

**CITY OF ALBANY  
CITY COUNCIL  
AGENDA REPORT**

Agenda Date: 06/01/09  
Reviewed by: BP

**SUBJECT:** Social & Economic Justice Commission  
Recommendation to Create a Living Wage Policy in Albany

**REPORT BY:** Aaron Walker, Acting Commission Liaison

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**SOCIAL & ECONOMIC JUSTICE COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION**

Create a Living Wage Policy in Albany. Commission Chair Margie Marks will present a written document to the City Council that includes recommendations on coverage parameters, wage amounts, and enforcement procedures. The presentation will also include background information and supporting documents.

**BACKGROUND**

In July 2007, the City Council referred the subject of a living wage to the Social & Economic Justice Commission for its review and recommendations.

The Social & Economic Justice Commission has been discussing and researching this issue over a period of time. The Commission hosted a presentation from Jennifer Linn, with EBASE (East Bay Alliance for a Sustainable Economy), a non-profit that does organizing, advocacy and research on living wage and other work related issues. They define living wage as a wage that allows workers to support themselves without economic hardship. The Commission reviewed other cities' ordinances and discussed and researched this topic in great detail.

**SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT**

None.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT**

The financial impact on the City would depend on whether the affected contractors, lessors, licensees and concessionaires increased their billing costs to cover wage increases. There would be staff time involved in conveying and receiving information to/from the affected contractors, and upon receiving a filed complaint, to/from employees, employers, and the SEJC.

**Attachments:**

Recommendation to Create a Living Wage Policy in Albany  
Supporting documents