

Community

Action

GUIDE

Sierra Club
Sacramento
Group

Have an Issue You Think Sierra Club Should Address?

The Sierra Club's Sacramento Group is often asked to weigh in on local issues like development projects and others that impact the environment. Our goal is to enable our members and their neighbors to take action within their communities and we will do all we can to support efforts that meet the Sierra Club's guidelines set by our national administrative and volunteer teams. Our seven-member Executive Committee consists of Sacramento-area residents and volunteers and only takes on new issues that have your attention and support. As the process unfolds, we can offer various forms of assistance.

What You Can Do First - Help Us Help You Address the Issue

The following list outlines the necessary steps and questions that need to be considered and answered before we can address new concerns.

- Clearly identify and document the concern, including:
 - the specific location
 - the specific effect of the concern on you, your neighborhood, your city, or your area within the County
- Identify and document the perceived ramifications of the proposed project that are concerning.
 - This may include impacts like air quality, traffic, transportation, heat islands, loss of open space and/or native vegetation/trees, livability, safety, etc.

Important Questions to Consider and Answer

1. Have you spoken with your neighbors or other residents of the city/county area that you live in about this issue or concern?
 - If yes, is there a consensus regarding the nature of the problem and its impact on your community?
2. Has an action to resolve the problem been identified?
 - If yes, is there a consensus regarding the action among your group?
3. Have you and/or others read the materials made available by your local jurisdiction (City or County) about the project?
 - **Documents about projects are available online when a project is being planned and accompany the agendas for legislative meetings where the project will be discussed.
4. **Have you contacted, met with, or spoken to your local officials to express your concerns?
5. **Have you and/or others in your community attended meetings by the appropriate local legislative body to gather information on the project and express your concerns?
6. Is there a proposed action to be taken by the local legislative body, such as approval or denial of a proposed development, change in traffic patterns, issue in a local park, etc.?

7. ****Have you and/or others submitted written comments and proposed solutions for the problem/project to the administrative body and elected officials?**
8. Have you done outreach to the affected residents and businesses by distributing fliers, posting on social media, etc., regarding the issue? Or have you organized meetings to discuss the issue and/or notified them of upcoming administrative hearings?
9. Are you working with, or reaching out to, other environmental organizations?
10. Have you contacted or hired an attorney to address the problem?

****Critical steps that should be considered early on in the process!**

What We Can Do to Help

- Our team can review the issue and sign on to letters or co-write comments of support on projects that have been reviewed and voted on by our Executive Committee.
- We can reach out to other local members who may have an interest and are willing to help.
- If the problem has far-reaching consequences, and if time allows, we can attempt to have our Executive Committee members attend public hearings and enlist additional members as well.
- If we have no experience in the area of concern, we can:
 - Identify other Sierra Club groups or Chapters who have dealt with the same or similar issue and connect you with them for resources.
 - Identify partner environmental organizations with more expertise in addressing similar issues which you and/or we can work with.

Getting started on gathering and documenting answers to the items and questions outlined above will be immensely helpful to our committee leaders as we review and respond to requests for assistance.

Please note that broad issues that apply to multiple jurisdictions or the entire County are likely to garner more interest and support from members, community groups, local leaders, etc. For larger issues, our team may need more volunteer help to successfully assist with your issue. We will do our best with the resources we have. Thank you!

Contacts

Our Executive Committee Contact Email: sacramentosierraclub@gmail.com

Contacts for your County, City Staff, and Local Elected Officials can be found at:

Sacramento County: <https://www.saccounty.gov/Pages/default.aspx>

City of Sacramento Council Members: <https://www.cityofsacramento.gov>

City of Citrus Heights: <http://www.citrusheights.net>

City of Elk Grove: <https://www.elkgrovecity.org>

City of Galt: <https://www.cityofgalt.org>

City of Isleton: <https://cityofisleton.com>

City of Folsom: <https://www.folsom.ca.us>

City of Rancho Cordova: <https://www.cityofranhocordova.org>



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