# The Bradford Bulletin

A Monthly Newsletter

- March 2021 -

3rd Edition

Dear Friends,

March is Women's History Month, let's take this time to acknowledge and appreciate all the contributions women have made throughout history in the world. Women helped build this district, state, country and the world and we celebrate their greatness and the profound positive impact they've had on our lives, Every day, we should be striving for a society where women's history inspires everyone to have deep respect for women's contributions and accomplishments, and where all obstacles that stand in the way of women achieving their dreams are overcome by all of us - together.

March 31st is also Cesar Chavez Day in our great state. This day honors and celebrates the birthday of César Estrada Chávez, the late educator, farmworker, union organizer, environmentalist, and civil rights leader and it serves as a tribute to his commitment to social justice and respect for human dignity.

Finally, in the 3rd Edition of The Bradford Bulletin, I bring you important updates, and information and resources that I hope you will find useful.

Sincerely,

Senator Steven Bradford
Senate District 35

# In the News

## Press Releases Issued by the Senator

### Senator Bradford and Pro Tem Atkins Unveil Police Decertification Language

Senator Steven Bradford and Senate President pro Tempore Toni Atkins amended Senate Bill 2, the Kenneth Ross Jr. Police Decertification Act of 2021, to increase accountability for law enforcement officers that commit serious misconduct and illegally violate a person's civil rights. "If last summer's nationwide protests and calls for police reform have shown us anything, it's that Californians want more than just a superficial change," said Senator Bradford. "If many professionals licensed in the state of California can have their certification revoked for committing serious misconduct or abusing their authority, then why not police officers?"

SB 2 will create a statewide decertification process to revoke the certification of a peace officer following the conviction of serious crimes or termination from employment due to misconduct. Additionally, SB 2 will strengthen the Tom Bane Civil Rights Act to prevent law enforcement abuses and other civil rights violations.

### Bruce's Beach

Bruce's Beach was a beach resort in the city of Manhattan Beach, California, that was owned by and operated for African Americans. It provided the African American community with opportunities unavailable at other beach areas because of segregation. The property was acquired via eminent domain proceedings in the 1920s and closed down, causing the family to lose out on generational wealth.

Senator Bradford, recently appointed to California's reparations task force, said Bruce's Beach is a one of the issues he will be addressing in his new role.

"If you can inherit generational wealth, you can inherit generational debt," Bradford said. "That's debt that Manhattan Beach owes to the Bruce family. It's debt that California and this nation owes to many more families like the Bruces."

Read the full LA Times article by clicking here.

### California Cannabis Equity Program Provides Another $15 Million in Funding, Continuing Senator Bradford's Work on Cannabis Equity

The Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz), in partnership with the Bureau of Cannabis Control, announced $15 million in grant awards through the Cannabis Equity Grants Program for local jurisdictions. This program seeks to advance economic justice for populations and communities disproportionately affected by cannabis prohibition by providing funding to local jurisdictions that are committed to promoting equity in the legal cannabis marketplace and eliminating barriers to entering this industry.

The California Cannabis Equity Act, SB 1294, Statutes of 2018, created this program and was authored by Senator Steven Bradford.

"I authored SB 1294 to respond to the inequity and injustice in a growing cannabis industry that excluded those most impacted by the systemic racism of the 'war on drugs,' which devastated the lives of millions of people of color. Cannabis equity grants help to reverse those injustices. It is great to see such massive interest in the program and the power of its continued success. This grant program must be one tool of many if we want to achieve equity."

This year, I introduced legislation and am seeking budget appropriations to finally fund that initiative and deliver relief to those most impacted by these fees."

The grant awards announced builds upon the $30 million in cannabis equity funding awarded previously. To learn more about the program, click here.

# Resources and Updates

COMMUNITY RESOURCES AND IMPORTANT UPDATES

## CA COVID-19 Rent Relief Available to Income Eligible Households

Income eligible households who need financial assistance for unpaid rent and utilities will be able to apply for help through the CA COVID-19 Rent Relief program. If you have experienced a financial hardship due to COVID-19, have past due rent or utilities, and have a household income that is not more than 80 percent of the area median income, you may be eligible to receive help to pay past due or future rent and utilities from the state of California.

Both, **Landlords and renters**, can verify eligibility immediately by visiting HousingIsKey.com, or by calling
**833-430-2122**, and apply if eligible.

## Mortgage Relief

If you have a federally-backed mortgage, foreclosure protection is available through the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act. These protections last through January 1, 2023.

- Available to homeowners or landlords who own 3 or fewer residential properties
- Prevents your property from being foreclosed on if declare a COVID-related hardship
- Protection length varies depending on program

If you do not have a federally-backed loan, the Homeowner Act provides protections for homeowners and small landlord borrowers. Contact your loan servicers to request forbearance. Find more information on the Housing page.

## Tax Day Extended to May 17

The Treasury Department and Internal Revenue Service extended the federal income tax filing due date for individuals from April 15, to **May 17, 2021**.

### Golden State Stimulus

California will provide the Golden Status Stimulus payment to families and people who qualify. This is a **one-time** $600 or $1,200 payment. You may receive this payment if you receive the California Earned Income Tax Credit (CalEITC) or file with an Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN).

### 2021 Frederick M. Roberts College Scholarship

The California Legislative Black Caucus Policy Institute (CLBCPI) Scholarship Program was established to assist deserving students by offering financial assistance to help meet educational expenses. The deadline to apply is **April 5th**. Please click here for more information and to apply.

### Food Assistance

Food assistance is available to anyone who needs help getting food for any reason.

Resources include government programs and nonprofits like food banks

- Benefit availability varies by program

If you or someone you know needs food benefits, see the Getting food page.

# Community Round-Up

**Meetings, Events, Updates**

## Senator Bradford, Assemblyman Gipson and local leaders honor lives lost to coronavirus with memorial service in Gardena

Senator Bradford, Assemblyman Mike Gipson and other local leaders attended a memorial held to honor the lives lost due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The dignitaries laid wreaths, read names of those that passed and lit candles of hope during the memorial service. The virtual "Celebration of Life" was hosted by Assemblyman Gipson. Read the Daily Breeze Times article on this event by clicking here.

## Condemning Hate Against the AAPI Community

Senator Bradford and local leaders representing Carson, joined the Alliance Against Asian Hate for a vigil and rally condemning the growing hate and violence against the Asian American community.

## Senator Bradford on SacTown Talks

Jarhett Blonien of SacTown Talks interviewed Senator Bradford where the Senator discusses his work as the Chairman of California Legislative Black Caucus's priorities for the legislative session and more. Click here to watch.

# 2021 Woman of the Year

**WANDA M. BROWN, B.S., MBA, PHD, PHD, CCMT, CPFIM, CPT**

Senator Bradford names Dr. Wanda M. Brown as the 35th Senate District's 2021 Woman of the Year.

Dr. Wanda M. Brown is the elected City Treasurer of the City of Inglewood. She has served as City Treasurer for 32 years, and is the longest serving elected officer in the history of the City. She is among the best qualified treasurers in the nation. She earned her Bachelor of Science Degree from Cal-State University Long Beach, Masters in Business Association from UCLA, and postgraduate studies – also at UCLA. She is a licensed Real Estate Broker, Life & Disability Agent, and a Registered Representative, licensed to sell mutual funds investments and variable contracts.

Treasurer Brown she has greatly enhanced and renovated the Treasurer Office. She has earned more than $90,000,000 in Gross Investment Interest Income. She prepared the first comprehensive Investment Policy and Treasurer Investment Oversight Committee for the City. Treasurer Brown established an after school four week City Treasurer Student Intern Program for students enrolled in the 8th through the 12th grades. Students are taught about their local government, how their local officials represent the city, important financial concepts and strategies, and tour several city departments Treasurer Brown also conducts annual Getting Your House in Financial Order workshops for the Inglewood residents, as well as Free Income Tax Preparation service for seniors whose income do not exceed $50,000. She was given an award by the California Department of Corrections for parole and community service.

# At Your Service

## COVID-19 Updates and Senator's Legislations

## COVID-19 Resources

The state is expanding vaccine eligibility to more Californians since the supply of vaccines expected to significantly increase in the coming weeks. **Starting April 1**, individuals **age 50 and older** will be eligible to make an appointment, and **individuals age 16 and older** will be eligible to make an appointment to be vaccinated starting on **April 15**.

### Covid 19 Vaccines

Call the CA COVID-19 Hotline at
1-833-422-4255

M-F 8AM-8PM
Sa-Su 8AM-5PM

Visit: **https://myturn.ca.gov/**

### LA County 19 Resources

Los Angeles County Information line at **2-1-1,** available 24/7.

Visit: **https://covid19.lacounty.gov**

### State of California Resources

COVID-19 hotline **1-833-422-4255**
M-F 8AM-8PM, Sa-Su 8AM-5PM

Visit: **https://covid19.ca.gov**

### 2021 Legislative Package

- SB 2: Peace Officer Decertification
- SB 26: Fair Pay to Play Act 2.0
- SB 493: Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act
- SB 521: Value Based Contracts
- SB 567: Sentencing Reform
- SB 586: Criminal Administrative Fees
- SB 603: Cannabis Equity
- SB 655: Insurance Diversity
- SB 694: Utility Workforce Diversity
- SB 710: Objective Prosecutors
- SB 743: Broadband in Public Housing
- SB 777: Jumpstart Act for Small Businesses
- SB 788: Workers' Compensation

You can follow and read more about my full legislative package on my website at:
http://sd35.senate.ca.gov/legislation

Track the status of any bill at:
https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/.

For questions about Legislation, please contact my Capitol Office:

Phone: (916) 651-4035

"We cannot seek achievement for ourselves and forget about progress and prosperity for our community... Our ambitions must be broad enough to include the aspirations and needs of others, for their sakes and for our own."

**- Cesar Chavez**

**Senator Steven Bradford**

*Representing the 35th Senate District*