Just Transition Principles

Just Transition is not a policy. It's a community-led movement to protect our people, heal our lands, and transform the systems that no longer serve us.

1. Safeguard Community Health Across Generations

We will protect the health of frontline communities and workers by addressing the cumulative impacts of pollution, enforcing safety standards, and investing in systems of care that prioritize the most exposed and vulnerable.

We will restore the health of land, air, water, and all living beings, recognizing that community well-being depends on thriving ecosystems, from soil microbes to songbirds.

2. Transition workers to Clean, Green, Just Jobs

We will ensure that workers leaving the fossil fuel industry, and local residents of all ages and backgrounds, can access family-sustaining, clean energy, and regenerative economy jobs.

We reject all forms of exploitation of workers, communities, and ecosystems.

3. Invest in communities impacted by extraction

We will invest in our communities most harmed by fossil fuel pollution, toxic industries, and disinvestment, which deserve sustained public and community investment to build vibrant, equitable, and sustainable local economies.

We support community-led development rooted in local ownership, cooperative models, and ecological sustainability, and ensure that future generations inherit a community where all can live well and thrive.

4. Strengthen enforcement, refinery safety, and government accountability

We expect regulatory agencies, including the Bay Area Air District, and municipal governments of Richmond, San Pablo, and the County of Contra Costa, to be fully accountable and transparent to our community residents in protecting community safety and health. We demand that polluting industries adhere to all rules and regulations set by local governments and agencies.

We will pursue increases to taxes and penalties on industries that harm our communities, and demand strong enforcement of protections that uphold environmental, labor, and public health standards.

5. Fund just and community-led clean energy and resilient infrastructure

We support "polluters pay" principles, including upfront taxes and fines to fund community-owned resources, resilient local infrastructure, and projects that repair historical harm.

We will ensure revenue is equitably directed to our local frontline and impacted communities to support energy democracy, regenerative local production, and resilience.

6. Align Deep Democracy and Community-Driven Governance with Living Systems

We will guide our Just Transition using principles rooted in deep democracy and bottom-up organizing, where decision-making is led by those most impacted in local communities and stakeholders, not corporations or government.

We will re-localize governance, ensuring that community health, well-being, and intergenerational justice are core outcomes of every decision.

7. Prioritize reparations, toxic cleanup, and ecosystem restoration

We prioritize repairing the harms caused by pollution and extraction through explicit reparations, which include toxic cleanup, land and water restoration, and community healing.

We honor (follow) and (lift up/center/following leadership) Tribal sovereignty, Land Back efforts, and the restoration of cultural practices and stories erased (harmed/overwhelmed/disregarded/stolen/superseded) by systems of oppression.

8. Advance transportation justice and build walkable, bikeable, transit-rich communities

We will build a community with accessibility, affordability, safe public mass transit, bikeable streets, and walkable neighborhoods.

We will ensure transportation as a public good and design systems that prioritize community health, reduce pollution, and serve the needs of our youth, elders, and people of all abilities.

9. Uplift culture, ceremony, intersectionality, and leadership from frontline communities

We move beyond policy to nurture healing, joy, and cultural transformation in our communities.

We will nurture our cultures and spirits through song, ceremony, storytelling, and play, resisting the forces of consumerism and empire.

We embrace intersectionality, complexity, and diversity and following the leadership of queer, trans, disabled, immigrant, BIPOC, women, youth, elders, and all frontline leaders as central to our vision of a regenerative future.