

GROUNDSELL'S EARTH DAY LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING

In conjunction with Earth Day 2023, Community Build, Inc. President Robert Sausedo co-chaired Groundswell for Water Justice's Civil Rights and Water Justice Legislative Briefing, along with Assembly member Sabrina Cervantes, Chair of the Latino Legislative Caucus and other key members of the State Legislature to review and discuss legislation proposed by social justice and environmental leaders that would prevent opponents of access to clean, affordable, and safe water from using the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as a basis in lawsuits to stifle critical projects.

State legislators received input from human rights, civil rights, labor, social justice and business leaders advocating for the support of new legislation that elevates projects and policies to improve the delivery of clean, affordable water. "Access to safe, affordable drinking water is a human right," Sausedo said. "The Groundswell coalition of social justice, civil rights and labor leaders is working tirelessly to ensure that access isn't predicated upon a zip code, socio-economic status or skin color."

Groundswell for Water Justice was launched by Community Build, Inc. to raise the voices of the marginalized; those who are shut out of policy discussions in our state. Groundswell has been a leading voice in articulating that extreme conservation mandates and rate increases disproportionately impacting low-income consumers and stifle new affordable housing projects.



GRYD PREVENTION FAMILY DAY AT THE *Getty Center*



A recent Gang Reduction and Youth Development (GRYD) Family Day featured a trip to the beautiful Getty Center in West Los Angeles. The group was greeted by Keishia Gu, Head of Education for the Getty Museum Center followed by a one-hour guided tour. The tour featured a stop at the photography exhibition of Dawoud Bey & Carrie Mae Weems (April 4 – July 9, 2023). The exhibit showcases the black and white photographs of the two photographers who have maintained a friendship and artistic dialogue for more than 45 years.

Bey and Weems work addresses race, class, representation, and systems of power through their unique lenses, creating photographic series grounded in the history and everyday realities of Black Americans while also speaking to the broader human condition. The exhibition brings their work together for the first time.

"Part of the prevention aspect of the GRYD program is to expose young people to the world outside of South Los Angeles," Community Build President Robert Sausedo said. "Our hope is that this photography exhibit by Black artists with Black subjects and in this beautiful place will be a transformative experience for these kids and one they will remember."

This trip was organized by Community Build Vice President of Arts and Programming Albert Lord. Special thanks to Council District 10 and Councilwoman Heather Hutt who provided bus transportation and stopped by to send off the tour; McDonald's on LaBrea and Obama Blvd for sponsoring breakfast and a catered lunch at the Getty; Gina Fields, chairperson for Empowerment Congress West Area Neighborhood Council; Keishia Gu, Director of Education, Getty Museum Center; Christine Spier, Associate Education Specialist, Getty Museum and her team who hosted the group tour of the museum; parents and CBI staff.