People’s Climate Resilience Campaign

The impacts of climate change will worsen income inequality, economic displacement and diseases linked to poverty and limited access to healthful food. This campaign builds on key policy initiatives and emphasizes neighborhood-based climate resilience education, planning and organizing to meet the needs of our communities in the face of climate change.

The campaign, which is spearheaded by the Oakland Climate Action Coalition (OCAC) calls for grassroots groups and community-based initiatives to mobilize under a shared vision of community-driven climate resilience. By doing so, we will lead game-changing policy campaigns and shape City of Oakland climate resilience planning.

In short, the People’s Climate Resilience Campaign is about building grassroots leadership for community-based resilience planning and community power.

Main Goals

1. Consolidate Oakland’s issue-based resilience campaigns and initiatives into a comprehensive and integrated climate justice and resilience agenda around which to organize community support and achieve policy priorities.
2. Develop neighborhood-based climate resilience plans.
3. Increase community influence within the Resilient Oakland Initiative to ensure public plans reflect the needs, assets and interests of Oakland’s most impacted communities.

Using a strengths-based approach, OCAC will draw on existing community networks to support and integrate four key policy priorities that build on existing initiatives in the Oakland social justice movement.

Four Policy Priorities

Resilient Community-Based Economies
Food Justice, Water, and Land Use
Community-Controlled Renewable Energy
Preventing Displacement and Militarization in our Communities
Policy Priorities, People’s Climate Resilience Campaign

Resilient, Community-Based Economies: Create a more just and resilient local and regional economies that cultivate sustainable livelihoods, community wealth and ownership, and democratic decision-making.

- Ensure climate resilience plans and policies prioritize solutions that support the development of community-based economies, advance economic justice through local business development and community ownership, and support the transition from an extractive economy to an equitable Oakland economy.
- Advocate for an Oakland Ordinance in support of worker cooperative development that would create more opportunities for worker-owned businesses.

Food Justice, Water, and Land Use: Advocate for the social, political, and physical infrastructure needed to ensure food justice and water security among Oakland’s most vulnerable populations.

- Pass an equal opportunity city-wide parkland access protocol for edible gardening.
- Pass a city-wide ordinance authorizing access to private blighted land for food production.
- Support city-wide urban agriculture zoning updates that promote urban agriculture to improve food security and literacy, and create green jobs and opportunities for small businesses.
- Pass a city-wide ordinance in Oakland to promote rainfall harvesting and greywater reuse.

Community-Controlled Renewable Energy: Democratize energy resources to provide multiple economic, environmental, and social benefits to low-income communities of color.

- Establish and implement a Community Choice energy program in the East Bay that is designed to meet community benefit goals.
- Ensure that the regional program includes community stakeholder participation in governance of the program and ensures benefits are equity based and meet the needs of low-income communities of color.

Preventing Displacement and Militarization of our Communities: Support anti-displacement efforts in Oakland and advocate for measures that will prevent displacement, especially due to the militarization of our communities though policing and state and federal disaster response.

- Increase Oakland community stability through sustainable housing solutions for Oakland residents such as community land trusts, tenant protections, and transit-oriented development that secure jobs residents.
- Prevent the militarization of climate disasters in Oakland. This may include disassociating Oakland from federally funded militarized units such as SWAT teams, ensuring that climate disaster plans are overseen by a civilian review board, and initiating city-funded programs that train Oakland residents on response to climate disasters.

March 2016