



Educate. Empower.

Executive Director
Rudy Gonzalez

President
Mike Casey
Unite Here 2

Secretary Treasurer
Olga Miranda
SEIU 87

Trustees
Ron Lewis, IBEW 6
David Williams, SEIU 1021
Claire Zvanski, FORUM

VP for Affiliate Support
Larry Mazzola, Jr.
Plumbers 38

VP for Community Activities
Conny Ford
OPEIU 29

VP for Political Activities
Alisa Messer
AFT 2121

Sergeant at Arms
Hene Kelly
CARA

A Green New Deal Must Have Strong Labor and Community Provisions

WHEREAS, the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has determined humanity has twelve years to act to avert the worst effects of a climate catastrophe; and

WHEREAS, climate change poses an immediate and long-term threat to all working people, our communities and our economic security; and

WHEREAS, workers, communities of color and low-income people suffer disproportionately from environmental degradation and climate change; and

WHEREAS, climate change is already harming working families and vulnerable populations through wildfire, drought and flooding, extreme hurricanes, increased stress on the agricultural sector, jobsite health impacts like heat stroke, and the spread of infectious diseases; and

WHEREAS, the November 8, 2018, Camp Fires devastated the town of Paradise, caused at least 86 deaths, the most destructive wildfire in history, attributable in part to climate change; and

WHEREAS, all San Francisco residents and workers endured many days of hazardous and toxic smoke from that wildfire, emissions that closed construction work sites, schools, sporting events, and created hazardous health effects; and

WHEREAS, climate crisis is already having devastating effects on San Francisco residents and workers, and will increasingly, severely, and irreversibly jeopardize the well-being and economic future of generations of people unless concrete action is taken; and

WHEREAS, young climate activists and some members of Congress have successfully put the Green New Deal at the center of national discussion about how to address both the climate crisis and our historic level of economic inequality; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco's affordable housing crisis is resulting in displacement of San Franciscans – both Union members and not – to areas where they are more dependent on automobiles to meet their transportation needs thereby increasing their carbon emissions; and

WHEREAS, if climate action is to address inequality, the labor movement must be at the center of shaping climate policies to include just transition for workers, expand collective bargaining rights, and create green union careers, particularly in disadvantaged communities on the front lines of climate change; and



WHEREAS, workers in existing jobs, including firefighters, nurses, construction workers, public transit workers, many in the public sector, and many more are already mitigating the health and environmental effects of climate change, preparing our infrastructure for sea level rise, and advancing California's clean energy economy through a variety of ways; and

WHEREAS, the City and County of San Francisco owns, operates, and maintains extensive infrastructure and lands throughout Northern California for energy generation, energy transmission, and water supply employing over one thousand union members; and

WHEREAS, many union members work in sectors, such as construction, transportation, energy, agriculture, manufacturing and production, that will be directly impacted by transitioning to lower greenhouse gas emissions limits; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco has lowered its total carbon emissions by 30% below 1990 levels, lowered per capita emissions by 49% since 1990, and has committed to Net Zero Greenhouse Gas Emissions by 2050; and

WHEREAS, with the support of the State Building and Construction Trades Council of California, AFL-CIO, California has adopted a goal of 100% renewable and zero-carbon electricity and has demonstrated that clean energy industries can create good, middle-class jobs when linked with collective bargaining agreements; and

WHEREAS the AFL-CIO has issued Resolution 55 on Climate Change, Energy, and Union Jobs supporting the passage of key energy and environmental policies with a focus on ensuring high labor standards, the creation of union jobs, and environmental sustainability; and

WHEREAS AFL-CIO Resolution 55 encourages the United States Congress to enact comprehensive energy and climate legislation that creates good jobs and addresses the threat of climate change; and

WHEREAS, many labor unions, and organizations and community allies have passed resolutions and/or supported bold policies to address the climate crisis and other pressing environmental issues; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the San Francisco Labor Council, AFL-CIO, supports a Green New Deal that expands collective bargaining and ensures the creation of union jobs through card check neutrality agreements, prevailing wages, project labor agreements, enacting the provisions of the Employee Free Choice Act, and requiring direct partnerships with joint labor-management apprenticeship programs; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the San Francisco Labor Council, AFL-CIO, supports a Green New Deal prioritizing decarbonization projects, union career opportunities, and investments in working-class, low-income and communities of color historically and disproportionality impacted by pollution, high unemployment, poverty, redlining, and environmental injustice; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the San Francisco Labor Council, AFL-CIO, supports a Green New Deal that includes a strong and binding commitment on all Just Transition issues for workers and communities impacted by the transitioning economy; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the San Francisco Labor Council, AFL-CIO, supports a Green New Deal that includes Buy America provisions.; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the San Francisco Labor Council, AFL-CIO, will advocate for a Green New Deal in concert with environmental and community partners that support the above provisions.

THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, the San Francisco Labor Council, AFL-CIO, goes on record to request the AFL-CIO endorse House Resolution 109 and Senate Resolution 59 -*Recognizing the Duty of the Federal Government to Create a Green New Deal*, and urges all Congressional Representatives to cosponsor the Resolutions.

Adopted unanimously by the San Francisco Labor Council on April 8, 2019.