

LIVING WAGE REQUIREMENTS
(for Nonprofessional Service Agreements)

The Living Wage Ordinance

The City of Sacramento's Living Wage Ordinance (the "LWO") is codified as Chapter 3.58 of the Sacramento City Code. The LWO requires certain firms that enter into agreements or contracts (all subsequent references to a "contract" or "contracts" will refer to both contracts and agreements) to provide certain services to or for the CITY, to pay a specified minimum level of compensation to their employees for time spent performing any work on the CITY contract. The LWO also applies to certain subcontractors.

The LWO applies to contracts entered into, amended, or renewed or extended at the CITY's discretion, on or after March 1, 2004 (the "LWO Effective Date").

Contracts and Contractors Covered by the LWO

Determining whether the LWO applies to a specific CITY contract, contractor or subcontractor, depends on whether the contract, contractor and/or subcontractor meet the criteria specified in the LWO for contract type, contract amount, contractor size (# of employees), subcontract amount and subcontractor size (# of employees). These criteria are summarized below.

Contract Type

The LWO applies only to contracts for Nonprofessional Services. Under the LWO, this includes contracts for any services of a nonprofessional character, including but not limited to tree trimming services, repair services for motor vehicles and office equipment, vehicle towing, and security services.

The LWO does not apply to: (1) Incidental services, such as delivery, installation or maintenance, that are provided under contracts for the purchase or lease of equipment, supplies, or other personal property; (2) contracts that are subject to CITY, state, or federal prevailing-wage requirements; (3) contracts for professional services (including but not limited to services rendered by engineers, architects, auditors, banks, consultants, actuaries and attorneys); and (4) contracts with nonprofit corporations that are organized under section 501 of the Internal Revenue Code and have fewer than 100 employees, whether full or part time.

Contract Amount

The LWO applies to contracts entered into or amended after the LWO Effective Date that provide compensation from the CITY of \$250,000 or more. In addition, the LWO applies to a contract entered into or amended after the LWO Effective Date that, by itself, does not reach this amount, if the aggregate value of that contract and of any

other Nonprofessional Services contracts covered by the LWO that the CITY has awarded to the same person or firm within the previous 12 months, is \$250,000 or more. IT IS THE CONTRACTOR'S RESPONSIBILITY TO DETERMINE WHETHER THIS AGGREGATE VALUE IS \$250,000 OR MORE, AND TO NOTIFY THE CITY IN WRITING WHENEVER THIS IS THE CASE.

Contractor Size

The LWO only applies to a contractor that has at least 25 employees, working either full or part time. The number of employees that a contractor has is determined by adding the contractor's employees and the employees of any other person or entity deemed to be a "Related Person" under the LWO.¹

Subcontract Amount

The LWO applies to a subcontractor providing services under a covered contract if the amount of the subcontract is at least 25 % of the contract amount, without regard to the number of employees the subcontractor has.

Subcontractor Size

The LWO also applies to a subcontractor providing services under a covered contract if the subcontractor has at least 25 employees, working either full or part time, whether or not the amount of the subcontract is at least 25 % of the contract amount.

Payment of Living Wage to Covered Employees

If a contractor or subcontractor meets the criteria specified in the LWO for contract type, contract amount, contractor size, subcontract amount and/or subcontractor size, the contractor or subcontractor is deemed to be a "Covered Employer" under the LWO. The LWO

¹ The LWO provides that a person or entity is a Related Person when any of the following circumstances exists:

- (1) The person or entity and the contractor are both corporations, and (i) share a majority of members of their governing boards, or (ii) have two or more officers in common, or (iii) are controlled by the same majority shareholder or shareholders (control means more than 50% of the corporation's voting power), or (iv) are in a parent-subsidary relationship (such a relationship exists when one corporation directly or indirectly owns shares possessing more than 50% of another corporation's voting power); or
- (2) The person or entity otherwise controls and directs, or is controlled and directed by, the contractor, as determined by the City Manager.

requires a Covered Employer to provide specified minimum compensation to its employees who perform work directly related to the CITY contract (these employees are called "Covered Employees" under the LWO), for all hours the Covered Employees perform under the CITY contract.²

The minimum compensation required is as follows:

- (1) If health benefits are provided to Covered Employees and the Covered Employer's contribution for the benefits is at least \$1.50 for each hour, then the rates are as follows:
 - (a) During 2007, the greater of \$10.00 an hour or \$9.00 adjusted by the increase in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, San Francisco/Oakland/San Jose area (1982--1984=100) from January 1, 2004, through December 31, 2006.
 - (b) For each year after 2007, the rate shall be based on the rate from the immediately preceding year adjusted by the increase in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, San Francisco/Oakland/San Jose area (1982--1984=100) from January 1 through December 31 of the immediately preceding year.

- (2) If health benefits are not provided to Covered Employees or if health benefits are provided but the Covered Employer's contribution for the benefits is less than \$1.50 for each hour, then the rates are as follows:
 - (a) During 2007, the greater of \$11.50 an hour or \$10.50 adjusted by the increase in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, San Francisco/Oakland/San Jose area (1982--1984=100) from January 1, 2004, through December 31, 2006.
 - (b) For each year after 2007, the rate shall be based on the rate from the immediately preceding year adjusted by the increase in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, San Francisco/Oakland/San Jose area (1982--1984=100) from January 1 through December 31 of the immediately preceding year.

² A Covered Employee includes full-time, part-time, contingent, contract and temporary employees, but does not include: (1) individuals who participate in job-training-and-education programs that have, as their express purpose, the provision of basic job skills and education to participants, with the goal of earning a high-school-equivalency diploma and permanent employment; (2) student interns; (3) individuals participating in specialized-training programs; and (4) an employee whose term and conditions of employment are governed by a bona fide collective-bargaining agreement containing an express waiver of the LWO.

Notification to Covered Employees

The LWO requires a Covered Employer to give each existing employee and (at the time of hire) each new employee a copy of the following written notification:

This company may enter into a contract to perform services for the City of Sacramento. If you work on such a contract, then you are entitled to be paid a living wage for each hour so worked. For more information, see Chapter 3.58 of the Sacramento City Code, which can be viewed at www.cityofsacramento.org.

The LWO requires the above notification to be provided in each language spoken by 10% or more of the Covered Employer's workforce.

The LWO also requires a Covered Employer to inform all employees of their possible right to the federal Earned Income Credit (EIC), and to make available to those employees any forms required to secure advance EIC payments from the Covered Employer.

Subcontractor Compliance

A contractor is responsible for requiring all of its subcontractors who are covered by these requirements to comply with the provisions of the LWO, by including these requirements in all subcontracts covered by the LWO.

Other Provisions of the LWO

Use of Funds Paid Under CITY Contracts

Under the LWO, Covered Employers may not directly use CITY funds to persuade Covered Employees to support or oppose unionization, and Covered Employers may not directly use CITY funds to schedule or hold meetings related to union representation during the Covered Employees' working hours. These restrictions do not apply to expenditures made during good-faith collective bargaining or to expenditures required under bona fide collective-bargaining agreements.

No Reduction in Non-Wage Benefits

Under the LWO, Covered Employers may not fund any wage increases required by the LWO, nor shall Covered Employers otherwise respond to the enactment of the LWO, by reducing the health, insurance, pension, vacation, or other non-wage benefits of any of their employees.

No Retaliation

The LWO prohibits a Covered Employer from taking any adverse action against a Covered Employee because the Covered Employee does any of the following: (1) exercises or asserts his or her rights under the LWO; (2) informs or assists other Covered Employees concerning their rights and the Covered Employer's obligations under the LWO; (3) complains about the Covered Employer's failure to comply with the LWO; or (4) seeks to enforce the LWO.

No Reduction in Collective-Bargaining Wage Rates

The LWO does not require or authorize any Covered Employer to reduce wages set by a collective-bargaining agreement or required under any prevailing-wage law.

Violations and Monitoring

The LWO provides that any violation of the LWO by a CITY contractor constitutes a material breach of the contract, and authorizes the CITY to terminate the contract and pursue all available legal and equitable remedies. In order to monitor compliance, the LWO authorizes the CITY to require Covered Employers to verify their compliance with the LWO by submitting certified payroll records to the CITY, and to take such other steps as may be necessary for the CITY to determine whether the requirements of the LWO have been satisfied.

The LWO also includes provisions authorizing an employee or interested person to file a judicial action against a contractor or subcontractor for violation of the LWO.

Additional Information

- For a complete description of the LWO's provisions, refer to the LWO codified at Sacramento City Code Chapter 3.58. The Sacramento City Code is available on the internet at www.cityofsacramento.org.
- For more information on the LWO requirements and the CITY's LWO program, contact Procurement Services at 916-808-6240 or email Purchasing@cityofsacramento.org.