

Bay Area - China Next Step: Green Building

Amidst a worldwide recession, efficient use of resources becomes even more critical to the bottom line of business. For the Bay Area in particular, such an environment provides opportunities for both companies looking to reduce their energy demand and technology firms that can supply the tools necessary to achieve resource savings.

As a follow up to the US | China Green Tech Summit in Shanghai last November, and ongoing activities in the technology and environment space, the Bay Area Council is excited to convene another high-level conference at the intersection of green business and policy. Working in partnership with the Asia Society of Northern California, the Council will be hosting “Scaling Up: From Green Buildings to Green Cities in the US and China,” on Friday, May 1, 2009, at the PG&E Auditorium in San Francisco. [Click here for more information.](#)



Bay Area Council Stakes Out Positions on May 19 Election

The Executive Committee of the Bay Area Council formally set the organization’s ballot positions after gathering feedback from the membership, the Government Relations Committee and Council staff. In the end, we will support the whole package. Many of our members expressed frustration with this budget process and these measures, while still saying they would begrudgingly support them. This is the same emotion we have been encountering in every corner of California, which relentlessly prods our reform work forward. That said, this is the time to focus on these measures. They need to pass to keep our state functioning.

1A - Rainy Day Fund – Support

1B - Protect Education Funding – Support

1C - Lottery Modernization – Support

1D - Children's Services Funding – Support

1E - Mental Health Funding – Support

1F - Salary Freeze – Support

Quote of the Week

"Our state capital is a town that feeds on dysfunction. The special interests, left and right, need the process to be dysfunctional. That is how they control Sacramento. That is how they prevent change." - Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger [during an address](#) seeking support for Propositions 1A, 1B, 1C, 1D, 1E and 1F.

Article of the Week

[This article](#) discusses how the Governor endorsed the idea of a [Constitutional Convention](#) as a way to fix the state’s dysfunctional government.