Years Will Look Like?

Interdependence is about  
strengthening our communities,  
supporting our neighbors, and  
building the future for  
generations to come.



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why city council?

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“City Council is ... the closest body of government to the people. The things that we deal with every day in terms of our roads ... our parks, our policing are all handled by the city. And yet so many citizens who could participate often don't because they don't understand how the system works or what they would even do.”

- Kim Nadler

Political Science Professor CSUS

“You may not think about it, but  
[the council] actually works for you.”

Koenig said.

LYNETTE HALL  
OFTEN SAYS

“DECISIONS ARE BEING MADE  
ABOUT YOU, WITHOUT YOU -  
ALL THE TIME.”

USE  
YOUR  
VOICE

What that quote means is; effort, showing up, and collective action are necessary for representation to be reflective of your community. Democracy and the systems that support your quality of life need your input. Voting is a MASSIVE and important step towards civic engagement, but it often overshadows the truth; **you can have an impact, right now, every week, in your community, by attending council and meeting with your representatives.**

# A NOTE ON YOUR POWER

## FINDING EFFECTIVE WAYS TO BE HEARD CAN BE EXHAUSTING

I have spent my residency learning this; there is too much information out there. It can take time and resources to get familiar with how everything at the city or county works. How can all of us overcome this barrier?

### **What is within your power? Active Participation.**

The best and most impactful way to be heard is to come to council in person, talk to your representatives and city employees face to face. Submit a comment online, and share your opinions of agenda items that affect you; before decisions are made.

## YOU DONT GET PAID FOR YOUR CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

It's true, mostly your ability to show up and advocate is up to you, your schedule and, your transportation. That's were advocating for better public transit, better accessibility, and better communication are important.

Lets build a community where we remove barriers to access. Change starts with those that do have access committing to action.

**“DECISIONS ARE BEING MADE ABOUT YOU,  
WITHOUT YOU - ALL THE TIME.”**

-LYNETTE HALL

You have choices when it comes to civic engagement.  
You can comment, attend, demonstrate, or send mail.

**“DEMOCRACY IS NOT SOMETHING YOU BELIEVE IN  
OR A PLACE TO HANG YOUR HAT,  
BUT IT'S SOMETHING YOU DO.  
YOU PARTICIPATE.  
IF YOU STOP DOING IT,  
DEMOCRACY CRUMBLES.”**

— ABBIE HOFFMAN

FROM THE EDITOR  
EMBER DE BOER

# STEPS TO IMPACT USE YOUR POWER

**CREATE A LIST OF MATTERS THAT ARE IMPORTANT TO YOU IN SACRAMENTO**

1

**2 SCAN THE GRANICUS WEBSITE FOR MEETING AND AGENDAS OF CITY COUNCIL OR A COMMISSION THAT COVER THIS MATTER.**

**COME IN PERSON OR LEAVE A COMMENT ONLINE**

3

**4 SCAN THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT LINKTREE FOR ACTIVE SURVEYS YOU CAN FILL OUT**

**VOTE IN LOCAL, STATE, + FEDERAL ELECTIONS**

5

HERE'S A LIST OF MATTERS + VALUES YOUR COUNCIL COVERS:

**YOUR VOTE  
MATTERS**

**CIRCLE VALUES HERE:**

\*OR WRITE THEM IN

PUBLIC POOLS      SPORTS  
SUSTAINABILITY      HOUSING      PUBLIC PARKS  
RIVERFRONT AMENITIES      YOUTH PROGRAMS  
PERMITTING      TRANSPORTATION      CITY BUDGET  
THEATER      SMALL BUSINESS  
ROADS      PRIVACY      ENTERTAINMENT      ART VENUES  
FEES      BIKEABILITY      TRAFFIC SAFETY      EQUITY  
TAXES      DOG PARKS      AFFORDABILITY

## HOW CAN I MAKE AN IMPACT WITH LIMITED TIME AND RESOURCES?

Leave a comment at council. Ask Local News Media to cover council meetings. Sign up for the City of Sacramento Express so you know when items at council that are relevant to you are on the agenda. Watch the granicus website for recordings of the most recent meeting. Leave a public comment online from your home. Attend a council meeting and speak face to face with your commission and council members on matters that are important to you.

While the national election brews, now more than ever, it is important to understand the relevance of local council and mayoral elections- **this is where your quality of life is decided.** Your voice is LOUD at council because its local, because very few people attend, and fewer people speak up. Show up in person, leave a comment online; **your voice is documented for historical record, shared with your representatives before they make decisions, and relied on as a guiding light.**

Removing access barriers for other community members, friends, and family by offering rides, links to surveys, and information about upcoming opportunities can increase needed representation in institutional spaces.

### [City Management Academy](#) and [City Ambassadors](#)

\*Opportunities to be compensated for civic engagement



LEARN MORE >>

VIDEO  
INSTRUCTIONS  
ON LEAVING  
COMMENT @  
COUNCIL



VOTE. COMMENT @ COUNCIL. FILL OUT SURVEYS.

# ADDRESSING SYSTEMIC BARRIERS TO EMPOWERMENT

These barriers can include discrimination, lack of access to education and resources, limited opportunities for advancement, and institutional biases.

By recognizing and actively working to dismantle these barriers, we can help empower individuals and communities to reach their full potential.



This requires a concerted effort from all levels of society, including government, businesses, and individuals- to promote equality and ensure that everyone has the opportunity to thrive. By addressing these systematic barriers, we can create a more just and empowered society for all.

*EDUCATE  
ENGAGE  
EMPOWER*

# A ZINE THAT UPDATES YOU

## TIPS

Leave a public comment online from your home.

CIVIC PARTICIPATION CAN LOOK LIKE A LOT OF THINGS >

YOU DON'T HAVE TO LEAVE YOUR HOME TO PARTICIPATE.

1. **LOCATE** the meeting agenda on the [City's Upcoming Meetings website](#) for the meeting you wish to make public comment.
2. **PICK** the agenda item by clicking on the blue line-item that is relevant to your comment.
3. **SCROLL** to the bottom of the page to provide public comment. You may leave a comment as soon as the agenda is posted, and during the meeting.
4. **LEAVE A COMMENT.** After the meeting concludes, the comment period ends.



COMMUNITY  
ENGAGEMENT



Linktree\*



LEAVE A COMMENT - FILL OUT A SURVEY - ATTEND COUNCIL



**CITY COUNCIL**  
**915 I ST CITY HALL**  
**ENTER ON H STREET**

**BE HEARD**  
**USE YOUR VOICE**