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May 6, 2024

Sent Via Email

Sacramento City Council  
915 I Street, 5th Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
Clerk@cityofsacramento.org

**Re: Call to Reject Two Inequitable FY24/25 Proposed Fee Increases**

Dear Mayor Steinberg, Councilmember Talamantes and other members of the City Council,

I am a Sacramento attorney operating as a home business or “home occupation,” urging you to reject the [two proposed FY24/25 home occupation fee increases \(#175 and #176\)](#), which would disproportionately impact historically disadvantaged, marginalized communities.

According to data I cited on pages 4-5 of my [related, September 11, 2023 letter](#), low-income, immigrant, minority and female residents are likely those hardest hit by the City’s unusually strict home occupation regulations, regulations that run counter to *many* of the City’s stated policy priorities—from equity to sustainability, livability to mobility, environmental to economic, and housing to youth opportunities.

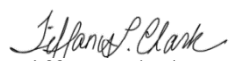
Although the 2040 General Plan promises reform of those regulations, this could take some time, as the commitment of the plan’s related implementing action, [LUP-A.11](#), is to “evaluate” reform options by as late as 2029.

Therefore, while reform is pending, I urge the Council to refrain from burdening this vulnerable group of residents still further by asking them to not only pay a “home occupation permit” fee that is more than 50% higher than the current high fee, but to pay a jaw-dropping, non-refundable minimum of \$5,265 for the mere *chance* of obtaining an exception to any *one* of the problematic home occupation restrictions.

These fee increases are particularly concerning given the financial challenges often experienced by home businesses. A recent study found [43 percent of US home businesses](#) earn \$10,000 or less in annual gross receipts and [cited evidence](#) to support its conclusion (on p. 25) that “home-based entrepreneurs are more likely to be women and racial or ethnic minorities—groups that research has found are less able to access external sources of business financing.”<sup>[fn]</sup>

I would be happy to discuss this with any of you, and encourage you to contact me at (916) 692-5393 or [tiffany@tiffanyclarklaw.com](mailto:tiffany@tiffanyclarklaw.com). Thank you.

Sincerely,



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Attorney at Law  
Law Office of Tiffany Clark

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