

**CRA COMMUNITY IMPACT GOALS**

**2024 – 2026**

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Through its commitment to meeting the financial services, investment and lending needs of low- and moderate- income communities, including individuals and small businesses, Mechanics Bank establishes these CRA Community Impact Goals for the benefit of its assessment area and regional initiatives, effective January 1, 2024 and through December 31, 2026. Certain goals, such as EQ-2 investment levels, will extend into 2027.

Mechanics strives to be a community partner through an ongoing commitment to goals achievement with community coalition alignment and support. To that end, Mechanics has engaged in discussions with our existing key partner, Rise Economy, to formulate our Impact Goals and is now reaching out for their endorsement.

The objectives listed under the proposed goals are being presented to Rise Economy for their endorsement.

- I. Mechanics Bank agrees to at least two meetings per year, individually with Rise Economy and with the Bank's CEO in attendance, to develop strategies to achieve the goals set herein. The Bank is further committed to maintenance of the Homeownership Advisory Council, to meet twice per year to inform Bank community development efforts, and to maintain Rise Economy representation with 50% of the seats on the Council. Additionally, Mechanics commits to annual FDIC reporting in accordance with Sunshine Disclosure and Reporting to the extent required by the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act and implementing regulations.
- II. Mechanics Bank commits to the following Lending Performance Targets for the years 2024, 2025 and 2026 and will strive to ensure the distribution of its lending reflects the diversity of its population within its assessment area:
  - a. HMDA - \$525MM, \$625MM and \$725MM
  - b. Small Business - \$200MM, \$225MM and \$250MM
  - c. Small Farm - \$3MM, \$3MM and \$3MM
  - d. Community Development - \$125MM, \$150MM and \$175MM
- III. Mechanics Bank will focus on providing lending solutions for businesses with gross annual revenues equal to or less than \$1MM and loan amounts of \$150M or less with a goal that the number of loans with these characteristics represents at least half of the total number of qualifying small business loans made by the Bank. This will include new and developing businesses, those located in low- and moderate- income communities, and those that hire employees who live in low- and moderate-income communities. Additionally, Mechanics will:
  - a. Agree to continue establishing investments and/or partnerships with CDFIs providing SBA, FSA, USDA, and Farmer Mac products.

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- b. Maintain the Bank's small business loan referral program and partner with local community CDFIs and lenders for referral of at least 20% of declined small business loan applicants, not including those applicants that opt-out of the referral program.
- IV. Mechanics Bank will continue to participate in SBA lending, including engagement with small business lending partners and alternatives, such as SBIC lending purchase opportunities. Most notably, the Bank commits to partnering with Nor-Cal FDC on their loan guarantee program for small business loans that do not meet internal underwriting criteria. For the years 2025-2026, Mechanics commits to \$10MM and \$15MM of SBA 504 lending and/or Nor-Cal FDC loan guarantee program participation, respectively.
- V. Mechanics Bank will continue to provide its "MB Portfolio Homeowners Advantage Program" mortgage product, an affordable, low down-payment mortgage designed for creditworthy LMI borrowers with an expanded eligibility for LMI communities, as well as the FHLB WISH product. The Bank will work both independently and in conjunction with trusted local community partners, including the Richmond Community Foundation, Richmond Neighborhood Housing Services and the SW Fresno Development Corporation, to market and conduct outreach in order to reach LMI communities regarding the Homeowners Advantage product's benefits and availability, and commit to \$5MM in Homeowners Advantage Portfolio Product outstandings by the end of 2026.
- VI. Mechanics Bank will continue its formal corporate supplier diversity policy and program to emphasize its commitment to this important objective. As may be available, Mechanics Bank will undertake outreach and partnership efforts with local economic development councils or chambers that support a mission to assist small businesses from traditionally underserved communities to provide, among other things, information or training in the area of procurement of and contracting for banking related services and products. By 2025, the Bank will strive to maintain a program with goals to contract at least 15% of its corporate supplier spending annually to locally based businesses owned by members of historically underserved communities and women.
- VII. Mechanics Bank commits to \$2.5MM in direct donations, annually, along with combined outstanding EQ-2, Social Impact Bonds, and Community Land Trust investments of \$50MM. At least 50% of total giving will be focused on affordable housing, economic development, small business technical assistance and financial literacy causes supporting LMI and underserved individuals, families and communities. Mechanics Bank will also report on "foregone interest," as the Bank's low interest rate offerings on EQ-2, SIB and CLT investments represent a material economic contribution to the Bank's non-profit partners. For the avoidance of doubt, foregone interest will not be counted toward our annual \$2.5MM in direct donations commitment.
- VIII. Mechanics Bank commits to maintaining over \$400MM in CRA-qualifying investments, with a particular focus on growing EQ-2, SIB and CLT investments, along with CDs. The Bank also reiterates its commitment to fund \$250M per year targeted to community development investment

funds to fund grants supporting nonprofit, community-based small business lenders in California, including those that maintain loan-loss reserves. Investments will include:

- a. Achieve \$25MM in outstanding LIHTC by the end of 2026 and maintain that level moving forward.
- b. Invest in \$50MM, combined, of EQ-2s/SIBs/CLTs by the end of 2027 and maintain that level moving forward. \$10MM of the \$50MM commitment will be dedicated to investments in a fund or other vehicle to support Community Land Trusts in the acquisition and preservation of properties to ensure long-term affordability and to prevent displacement.
- c. Good faith efforts to issue a second Social Impact Bond in Fresno (already underway).
- d. Consideration of investments and grants to support: housing trust funds; manufactured housing projects; broadband and digital equity initiatives; programs to promote environmental sustainability and resilience; and Native and Tribal communities.
- e. Commit \$5MM in deposits to the Public Bank of the East Bay (PBEB). If PBEB is unable to accept deposits by the end of 2027, the Bank will commit a total of \$5MM in deposits to another Minority Depository Institution, Community Development Financial Institution or other mission-driven bank (or banks), in consultation with Rise Economy.

IX. Mechanics Bank will continue to provide retail financial services that meet the needs of low- and moderate-income families in its assessment area. This includes checking account fee waivers for direct deposit and expanded access to Individual Development Accounts (IDAs). The Bank will not diminish the suite of products currently available to Individual Taxpayer Identification Number holders, will explore additional product offerings and services in the future, and will expand its efforts to provide branch service, outreach and deposit materials in Spanish.

X. Mechanics Bank will continue to waive out of network surcharge fees to users of California Electronic Benefits Transfer cards (EBT) or its successor payment system.

XI. Mechanics Bank will take further steps to market our Lift loans among our community partners, including by convening at least one meeting of local partner organizations to discuss the product and strategies for connecting it to those in need. In addition, we will lower the minimum FICO to 640 and reduce the interest rate to a maximum of 13.99% with a Mechanics Bank checking account with auto-debit (14.99% without auto-debit), which is well-below what a typical credit card charges.

XII. Mechanics Bank will provide \$100M annually to support funding and capacity building programs that advance the economic stability of Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) small business owners, micro-entrepreneurs, and families.

- XIII. Mechanics Bank commits to maintaining its current proportion of branches in rural, LMI, minority and/or underserved communities, and agrees to open at least one ATM in the Coachella Valley in 2025. The Bank will explore the opening of one additional full-service branch in a low-income neighborhood of color in California by the end of 2026, should there be material deposit support from local community partners to provide a foundation for such an opening.

The Mechanics Bank's CRA Community Impact Goals commitment is endorsed on December 18, 2024 and signed by:

MECHANICS BANK

RISE ECONOMY



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By: CJ Johnson  
President and Chief Executive Officer

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By: Paulina Gonzalez-Brito  
Chief Executive Officer