

**COMMUNITY BENEFIT AGREEMENT
TO ADVANCE ECONOMIC AND RACIAL JUSTICE
Worcester Community Labor Coalition - FALL 2018**



Community Benefits Agreement - noun - a contract signed by community groups and a real estate developer that requires the developer to provide specific amenities and/or mitigations to the local community or neighborhood.

Worcester is no longer in the era where residents need to bend over backwards for any and all development projects. Not all development projects support the best interests of residents in our city. The community deserves to benefit when a large development happens here. This is why the Worcester Community Labor Coalition - a group made up of over 30 community organizations and labor unions - are organizing for Community Benefit Agreements.



There is a positive history of CBAs here. The Med City development, for example, made significant gains in employing communities of color, making grants to community health organizations and more.

The WCLC welcomes the Worcester Red Sox Ballpark and surrounding development and applauds the City of Worcester and developers in already considering several community benefits such as access to facility, traffic and parking concerns. There are several other issues that our coalition seeks to have addressed in a CBA with the City of Worcester, the Pawtucket Red Sox Baseball Club, and Madison Downtown Holdings:

1. Responsible Construction, including:
 - No wage theft
 - Follow workforce equity guidelines
 - Monthly Access and Opportunity Committee Meetings
2. Good Jobs and Racial Equity, including:
 - Creating permanent, full-time livable wage jobs for Worcester residents
 - Labor peace agreements (no union busting)
 - Preferential purchasing agreements with local cooperatives, social enterprises, and other local businesses owned by American Indians, indigenous people, women and people of color
3. Neighborhood stability and Permanent Affordability, including:
 - Listening to a neighborhood council's concerns
 - Preventing displacement of area residents
 - Increasing homeownership
 - Building affordable housing in Phase II
4. Homeless Individuals and Families, including:
 - Ensure that low-income residents, youth and homeless individuals are not victimized
 - Create a multi-purpose day center to address the unmet needs of homeless people
 - Job readiness programs for homeless and formerly incarcerated people
5. Environmental Justice, including:
 - Using green and sustainable building practices
 - Air and water quality monitoring, tree planting, community owned solar and multi-use recreational infrastructure
6. Local Supplies, including:
 - Purchase supplies, materials, and services from suppliers and vendors located in Worcester including from cooperatives and other social ventures.

The Community Benefit Agreement effort builds on the successes of the passing of a Tax Increment Financing (TIF) policy that requires responsible construction, local sourcing and more from projects that receive City funding or tax breaks.

This is also part of the Worcester Community Labor Coalition's larger campaign: Worcester Works: Fighting for Racial and Economic Justice, which has the following components:

1. FUND THE JOBS FUND
2. STRENGTHEN THE WAGE THEFT ORDINANCE
3. EQUITY IN HIRING – CONSTRUCTION, PUBLIC SCHOOLS & CITY DEPARTMENTS
4. COMPLIANCE AND OVERSIGHT

We invite individuals and organizations that share our goals to join us in ensuring that good jobs, racial and gender equity, and other community benefits come with economic development in Worcester.



Find out more and take action:

www.WorcesterCommunityLaborCoalition.org/woosox/



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