

# EYE ON SACRAMENTO

KEEPING WATCH ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT FOR SACRAMENTO'S FUTURE

## Media Release

### **For Immediate Release**

Date: December 29, 2011, 2:45 p.m.

Contact: Craig Powell, President, Eye on Sacramento

Contact Info: 916-718-3030; [craig@eyeonsacramento.org](mailto:craig@eyeonsacramento.org)

Website: [www.eyeonsacramento.org](http://www.eyeonsacramento.org)

### **Eye on Sacramento Applauds Supreme Court's Redevelopment Decision**

"The California Supreme Court today delivered a belated Christmas gift to Sacramento taxpayers, cities, school districts and special districts," said Craig Powell, President of Eye on Sacramento.

"By upholding the Legislature's abolition of redevelopment agencies and striking down legislation that allowed them to 'come back to life' by making specified payments, the Court has put an end to a frequently abused tax-diverting device that has wasted billions of taxpayer money while starving the general funds of our cities, counties, schools and special districts of the resources they need to provide core public services," Powell said.

"The decision ends the back-room "crony capitalism" deals that take property taxes away from local government and put them in the pockets of politically-favored developers to fund poorly conceived and frequently wasteful projects, while doing nothing to improve California's overall economy," he added.

"Those funds will now be available to provide police, fire, parks, schools and other critically needed government services in Sacramento and other communities. Moreover, the funds will now be spent in full public view as part of the normal budget process by the Sacramento City Council and other local governments," Powell concluded.

The decision of the Court can be viewed here:

<http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/opinions/documents/S194861.PDF>

Eye on Sacramento is a nonprofit, nonpartisan civic watchdog and policy advisory organization.

###