



Cheryl Davila
Councilmember
District 2

REVISED AGENDA MATERIAL

Meeting Date: November 23, 2020

Item: Initiate a Citywide, Regional and International Just Transition to a Regenerative Economy to Address the Climate Emergency

Subject: Resolution furthering Climate action approaches by: creating a just transition commission, tasking all commissions for climate action

policies, forming a regional task force, forming an trans-national climate task force among governments who have declared a climate emergency, drafting ordinances to make products sold in Berkeley exclusively circular, advocating for bio-regional sustainability and governance in the bay area, the city will adopt the Doughnut Economics methodology for sustainability,

Submitted by: Councilmember Cheryl Davila

Revisions: Removed (5) Therefore Be It Resolved clauses: in regards to circular economy therefore clause changed the date from 2025 to 2030 and specified that this applies to non-critical infrastructure and consumer items; added contra costa county to list of governments who have declared a climate emergency; in therefor clause concerning regional collaboration added joint powers authority as focus of regional climate collaboration; added language “commit to be regenerative” and improve public and environmental health; changed language to shall from will in regards to adopting doughnut economics, changed the directive to the city manager to draft ordinances concerning products sold in Berkeley to allow more discretion in light of financial impact on residents and to exclude medical devices, and critical non-replaceable products“

Item updated to: 1. The terms Just Transition and Regenerative Economy refer to specific frameworks and definitions and are thus capitalized; 2. The city hosts a variety of businesses and services which sell products which contribute to environmental degradation and negative health impacts. Directing the city manager to develop a series of ordinances to remove such products from the city by a certain date allows the originally intended language of accelerating a transition to a circular economy more concrete; 3. Ideally a transition to sustainability is a given, unfortunately we cannot take this for granted. Further there are many transition scenarios that are not explicitly just by design. Only a just transition which explicitly and intentionally reverses existing inequities will improve the living conditions of marginalized people, ecosystems and wildlife to the maximal extent possible; 4. There are thousands of governments who have formally declared a climate emergency, in total these governments which include whole countries cover a significant portion of the world’s population, a significant portion of the world’s economy, and cumulatively can have a profoundly positive impact. Because 2050 is the

conventional date by which sustainability is to be achieved in many governments this date was selected as the length of time this trans-national network will be sustained; 5. The revision that the City of Berkeley will create a regional/statewide task force to be sustained by 2050 is for the purpose of organizing 25 cities and counties who have explicitly declared a climate emergency and responded to Berkeley's call for regional collaboration in the Bay Area. A regional/statewide task force will be necessary for navigating the shift to a more sophisticated ecosystem-resilience management of governance called bio-regional governance in the resolution; 6. The City of Berkeley will put forth to the trans-national and statewide task forces the framework of a Just Transition as an orienting ethos and a Regenerative Economy as a framework for the collective aim of the task forces; 7. Affording critical ecosystems in and around the Bay Area with rights will ensure their protection, thus a couple examples were added; 8. was added to emphasize that a citywide just transition in Berkeley requires a profound cultural shift in that citizen participation is required for success; 9. Numerous content edits were provided to clarify the original intent of the resolution.

Blue text and strikethroughs are track changes. Clean version at very end of document.



Cheryl Davila
Councilmember
District 2

CONSENT CALENDAR
July 28, 2020

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Councilmember Cheryl Davila

Subject: Initiate a Citywide, Regional and International Just Transition to a Regenerative Economy to Address the Climate Emergency

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a resolution ~~to initiate a citywide, regional and international Just Transition to a Regenerative Economy to address the Climate Emergency, and~~ taking the following actions:

- ~~1. The City of Berkeley shall initiate a citywide, regional and international Just Transition to a Regenerative Economy; The City of Berkeley recognizes sustainability is sustainability is not enough to protect residents from cumulative impacts of centuries of environmental and social degradation and instead will reorient its city planning, policy, and resource allocation to be socially and environmentally positive and will invest in a regenerative whole city infrastructure, policy, development and design process.~~
- ~~2. The City of Berkeley will work with cities, counties, and institutions such as the UC system to form a joint powers authority regional and statewide task force to oversee a justice and public safety-oriented - scientifically grounded - transition to a regenerative economy here in the Bay Area to be sustained until 2050; and The City of Berkeley following the lead of Amsterdam and other cities will join in an attempt to embrace Doughnut Economics, which, by definition, recognizes the necessity of meeting the needs of residents within the carrying capacity of our planet Earth and the greater Bay Area bioregion.~~
- ~~3. The City of Berkeley commits to being regenerative, recognizing that attempting to be sustainable is not enough to protect residents from cumulative impacts of centuries of environmental and social degradation and instead will reorient its city planning, policy, governance culture, and resource allocation to improve public and environmental health, be participatory and will invest in a centuries long regenerative whole city culture, infrastructure, policy, development and design process; and The City of Berkeley will accelerate the transition to a zero-waste cradle to cradle, circular economy by a developing a series of ordinances ensuring only earth friendly products are sold within city limits by 2025~~
- ~~4. The City of Berkeley shall adopt doughnut economics and implement it's associated methodology to assess sustainability which, by definition, recognizes the necessity of meeting the needs of residents within the carrying capacity of our planet Earth and the greater Bay Area bioregion; and All City of Berkeley commissions shall propose city~~

~~policies, procedures and programs to enact a just transition that is socially, economically and ecologically regenerative by securing racial justice, bioregional restoration and sustainability, maximally reduces greenhouse gas emissions, increases public health, increases disaster preparedness and community resilience and reverses inequality and wealth extraction from Berkeley and Bay Area residents.~~

5. ~~The City Council directs the City manager to develop a set of ordinances to ensure zero-waste, cradle to cradle, non-toxic, earth friendly non-essential consumer based products are sold within city limits by 2030 with special exception to non-replaceable items for which a sustainable alternative is either unavailable or too expensive for low income residents to afford, critical infrastructure, medical devices and other such life dependent items; The City of Berkeley will create a city commission responsible for planning and implementing a Just Transition to a Regenerative Economy that is anti-racist, provides reparations and transformative support for those who are black, Indigenous, people of color, low income, and those struggling with mental health challenges, is community-driven and democratically funded, environmentally regenerative, and prioritizes local and independent businesses.~~
6. ~~The City of Berkeley shall suspend any and all projects and policies that are incompatible with protecting the earth and people from further environmental degradation, social inequality, public health risks, and global warming; and The City of Berkeley commits to suspend any and all projects and policies that are incompatible with protecting the Earth and people from further environmental degradation, social inequality, public health risks, and global warming and urges all neighboring agencies, statewide, national, and international, to do the same.~~
7. ~~The City of Berkeley calls for regional agencies, cities, and counties to agree on a shared definition of the Bay Area's bioregion (s), to define the shared limits of our bio-region's carrying capacity and to organize our governance to be bio-regionally regenerative, sustainable, and to define a developmental trajectory that maximizes the health and vitality of the ecosystems, wildlife, and people for generations to come; and The City of Berkeley will create a regional and statewide collaborative to ensure the maximal climate mitigation and adaptation scenarios to begin as soon as possible and formally requests all regional agencies, cities, and counties to a shared table to devise and execute a Just Transition plan to the Regenerative Economy here in the greater Bay Area through a regional Green New Deal.~~
8. ~~The City of Berkeley identifies our current economy with its focus on near-term perpetual growth requiring resource extraction and wealth enclosure as defunct and incompatible with the needs of sustainability, human thriving, and dignity, and calls for a new economic system which in its design meets human needs within planetary and local environmental and social boundaries of wellbeing and furthers human and ecological flourishing, furthers a regenerative human presence on earth, achieves equitable distribution of resources throughout the planet, and achieves sustainability through a just and regenerative transition to restore a safe climate and adapt to further warming in the near and long term; and The City of Berkeley within the first 90 days will invite all the cities, counties, and institutions such as the UC system to form a regional and statewide task force to oversee a justice-oriented evidence-based transition to a regenerative economy to be sustained until 2050;~~
9. ~~The City of Berkeley recognizes the importance of Indigenous leadership in designing and implementing a regenerative economy in Berkeley, the greater Bay Area, and the World, and shall invite delegates from Indigenous communities to all stages of the planning and implementation process.~~
10. ~~The City of Berkeley identifies our current economy with its focus on near-term perpetual growth requiring resource extraction and wealth enclosure as defunct and incompatible with the needs of sustainability, human thriving, and dignity, and calls for a new economic system which in its design meets human needs within planetary and local environmental and social boundaries, focuses on human and ecological flourishing,~~

~~further a regenerative human presence on earth, achieves equitable distribution of resources throughout the planet, and fosters an immediate transition to avert climate catastrophe in the near and long term.~~

- ~~11. The City of Berkeley endorses the intention and vision behind a global Green New Deal that reverses centuries of colonization, and post-colonial imbalances of power, health, wealth, sovereignty, addresses the climate emergency at the speed and scale necessary, and protects the world from impending climate impacts.~~
- ~~12. The City of Berkeley recognizes the importance of indigenous leadership in designing and implementing a Regenerative Economy in Berkeley, the greater Bay Area, and the world, and shall invite delegates from indigenous communities to all stages of the planning and implementation process.~~

BACKGROUND

In addition to the massive worldwide health crisis, COVID-19 also caused a slow down to the global economy. Governments around the world have begun, and are planning, to invest trillions of dollars in economic recoveries. There is a time-sensitive need to prevent a carbon rebound and prevent a return to extractive overconsumption in order to avert climate catastrophe and secure a just future for humankind and wildlife. ~~As the sixth city in the world to recognize that we already face a Climate Emergency, Berkeley has an opportunity and responsibility to lead and collaborate the effort with over 1772 cities, counties, and countries that have formally recognized and declared a Climate Emergency. The Climate Emergency Declaration, the term climate emergency and the climate emergency movement are a subset of the larger climate movement which asserts "business as usual" climate action which defers carbon neutrality to 2050 is incompatible with global warming for the vast majority of the world and future generations.~~ Over 102 municipalities in the United States, 25 of those within the Bay Area and more across the state of California have declared a Climate Emergency and called for a regional collaborative effort that has not yet begun. For the Bay Area to do its part for the world, it must have a regional plan ~~to reverse to achieve the harmful environmental and social impacts of which brought us this societal-environmental-economic crisis to biodiversity and human societies by achieving regeneration of endangered life areas and sustainability,~~ the City of Berkeley ~~continues to have~~ has a role and responsibility in leading this effort.

~~In leading this effort,~~ Berkeley must recognize and address the following issues: (1) Climate change and its connection to public health (i.e., resurgence of diseases and pandemics, compounded effects on low income, people of color, and other groups systematically disenfranchised), (2) Injustice of the pre-COVID-19 economic and political system, and (3) a Just Transition to a sustainable and Regenerative Economy.

Climate change and harmful public health issues have a positive correlation. Even if reasonably curbed, global warming effects in the near future include increased danger from record breaking wildfires, increased oceanic storms potentially causing at least \$1 billion worth of damage to public infrastructure and coastal real estate in the U.S.,¹ forced migration for up to a billion climate refugees by 2050², increased exposure to diseases, loss of arable farm land, increased deaths related to heat stress³, scarcity of freshwater, and further extinction of wildlife and biodiversity threatening the entire population of the world. More specific to the greater Bay Area,

¹ <https://www.ucsusa.org/resources/underwater>

² <https://unu.edu/media-relations/media-coverage/climate-migrants-might-reach-one-billion-by-2050.html>

³ https://www.nature.com/articles/nclimate3322.epdf?sharing_token=MuYgnDiD-ztxrwuEdc-3xtRgN0jAjWel9jnR3ZoTv0P1ZmqVLxKfxqQX-KqJzVRLBBVboAWW8gu7iH3qRbNOymWZ_WLKDYDK4-9wUkfwjoVC5-B45GtJEP2hxXrI49IGj-ukRYIR0z5H0Ps9kjtFARSUhBqgg4Q3sT1BsLgpXbQUGDQWRvtvQBvQRmVVAFq-OHUCsqHStoFZ0JZRaGO91BHNhojMkyy0ysY-TI9zjISCKsullIA9wdl3ohvm8mQMdWbyqk-9ol7o9g_2CJmFBeCsruaLcAY-UnopfVSumuidWbuAYOxifLoTWRbj2rCF_YwNh_INWwYrNDLcsrQoHUOyyPwf02XWGva7D8jQiREZU%3D&tracking_referrer=ww.w.theguardian.com

the increased air pollution results in higher vulnerability to infectious viral respiratory illnesses, [due to and](#) low income neighborhoods systematically located close to oil refineries are disproportionately and compactedly affected.⁴

Due to a history of imperial dominance the United States has forcibly positioned itself to consume an unsustainable and inequitable portion of the world's resources. We must recognize that the San Francisco Bay Area, California, and the United States are historic beneficiaries of hundreds of years of enslavement of African people, genocide of Indigenous peoples, economic exploitation of the Global South and numerous unjust wars [for oil etc](#), which has afforded it the ability to consume an unsustainable and inequitable portion of the world's resources at the expense of people of color worldwide, the earth and the American people.

A Just Transition to a Regenerative Economy as championed by Movement Generation and GrassRoots Global Justice is a framework for achieving a Regenerative Economy that: focuses on Indigenous and Tribal Sovereignty, Justice for Black and Immigrant Communities, Just Transitions for workers and communities impacted by extractive industries; reinvests in environmental sacrifice zones and communities and healthcare for all; ensures a home guarantee, greater democracy in energy, food and land sovereignty, equitable clean energy and emissions free transit, a just recovery in the face of diverse forms of disasters; and advances feminist economies, regenerative finance with an emphasis on bio-regional governance.

The City of Berkeley should become a model post-COVID-19 city by creating a regenerative economy that reverses a history of colonization, wealth extraction and globalization, de-incarcerates and de-militarizes community life, makes reparative investments in marginalized communities, makes reparations for the descendants of enslaved persons for providing generations of free labor [and restores their dignity and security against an onslaught of destabilizing forces such as gentrification and anti-black racism](#), supports Indigenous peoples and Tribal Nations in land reclamation and governance of their rightful lands, organizes workplaces and communities to collectively self govern, shifts means of production to works and communities, divests from fossil fuels and other extractive economies, invests in common access to energy, food, housing, and advances public dollars to build community wealth toward reversing inequality.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

To be determined.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Go beyond sustainability to embrace regenerative and restorative practices as necessary to achieve sustainability. Do a whole city community participatory design on how to shift the City into a net regenerative ecological and social impact.

CONTACT PERSONS

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Councilmember District 2
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ATTACHMENTS:

1. Resolution

⁴ John Loike and Robert Pollack, "What We Can Do to Preserve Our Clean Air;" Bo Peiter Johannes Andree, "Incidence of Covid-19 Connections with Air Pollution Exposure: Evidence from the Netherlands." 4-7.

RESOLUTION NO. XXXX

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF BERKELEY TO INITIATE A CITYWIDE, REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL JUST TRANSITION TO A REGENERATIVE ECONOMY TO ADDRESS THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley was the sixth city in the world to have declared a Climate Emergency in June 2018, calling for a just transition and regional collaborative effort in the San Francisco Bay Area as well as a statewide, national and global effort to immediately end greenhouse gas emissions; and

WHEREAS, the University of California⁵ and cities of Richmond, Oakland, Hayward, El Cerrito, Fairfax, Sebastopol, San Jose, Petaluma, Cupertino, Alameda, San Anselmo, Benicia, Cloverdale, Cotati, Healdsburg, Santa Rosa, Windsor, Menlo Park, Santa Cruz and the counties of San Francisco, Santa Cruz, Alameda, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Contra Costa and Sonoma have responded by declaring that we face a climate emergency and by joining the call for a regional collaborative effort in the San Francisco Bay Area; and

WHEREAS, there is not a focused collaborative implementation plan in sight, regionally or internationally, amongst the thousands of universities and governments across the globe that have declared a climate emergency; and

WHEREAS, 2020 - 2030 is a critical time frame wherein emissions must sharply and permanently fall to minimize climate catastrophe and meet internationally agreed upon targets which are insufficient to protect people from climate impacts; and

WHEREAS, governments are already spending or planning to spend \$9 trillion or more globally in the next few months on rescuing their economies,⁶ during the same timeframe that addressing the root causes of global warming is required for meaningful impact; and

WHEREAS, returning to a pre-COVID-19 global economic system, which is designed for unlimited growth on a finite planet requiring more extraction, production and consumption of materials and labor than the earth or people can handle, is a recipe for destruction; and

WHEREAS, a transformative economic intervention specifically designed to address the climate emergency in all of its dimensions and deal with the COVID-19 economic impacts is fully justified by the imminent and time-sensitive existential threat both crises pose; and

⁵ <https://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/news/university-california-declares-climate-emergency>

⁶ <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2020/jun/18/world-has-six-months-to-avert-climate-crisis-says-energy-expert>

WHEREAS, the traditional land management and stewardship methods of Chochenyo, Muwekma, Karkin, Lisjan, Ohlone and other neighboring Indigenous peoples serve as the original design for a regenerative economy on the lands now occupied by the nine counties of the SF Bay Area; and

WHEREAS, legally recognizing the inherent rights of nature such as the Bay, the Pacific Ocean, Strawberry Creek, the Wetlands, Tilden, and other ecosystems, is necessary to establish precautionary and restrictive measures to prevent human activities from causing additional harms to water, air, soil, species, ecosystems or ecological cycles on both local and global scales; and

WHEREAS, for the greater Bay Area to fulfill its responsibility to address global warming without exacerbating a history of racial violence, wealth inequality, and ecological degradation, it must: implement a Just Transition to a Regenerative Economy; embrace a doughnut economics⁷ wherein the Bay Area brings its overall footprint well within the earth's carrying capacity while meeting the social needs of its residents; phase out the refining, transport, and consumption of fossil fuels and other polluting industries, energies, and waste products; and define the bioregional boundaries upon which the Bay Area attempts to be regenerative and sustainable; and be an accelerator for a circular economic strategies such as cradle-to-cradle design⁸ wherein the material streams of waste are designed to be nutrients for further ecological reproduction; lead a trans-national task force amongst the 1700+ cities, counties, states and countries who recognize we face a Climate Emergency; sustain focus and unity of purpose in successfully executing a Just Transition to a Regenerative Economy until such an economy is fully functioning; and

WHEREAS, a Regenerative Economy as defined by Movement Generation⁹ and GrassRoots Global Justice¹⁰ as a framework for achieving a regenerative economy that focuses on: Indigenous and Tribal Sovereignty, Justice for Black and Immigrant Communities, Just Transitions for Workers and communities impacted by extractive industries; reinvestment in environmental sacrifice zones and communities; Healthcare for All; ensures a home guarantee, energy democracy, food and land sovereignty; equitable clean energy; emissions-free transit; bioregional governance; a just recovery in the face of diverse forms of disasters; and advances feminist economies; and

WHEREAS, a Just Transition to a Regenerative Economy should, in practice: Transform a history of colonization, wealth extraction and imperialistic globalization; Transform patterns of mass incarceration and demilitarize community life; make reparative investments in marginalized communities; make reparations for the descendants of enslaved persons; support Indigenous peoples and Tribal Nations in land reclamation and governance of their rightful lands; organize workplaces and communities to be democratic, equitable and collectively self governing; shift to cooperative and public ownership of businesses; divest from fossil fuels and other extractive economic activities; invest in common access to renewable energy, food, and housing; advance public dollars to build community wealth reversing inequality; and

WHEREAS, for any transition plan to be successful, it must include: reducing consumption and production of the remaining GHG budget in order to extend our transition timeline; investing in research and innovation to transform major industries; creating an optimal psychological and cultural climate wherein the work of transition can be carried out free from the compounded

⁷ <https://www.amsterdam.nl/en/policy/sustainability/circular-economy/>
<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/apr/08/amsterdam-doughnut-model-mend-post-coronavirus-economy>

⁸ <https://mcdonough.com/cradle-to-cradle/>

⁹ https://movementgeneration.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/JT_booklet_English_SPREADs_web.pdf

¹⁰ <https://gqjalliance.org/programs/a-pathway-to-a-regenerative-economy/>

stress of racism, climate change impacts, income and wealth inequality, jobs loss, COVID-19, and political polarization are relieved; and training and preparation of our workforces for all the skilled labor required for a just transition; enacting regenerative and sustainable constraints for whole societies that are in balance with humans needs, ecosystems and wildlife; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Berkeley shall initiate a citywide, regional and international Just Transition to a Regenerative Economy

~~NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Berkeley will initiate a citywide community engaged Just Transition to a Regenerative Economy~~

~~BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Berkeley within the first 90 days will create a city commission responsible for planning and implementing a Just Transition to a regenerative economy that is anti-racist, provides reparations and transformative support for those who are black, Indigenous, people of color, low income, and those struggling with mental health challenges, is community driven and democratically funded, environmentally regenerative, and prioritizes local and independent businesses; and~~

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Berkeley will work with cities, counties, and institutions such as the UC system to form a joint powers authority regional and statewide task force to oversee a justice and public safety-oriented - scientifically grounded - transition to a regenerative economy here in the Bay Area to be sustained until 2050; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Berkeley will invest city funds, staff time, to create a trans-national task force focused on coordinating with governments who have declared a climate emergency to be sustained until 2050;

~~BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Berkeley will work with cities, counties, and institutions such as the UC system to form a joint powers authority regional and statewide task force to oversee a justice oriented scientifically grounded transition to a regenerative economy to be sustained until 2050; and~~

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Berkeley ~~commits to being regenerative,~~ recognizing that attempting to be sustainable is not enough to protect residents from cumulative impacts of centuries of environmental and social degradation ~~will~~ reorient its city planning, policy, governance culture, and resource allocation to ~~improve public and environmental health, be~~ participatory and will invest in a centuries long regenerative whole city culture, infrastructure, policy, development and design process; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Berkeley ~~shall will join the early~~ adopt doughnut economics ~~and implement it's associated~~ methodology to assess its sustainability which, by definition, recognizes the necessity of meeting the needs of residents within the carrying capacity of our planet Earth and the greater Bay Area bioregion; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, The City Council directs the City manager to develop a set of ordinances to ensure zero-waste, cradle to cradle, non-toxic, earth friendly nonessential consumer based products are sold within city limits by 20~~30-25~~ with ~~special exception to non-replaceable items for which a sustainable alternative is either unavailable or too expensive for low income residents to afford,~~ critical infrastructure, medical devices and other such life dependent items ~~materials;~~

~~BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, all city commissions shall propose city policies, procedures and programs to enact a Just Transition that is socially, economically and ecologically regenerative by securing racial justice, bioregional restoration and sustainability, maximally reduces~~

~~greenhouse gas emissions, increases public health, increases disaster preparedness and community resilience and reverses inequality and wealth extraction of Berkeley and Bay Area residents; and~~

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Berkeley ~~shall commits to~~ suspend any and all projects and policies that are incompatible with protecting the earth and people from further environmental degradation, social inequality, public health risks, and global warming; and

~~BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Berkeley commits to the formation of a co-funded regional collaborative effort to begin and formally requests all regional agencies, cities, and counties to a shared table to devise and execute a just transition plan to the regenerative economy here in the Greater Bay Area through a regional green new deal; and~~

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Berkeley calls for a bio-regional governance wherein agencies and municipalities define a shared recognition ~~of~~ our bio-region, ~~define~~ its carrying capacity and bring the Bay Area as a whole within the regenerative zone of our local bio-region in order to prioritize the long term resilience and adaptive capacity to coming environmental changes; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Berkeley calls for a regional agencies, cities, and counties to agree on a shared definition of the Bay Area's bioregion(s), to define the shared limits of our bio-region's carrying capacity and to organize our governance to be bio-regionally regenerative, sustainable, and to define a developmental trajectory that maximizes the health and vitality of the ecosystems, wildlife, and people for generations to come; and

~~BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Berkeley urges all neighboring governmental agencies (including local, state and federal) to suspend any and all projects and policies that are incompatible with protecting the earth and people from further environmental degradation, public health risks, and global warming; and~~

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Berkeley identifies our current economy with its focus on near-term perpetual growth requiring resource extraction and wealth enclosure as defunct and incompatible with the needs of sustainability, human thriving, and dignity, and calls for a new economic system which in its design meets human needs within planetary and local environmental and social boundaries of wellbeing and furthers human and ecological flourishing, furthers a regenerative human presence on earth, achieves equitable distribution of resources throughout the planet, and achieves sustainability through a just and regenerative transition to restore a safe climate and adapt to further warming in the near and long term; and

~~BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Berkeley endorses the intention and vision behind a global Green New Deal that reverses centuries of colonization, and post-colonial imbalances of power, health, wealth, sovereignty, addresses the climate emergency at the speed and scale necessary, and protects the world from impending climate impacts; and~~

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Berkeley recognizes the importance of Indigenous leadership in designing and implementing a regenerative economy in Berkeley, the greater Bay Area, and the World, and shall invite delegates from Indigenous communities to all stages of the planning and implementation process.



Cheryl Davila
Councilmember
District 2

CONSENT CALENDAR
February 23, 2021

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Councilmember Cheryl Davila

Subject: Initiate a Citywide, Regional and International Just Transition to a Regenerative Economy to Address the Climate Emergency

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a resolution taking the following actions:

- 1) The City of Berkeley shall initiate a citywide, regional and international Just Transition to a Regenerative Economy
- 2) The City of Berkeley will work with cities, counties, and institutions such as the UC system to form a joint powers authority regional and statewide task force to oversee a justice and public safety-oriented - scientifically grounded - transition to a regenerative economy here in the Bay Area to be sustained until 2050; and
- 3) The City of Berkeley commits to being regenerative, recognizing that attempting to be sustainable is not enough to protect residents from cumulative impacts of centuries of environmental and social degradation and instead will reorient its city planning, policy, governance culture, and resource allocation to improve public and environmental health, be participatory and will invest in a centuries long regenerative whole city culture, infrastructure, policy, development and design process; and
- 4) The City of Berkeley shall adopt doughnut economics and implement it's associated methodology to assess sustainability which, by definition, recognizes the necessity of meeting the needs of residents within the carrying capacity of our planet Earth and the greater Bay Area bioregion; and
- 5) The City Council directs the City manager to develop a set of ordinances to ensure zero-waste, cradle to cradle, non-toxic, earth friendly non-essential consumer based products are sold within city limits by 2030 with special exception to non-replaceable items for which a sustainable alternative is either unavailable or too expensive for low income residents to afford, critical infrastructure, medical devices and other such life dependent items;
- 6) The City of Berkeley shall suspend any and all projects and policies that are incompatible with protecting the earth and people from further environmental degradation, social inequality, public health risks, and global warming; and

- 7) The City of Berkeley calls for regional agencies, cities, and counties to agree on a shared definition of the Bay Area's bioregion (s), to define the shared limits of our bio-region's carrying capacity and to organize our governance to be bio-regionally regenerative, sustainable, and to define a developmental trajectory that maximizes the health and vitality of the ecosystems, wildlife, and people for generations to come; and
- 8) The City of Berkeley identifies our current economy with its focus on near-term perpetual growth requiring resource extraction and wealth enclosure as defunct and incompatible with the needs of sustainability, human thriving, and dignity, and calls for a new economic system which in its design meets human needs within planetary and local environmental and social boundaries of wellbeing and furthers human and ecological flourishing, furthers a regenerative human presence on earth, achieves equitable distribution of resources throughout the planet, and achieves sustainability through a just and regenerative transition to restore a safe climate and adapt to further warming in the near and long term; and
- 9) The City of Berkeley recognizes the importance of Indigenous leadership in designing and implementing a regenerative economy in Berkeley, the greater Bay Area, and the World, and shall invite delegates from Indigenous communities to all stages of the planning and implementation process.

POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

On January 20, 2021, the Facilities, Infrastructure, Transportation, Environment & Sustainability Policy Committee moved to send the item with a positive recommendation that Council take no action on the item. Vote: All Ayes

BACKGROUND

In addition to the massive worldwide health crisis, COVID-19 also caused a slow down to the global economy. Governments around the world have begun, and are planning, to invest trillions of dollars in economic recoveries. There is a time-sensitive need to prevent a carbon rebound and prevent a return to extractive overconsumption in order to avert climate catastrophe and secure a just future for humankind and wildlife. As the sixth city in the world to recognize that we already face a Climate Emergency, Berkeley has an opportunity and responsibility to lead and collaborate the effort with over 1772 cities, counties, and countries that have formally recognized and declared a Climate Emergency. The Climate Emergency Declaration, the term climate emergency and the climate emergency movement are a subset of the larger climate movement which asserts "business as usual" climate action which defers carbon neutrality to 2050 is incompatible with global warming for the vast majority of the world and future generations. Over 102 municipalities in the United States, 25 of those within the Bay Area and more across the state of California have declared a Climate Emergency and called for a regional collaborative effort that has not yet begun. For the Bay Area to do its part for the world, it must have a regional plan to reverse the harmful environmental and social impacts of which brought us this societal-environmental-economic crisis to biodiversity and human societies by, the City of Berkeley continues to have a role and responsibility in leading this effort.

Berkeley must recognize and address the following issues: (1) Climate change and its connection to public health (i.e., resurgence of diseases and pandemics, compounded effects on low income, people of color, and other groups systematically disenfranchised), (2) Injustice of the pre-COVID-19 economic and political system, and (3) a Just Transition to a sustainable and Regenerative Economy.

Climate change and harmful public health issues have a positive correlation. Even if reasonably curbed, global warming effects in the near future include increased danger from record breaking wildfires, increased oceanic storms potentially causing at least \$1 billion worth of damage to public infrastructure and coastal real estate in the U.S.,¹¹ forced migration for up to a billion climate refugees by 2050¹², increased exposure to diseases, loss of arable farm land, increased deaths related to heat stress¹³, scarcity of freshwater, and further extinction of wildlife and biodiversity threatening the entire population of the world. More specific to the greater Bay Area, the increased air pollution results in higher vulnerability to infectious viral respiratory illnesses, due to low income neighborhoods systematically located close to oil refineries are disproportionately and compactly affected.¹⁴

Due to a history of imperial dominance the United States has forcibly positioned itself to consume an unsustainable and inequitable portion of the world's resources. We must recognize that the San Francisco Bay Area, California, and the United States are historic beneficiaries of hundreds of years of enslavement of African people, genocide of Indigenous peoples, economic exploitation of the Global South and numerous unjust wars for oil etc, which has afforded it the ability to consume an unsustainable and inequitable portion of the world's resources at the expense of people of color worldwide, the earth and the American people.

A Just Transition to a Regenerative Economy as championed by Movement Generation and GrassRoots Global Justice is a framework for achieving a Regenerative Economy that: focuses on Indigenous and Tribal Sovereignty, Justice for Black and Immigrant Communities, Just Transitions for workers and communities impacted by extractive industries; reinvests in environmental sacrifice zones and communities and healthcare for all; ensures a home guarantee, greater democracy in energy, food and land sovereignty, equitable clean energy and emissions free transit, a just recovery in the face of diverse forms of disasters; and advances feminist economies, regenerative finance with an emphasis on bio-regional governance.

The City of Berkeley should become a model post-COVID-19 city by creating a regenerative economy that reverses a history of colonization, wealth extraction and globalization, de-incarcerates and de-militarizes community life, makes reparative investments in marginalized communities, makes reparations for the descendants of enslaved persons for providing generations of free labor and restores their dignity and security against an onslaught of destabilizing forces such as gentrification and anti-black racism, supports Indigenous peoples and Tribal Nations in land reclamation and governance of their rightful lands, organizes workplaces and communities to collectively self govern, shifts means of production to works and communities, divests from fossil fuels and other extractive economies, invests in common access to energy, food, housing, and advances public dollars to build community wealth toward reversing inequality.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

To be determined.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

¹¹ <https://www.ucsusa.org/resources/underwater>

¹² <https://unu.edu/media-relations/media-coverage/climate-migrants-might-reach-one-billion-by-2050.html>

¹³ https://www.nature.com/articles/nclimate3322.epdf?sharing_token=MuYgnDiD-ztxrwuEdc-3xtRgN0jAjWel9jnR3ZoTv0P1ZmqVLxKfxqQX-KqJzVRLBBVboAWW8gu7iH3qRbNOymWZ_WLKDYDK4-9wUkfwjoVC5-B45GtJEP2hxXrI49IGj-ukRYIR0z5H0Ps9kJtFARSUhBqgg4Q3sT1BsLgpXbQUGDQWRvtvQBvQRmVVAfq-OHUCsqHStoFZ0JZRaGO91BHNhojMky0ysY-TI9zjISCKsulIA9wdl3ohvm8mQMdWbyqk-9ol7o9g_2CJmFBcSrualCAY-UnopfvSUMuidWbuAYOXifLoTWRbj2rCF_YwNh_INWWYrNDLcsrQoHUOyyPwf02XWGVa7D8jQiREZU%3D&tracking_referrer=ww.w.theguardian.com

¹⁴ John Loike and Robert Pollack, "What We Can Do to Preserve Our Clean Air;" Bo Peiter Johannes Andree, "Incidence of Covid-19 Connections with Air Pollution Exposure: Evidence from the Netherlands." 4-7.

Go beyond sustainability to embrace regenerative and restorative practices as necessary to achieve sustainability. Do a whole city community participatory design on how to shift the City into a net regenerative ecological and social impact.

CONTACT PERSONS

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ATTACHMENTS:

1. Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. XXXX

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF BERKELEY TO INITIATE A CITYWIDE, REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL JUST TRANSITION TO A REGENERATIVE ECONOMY TO ADDRESS THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley was the sixth city in the world to have declared a Climate Emergency in June 2018, calling for a just transition and regional collaborative effort in the San Francisco Bay Area as well as a statewide, national and global effort to immediately end greenhouse gas emissions; and

WHEREAS, the University of California¹⁵ and cities of Richmond, Oakland, Hayward, El Cerrito, Fairfax, Sebastopol, San Jose, Petaluma, Cupertino, Alameda, San Anselmo, Benicia, Cloverdale, Cotati, Healdsburg, Santa Rosa, Windsor, Menlo Park, Santa Cruz and the counties of San Francisco, Santa Cruz, Alameda, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Contra Costa and Sonoma have responded by declaring that we face a climate emergency and by joining the call for a regional collaborative effort in the San Francisco Bay Area; and

WHEREAS, there is not a focused collaborative implementation plan in sight, regionally or internationally, amongst the thousands of universities and governments across the globe that have declared a climate emergency; and

WHEREAS, 2020 - 2030 is a critical time frame wherein emissions must sharply and permanently fall to minimize climate catastrophe and meet internationally agreed upon targets which are insufficient to protect people from climate impacts; and

WHEREAS, governments are already spending or planning to spend \$9 trillion or more globally in the next few months on rescuing their economies,¹⁶ during the same timeframe that addressing the root causes of global warming is required for meaningful impact; and

WHEREAS, returning to a pre-COVID-19 global economic system, which is designed for unlimited growth on a finite planet requiring more extraction, production and consumption of materials and labor than the earth or people can handle, is a recipe for destruction; and

WHEREAS, a transformative economic intervention specifically designed to address the climate emergency in all of its dimensions and deal with the COVID-19 economic impacts is fully justified by the imminent and time-sensitive existential threat both crises pose; and

WHEREAS, the traditional land management and stewardship methods of Chochenyo, Muwekma, Karkin, Lisjan, Ohlone and other neighboring Indigenous peoples serve as the original design for a regenerative economy on the lands now occupied by the nine counties of the SF Bay Area; and

WHEREAS, legally recognizing the inherent rights of nature such as the Bay, the Pacific Ocean, Strawberry Creek, the Wetlands, Tilden, and other ecosystems, is necessary to establish precautionary and restrictive measures to prevent human activities from causing additional harms to water, air, soil, species, ecosystems or ecological cycles on both local and global scales; and

¹⁵ <https://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/news/university-california-declares-climate-emergency>

¹⁶ <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2020/jun/18/world-has-six-months-to-avert-climate-crisis-says-energy-expert>

WHEREAS, for the greater Bay Area to fulfill its responsibility to address global warming without exacerbating a history of racial violence, wealth inequality, and ecological degradation, it must: implement a Just Transition to a Regenerative Economy; embrace a doughnut economics¹⁷ wherein the Bay Area brings its overall footprint well within the earth's carrying capacity while meeting the social needs of its residents; phase out the refining, transport, and consumption of fossil fuels and other polluting industries, energies, and waste products; and define the bioregional boundaries upon which the Bay Area attempts to be regenerative and sustainable; and be an accelerator for a circular economic strategies such as cradle-to-cradle design¹⁸ wherein the material streams of waste are designed to be nutrients for further ecological reproduction; lead a trans-national task force amongst the 1700+ cities, counties, states and countries who recognize we face a Climate Emergency; sustain focus and unity of purpose in successfully executing a Just Transition to a Regenerative Economy until such an economy is fully functioning; and

WHEREAS, a Regenerative Economy as defined by Movement Generation¹⁹ and GrassRoots Global Justice²⁰ as a framework for achieving a regenerative economy that focuses on: Indigenous and Tribal Sovereignty, Justice for Black and Immigrant Communities, Just Transitions for Workers and communities impacted by extractive industries; reinvestment in environmental sacrifice zones and communities; Healthcare for All; ensures a home guarantee, energy democracy, food and land sovereignty; equitable clean energy; emissions-free transit; bioregional governance; a just recovery in the face of diverse forms of disasters; and advances feminist economies; and

WHEREAS, a Just Transition to a Regenerative Economy should, in practice: Transform a history of colonization, wealth extraction and imperialistic globalization; Transform patterns of mass incarceration and demilitarize community life; make reparative investments in marginalized communities; make reparations for the descendants of enslaved persons; support Indigenous peoples and Tribal Nations in land reclamation and governance of their rightful lands; organize workplaces and communities to be democratic, equitable and collectively self governing; shift to cooperative and public ownership of businesses; divest from fossil fuels and other extractive economic activities; invest in common access to renewable energy, food, and housing; advance public dollars to build community wealth reversing inequality; and

WHEREAS, for any transition plan to be successful, it must include: reducing consumption and production of the remaining GHG budget in order to extend our transition timeline; investing in research and innovation to transform major industries; creating an optimal psychological and cultural climate wherein the work of transition can be carried out free from the compounded stress of racism, climate change impacts, income and wealth inequality, jobs loss, COVID-19, and political polarization are relieved; and training and preparation of our workforces for all the skilled labor required for a just transition; enacting regenerative and sustainable constraints for whole societies that are in balance with humans needs, ecosystems and wildlife; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Berkeley will initiate a citywide community engaged Just Transition to a Regenerative Economy;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Berkeley will work with cities, counties, and institutions such as the UC system to form a joint powers authority to oversee a justice-oriented

¹⁷ <https://www.amsterdam.nl/en/policy/sustainability/circular-economy/>
<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/apr/08/amsterdam-doughnut-model-mend-post-coronavirus-economy>

¹⁸ <https://mcdonough.com/cradle-to-cradle/>

¹⁹ https://movementgeneration.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/JT_booklet_English_SPREADs_web.pdf

²⁰ <https://gqjalliance.org/programs/a-pathway-to-a-regenerative-economy/>

- scientifically grounded - transition to a regenerative economy here in the Bay Area to be sustained until 2050; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Berkeley will invest city funds, staff time, to create a trans-national task force focused on coordinating with governments who have declared a climate emergency to be sustained until 2050;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Berkeley recognizes that attempting to be sustainable is not enough to protect residents from cumulative impacts of centuries of environmental and social degradation and instead will reorient its city planning, policy, governance culture, and resource allocation to improve public and environmental health, be participatory and will invest in a centuries long regenerative whole city culture, infrastructure, policy, development and design process; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Berkeley shall adopt doughnut economics and implement its associated methodology to assess sustainability which, by definition, recognizes the necessity of meeting the needs of residents within the carrying capacity of our planet Earth and the greater Bay Area bioregion; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, The City Council directs the City manager to develop a set of ordinances to ensure zero-waste, cradle to cradle, non-toxic, earth friendly non-essential consumer based products are sold within city limits by 2030 where applicable with special exception to non-replaceable items for which a sustainable alternative is either unavailable or too expensive for low income residents to afford, critical infrastructure, medical devices and other such life dependent items;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Berkeley shall suspend any and all projects and policies that are incompatible with protecting the earth and people from further environmental degradation, social inequality, public health risks, and global warming; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Berkeley calls for a regional agencies, cities, and counties to agree on a shared definition of the Bay Area's bioregion, to define the shared limits of our bio-region's carrying capacity and to organize our governance to be bio-regionally regenerative, sustainable, and to define a developmental trajectory that maximizes the health and vitality of the ecosystems, wildlife, and people for generations to come; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Berkeley identifies our current economy with its focus on near-term perpetual growth requiring resource extraction and wealth enclosure as defunct and incompatible with the needs of sustainability, human thriving, and dignity, and calls for a new economic system which in its design meets human needs within planetary and local environmental and social boundaries of wellbeing and furthers human and ecological flourishing, furthers a regenerative human presence on earth, achieves equitable distribution of resources throughout the planet, and achieves sustainability through a just and regenerative transition to restore a safe climate and adapt to further warming in the near and long term; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Berkeley recognizes the importance of Indigenous leadership in designing and implementing a regenerative economy in Berkeley, the greater Bay Area, and the World, and shall invite delegates from Indigenous communities to all stages of the planning and implementation process.



Cheryl Davila
Councilmember
District 2

REVISED AGENDA MATERIAL

Meeting Date: September 16, 2020

Item Description: Initiate a Citywide, Regional and International Just Transition to a Regenerative Economy to Address the Climate Emergency

Submitted by: Councilmember Cheryl Davila

Revisions: 1. Changed the capitalization of certain terms; 2. Added the date 2025 by which the city will exclusively sell sustainable products and directed the city staff to develop a set of ordinances to make this so. 3. The City Adopts a Just Transition to a Regenerative Economy as an orienting framework for climate action; 4. City will create a trans-national task force among governments who have declared a climate emergency; 5. City will create a regional and California based task force to address the climate emergency; 6. Both task forces will have the purpose of co-executing a just transition to a regenerative economy and will function until 2050; 7. added more names of ecosystems to be recognized and afforded rights as examples; 8. The language community engaged was added to emphasize that a citywide just transition in Berkeley requires a profound cultural shift in that citizen participation is required for success. 9. Numerous edits to clarify the original intent of the resolution.

Item Subject updated to: 1. The terms Just Transition and Regenerative Economy refer to specific frameworks and definitions and are thus capitalized; 2. The city hosts a variety of businesses and services which sell products which contribute to environmental degradation and negative health impacts. Directing the city manager to develop a series of ordinances to remove such products from the city by a certain date allows the originally intended language of accelerating a transition to a circular economy more concrete; 3. Ideally a transition to sustainability is a given, unfortunately we cannot take this for granted. Further there are many transition scenarios that are not explicitly just by design. Only a just transition which explicitly and intentionally reverses existing inequities will improve the living conditions of marginalized people, ecosystems and wildlife to the maximal extent possible; 4. There are thousands of governments who have formally declared a climate emergency, in total these governments which include whole countries cover a significant portion of the world's population, a significant portion of the world's economy, and cumulatively can have a profoundly positive impact. Because 2050 is the conventional date by which sustainability is to be achieved in many governments this date was selected as the length of time this trans-national network will be sustained; 5. The revision that the City of Berkeley will create a regional/statewide task force to be sustained by 2050 is for the purpose of organizing 25 cities and counties who have explicitly declared a climate emergency and responded to Berkeley's call for regional collaboration in the Bay Area. A regional/statewide task force will be necessary for navigating the shift to a more sophisticated ecosystem-resilience management of governance called bio-regional governance in the resolution; 6. The City of Berkeley will put forth to the trans-national and statewide task forces the framework of a Just Transition as an orienting ethos and a Regenerative Economy as a framework for the collective aim of the task forces; 7. Affording critical ecosystems in and around the Bay Area with rights will ensure their protection, thus a couple examples were added; 8. was added to emphasize that a citywide just transition in Berkeley requires a profound cultural shift in that citizen participation is required for success; 9. Numerous content edits were provided to clarify the original intent of the resolution.



Cheryl Davila
Councilmember
District 2

CONSENT CALENDAR
July 28, 2020

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Councilmember Cheryl Davila

Subject: Initiate a Citywide, Regional and International Just Transition to a Regenerative Economy to Address the Climate Emergency

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a resolution to initiate a Citywide, Regional and International Just Transition to a Regenerative Economy to Address the Climate Emergency, and taking the following actions:

1. The City of Berkeley recognizes that attempting to be sustainable is not enough to protect residents from cumulative impacts of centuries of environmental and social degradation and instead will reorient its city planning, policy, and resource allocation to be socially and environmentally positive and will invest in a regenerative whole city infrastructure, policy, development and design process.
2. The City of Berkeley following the lead of Amsterdam and other cities will join in an attempt to embrace doughnut economics, which, by definition, recognizes the necessity of meeting the needs of residents within the carrying capacity of our planet Earth and the greater Bay area bioregion.
3. The City of Berkeley will accelerate the transition to a zero-waste cradle to cradle circular economy.
4. All City of Berkeley commissions shall propose city policies, procedures and programs to enact a just transition that is socially, economically and ecologically regenerative by securing racial justice, bioregional restoration and sustainability, maximally reduces greenhouse gas emissions, increases public health, increases disaster preparedness and community resilience and reverses inequality and wealth extraction of Berkeley and Bay Area residents.
5. The City of Berkeley will create a city commission responsible for planning and implementing a just transition to a regenerative economy that is anti-racist, provides reparations and transformative support for those who are black, Indigenous, people of color, low income, and those struggling with mental health challenges, is community-driven and democratically-funded, environmentally-regenerative, and prioritizes local and independent businesses.
6. The City of Berkeley commits to suspend any and all projects and policies that are incompatible with protecting the earth and people from further environmental degradation, social inequality, public health risks, and global warming.
7. The City of Berkeley calls for a regional collaborative effort to begin as soon as possible and formally requests all regional agencies, cities, and counties to a shared table to devise and execute a just transition plan to the regenerative economy here in the Greater Bay Area through a regional green new deal.
8. The City of Berkeley urges all neighboring governmental agencies (including local, state and federal) to suspend any and all projects and policies that are incompatible with protecting the earth and people from further environmental degradation, public health risks, and global warming.
9. The City of Berkeley calls on governments who have declared a climate emergency and who broadly recognize the immense challenge facing humanity to join together in

collaborative exchange and begin a shared transitional peace effort in moving their immediate societies and economies toward ethical and regenerative trajectories.

10. The City of Berkeley identifies our current economy with its focus on near-term perpetual growth requiring resource extraction and wealth enclosure as defunct and incompatible with the needs of sustainability, human thriving, and dignity, and calls for a new economic system which in its design meets human needs within planetary and local environmental and social boundaries, focuses on human and ecological flourishing, furthers a regenerative human presence on earth, achieves equitable distribution of resources throughout the planet, and achieves sustainable transition to avert climate catastrophe in the near and long term.
11. The City of Berkeley endorses the intention and vision behind a global Green New Deal that reverses centuries of colonization, and post-colonial imbalances of power, health, wealth, sovereignty, addresses the climate emergency at the speed and scale necessary, and protects the world from impending climate impacts.
12. The City of Berkeley recognizes the importance of Indigenous leadership in designing and implementing a regenerative economy in Berkeley, the Greater Bay Area, and the World, and shall invite delegates from Indigenous communities to all stages of the planning and implementation process.

BACKGROUND

In addition to the massive worldwide health crisis, COVID-19 also caused a slow down to the global economy. Governments around the world have begun to and are planning to spend trillions to invest in economic recoveries. There is a time-sensitive need to prevent a carbon rebound and prevent a return to extractive overconsumption in order to avert climate catastrophe and secure a just future for humankind and wildlife. Berkeley as the third city to recognize we face a climate emergency has an opportunity and responsibility to lead and collaborate effort with over 1772 cities, counties, and countries who have formally recognized and declared a climate emergency. Over 102 municipalities in the United States, Bay Area have declared a climate emergency and called for a regional collaborative effort that has not yet begun. For the Bay Area to do its part for the world it must have a regional plan to achieve regeneration and sustainability, the City of Berkeley has a role and responsibility in leading this effort.

In leading this effort, Berkeley must recognize and address the following issues: (1) Climate change and its connection to public health (i.e., resurgence of diseases and pandemics, compounded effects on low income, people of color, and other groups systematically disenfranchised), (2) Injustice of the pre-COVID-19 economic and political system, and (3) a just transition to a sustainable and regenerative economy.

Climate change and harmful public health issues have a positive correlation. Even if reasonably curbed, global warming effects in the near future include increased danger from record breaking wildfires, increased oceanic storms potentially causing \$1 billion worth of damage to public infrastructure and coastal real estate in the U.S.¹, forced migration for up to a billion climate refugees by 2050², increased exposure to diseases, loss of arable farm land, increased death related to heat stress³, scarcity of freshwater, and further extinction of wildlife and biodiversity threatening the entire population of the world. More specific to the greater Bay area, the increased air pollution results in higher vulnerability to infectious viral respiratory illnesses, and

¹ <https://www.ucsusa.org/resources/underwater>

² <https://unu.edu/media-relations/media-coverage/climate-migrants-might-reach-one-billion-by-2050.html>

³ https://www.nature.com/articles/nclimate3322.epdf?sharing_token=MuYgnDiD-ztxrwuEdc-3xtRgN0jAjWel9jnR3ZoTv0P1ZmqVLxKfxqQX-KqJzVRLBBVboAWW8gu7iH3qRbNOymWZ_WLKYDK4-9wUkfwjoVC5-B45GtJEP2hxXrl49lGj-ukRYIR0z5H0Ps9kJtFARSUhbqgg4Q3sT1BsLgpXbQUGDQWRvtvQBvQRmVVAfq-OHUCsqHStoFZ0JZRAGO91BHNhojMkyy0ysY-TI9zjISCKsullA9wdl3ohvm8mQMdWbyqk-9ol7o9g_2CJmFBeCsruaICAY-UnopfvSUMuidWbuAYOxifLoTWRbj2rCF_YwNh_INWWYrNdlcsrQoHUOyPwf02XWGva7D8jQiREZU%3D&tracking_referrer=www.theguardian.com

low income neighborhoods systematically located close to oil refineries are disproportionately and compactedly affected⁴.

Due to a history of imperial dominance the United States has forcibly positioned itself to consume an unsustainable and inequitable portion of the world's resources. We must recognize that San Francisco Bay Area, California, and the United States are historic beneficiaries of hundreds of years of enslavement of African people, genocide of Indigenous peoples, economic exploitation of the Global South and numerous unjust wars which has afforded it the ability to consume an unsustainable and inequitable portion of the world's resources at the expense of people of color worldwide, the earth and American people.

A Just Transition to a Regenerative Economy as championed by Movement Generation and GrassRoots Global Justice is a framework for achieving a regenerative economy that: focuses on Indigenous and Tribal Sovereignty, Justice for Black and Immigrant Communities, Just Transitions for Workers and communities impacted by extractive industries; reinvests in environmental sacrifice zones and communities and healthcare for all; ensures a home guarantee, further democracy in energy, food and land sovereignty, equitable clean energy and emissions free transit, a just recovery in the face of diverse forms of disasters; and advances feminist economies and regenerative finance.

The City of Berkeley should become a model post-COVID-19 city by creating a regenerative economy that reverses a history of colonization, wealth extraction and globalization, de-incarcerates and de-militarizes community life, makes reparative investments in marginalized communities, makes reparations for the descendants of enslaved persons for providing generations of free labor, supports Indigenous peoples and tribal nations in land reclamation and governance of their rightful lands, organizes workplaces and communities to collectively self govern, shifts means of production to works and communities, divests from fossil fuels and other extractive economies, invests in common access to energy, food, housing, and advances public dollars to build community wealth toward reversing inequality.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

To be determined.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Go beyond sustainability to embrace regenerative and restorative practices as necessary to achieve sustainability. Do a whole city community participatory design on how to shift the City into a net regenerative ecological and social impact.

CONTACT PERSONS

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510.981.7120
cdavila@cityofberkeley.info

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Resolution

⁴ John Loike and Robert Pollack, "What We Can Do to Preserve Our Clean Air;" Bo Peiter Johannes Andree, "Incidence of Covid-19 Connections with Air Pollution Exposure: Evidence from the Netherlands." 4-7.

RESOLUTION NO. XXXX

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF BERKELEY TO INITIATE A CITYWIDE, REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL JUST TRANSITION TO A REGENERATIVE ECONOMY TO ADDRESS THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, the City of Berkeley was the third city in the world to have declared a climate emergency in June 2018, calling for a just transition and regional collaborative effort in the San Francisco Bay Area as well as a statewide, national and global effort to immediately end greenhouse gas emissions; and

WHEREAS, the University of California⁵ and cities of Richmond, Oakland, Hayward, El Cerrito, Fairfax, Sebastopol, San Jose, Petaluma, Cupertino, Alameda, San Anselmo, Benicia, Cloverdale, Cotati, Healdsburg, Santa Rosa, Windsor, Menlo Park, Santa Cruz and the counties of San Francisco, Santa Cruz, San Mateo, Santa Clara and Sonoma have responded by declaring we face a climate emergency and joining the call for a regional collaborative effort in the San Francisco Bay Area; and

WHEREAS, there is not a focused collaborative implementation plan in sight regionally or internationally amongst the thousands of universities and governments across the globe that have declared a climate emergency; and

WHEREAS, emissions need to intentionally fall between 2020 - 2030 are a critical frame wherein emissions must sharply and permanently fall to minimize climate catastrophe and meet internationally agreed upon targets which are insufficient to protect people from climate impacts; and

WHEREAS, governments are already spending or planning to spend \$9 trillion or more globally in the next few months on rescuing their economies,⁶ during the same timeframe that addressing the root causes of global warming is required for meaningful action; and

WHEREAS, returning to a pre-COVID-19 global economic system, which is designed for unlimited growth on a finite planet requiring more extraction, production and consumption of materials and labor than the earth or people can handle, is a recipe for destruction; and

WHEREAS, a transformative economic intervention specifically designed to address the climate emergency and deal with the COVID-19 economic impacts is fully justified by the imminent and time-sensitive existential threat both crises pose; and

WHEREAS, the traditional land management and stewardship methods of Chochenyo, Muwekma, Karkin, Lisjan, Ohlone and other neighboring Indigenous peoples serve as the original design for a regenerative economy on the lands now occupied by the nine counties of the SF Bay Area; and

WHEREAS, legally recognizing the inherent rights of nature such as the Bay, is necessary to establish precautionary and restrictive measures to prevent human activities from causing additional harms to water, air, soil, species, ecosystems or ecological cycles on both local and global scales; and

WHEREAS, for the Greater Bay Area to fulfill its responsibility to address global warming without exacerbating a history of racial violence, wealth inequality, and ecological degradation, it must: Implement a Just Transition to a Regenerative Economy; Embrace a doughnut

⁵ <https://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/news/university-california-declares-climate-emergency>

⁶ <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2020/jun/18/world-has-six-months-to-avert-climate-crisis-says-energy-expert>

economics⁷ wherein the Bay Area brings its overall footprint well within the earth's carrying capacity while meeting the social needs of its residents; phase out the refining, transport, and consumption of fossil fuels and other polluting industries, energies, and waste products; and define the bioregional boundaries upon which the Bay Area attempts to be regenerative and sustainable; and be an accelerator for a circular economic strategies such as cradle-to-cradle design wherein the material streams of waste is designed to be feedstock; lead the world by collaboratively initiating a world-saving transitional effort; sustain focus and unity of purpose in successfully executing a just transition to a regenerative economy until such an economy is fully functioning; and

WHEREAS, a Regenerative Economy as defined by Movement Generation⁸ and GrassRoots Global Justice⁹ as a framework for achieving a regenerative economy that focuses on: Indigenous and Tribal Sovereignty, Justice for Black and Immigrant Communities, Just Transitions for Workers and communities impacted by extractive industries; Reinvestment in environmental sacrifice zones and communities; Healthcare for all; Ensures a home guarantee; Energy democracy; Food and land sovereignty; Equitable clean energy; Emissions-free transit; Bioregional governance; A just recovery in the face of diverse forms of disasters; and Advances feminist economies; and

WHEREAS, a just transition to a regenerative economy should in practice: Reverse a history of colonization, wealth extraction and imperialistic globalization; Reverse patterns of mass incarceration and demilitarize community life; Make reparative investments in marginalized communities; Make reparations for the descendants of enslaved persons; Support Indigenous peoples and tribal nations in land reclamation and governance of their rightful lands; Organize workplaces and communities to be democratic, equitable and collectively self governing; Shift to cooperative and public ownership of businesses; Divest from fossil fuels and other extractive economic activities; Invest in common access to renewable energy, food, and housing; Advance public dollars to build community wealth reversing inequality; and

WHEREAS, for any transition plan to be successful, it must include: reducing consumption and production of the remaining GHG budget in order to extend our transition timeline; investing in research and innovation to transform major industries; creating an optimal psychological and cultural climate wherein the work of transition can be carried out free from the compounded stress of racism, climate change impacts, income and wealth inequality, jobs loss, COVID-19, and political polarization are relieved; and training and preparation of our workforces for all the skilled labor required for a just transition; enacting regenerative and sustainable constraints for whole societies that are in balance with humans needs, ecosystems and wildlife; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Berkeley will initiate a Citywide Just Transition to a Regenerative Economy because this moment in history is our best and minimize climate catastrophe in an attempt to at least meet agreed upon international targets; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Berkeley will invest city funds, staff time, and To create a transnational task force focused on coordinating among on governments who have declared a climate emergency to be sustained until 2050;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Berkeley within the first 90 days will invite all the cities, counties, and institutions such as the UC system to form a regional and statewide task force to oversee a justice oriented evidence based transition to a regenerative economy to be sustained until 2050.

⁷ <https://www.amsterdam.nl/en/policy/sustainability/circular-economy/>
: <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/apr/08/amsterdam-doughnut-model-mend-post-coronavirus-economy>

⁸ https://movementgeneration.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/JT_booklet_English_SPREADs_web.pdf

⁹ <https://ggjalliance.org/programs/a-pathway-to-a-regenerative-economy/>

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Berkeley recognizes that attempting to be sustainable is not enough to protect residents from cumulative impacts of centuries of environmental and social degradation and instead will reorient its city planning, policy, and resource allocation to be socially and environmentally positive and will invest in a regenerative whole city infrastructure, policy, development and design process; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Berkeley will join the early adoption of doughnut economics methodology, which, by definition, recognizes the necessity of meeting the needs of residents within the carrying capacity of our planet Earth and the greater Bay area bioregion; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Berkeley will accelerate the transition to a zero-waste cradle to cradle circular economy; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, all city commissions shall propose city policies, procedures and programs to enact a just transition that is socially, economically and ecologically regenerative by securing racial justice, bioregional restoration and sustainability, maximally reduces greenhouse gas emissions, increases public health, increases disaster preparedness and community resilience and reverses inequality and wealth extraction of Berkeley and Bay Area residents; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Berkeley will create a city commission responsible for planning and implementing a just transition to a regenerative economy that is anti-racist, provides reparations and transformative support for those who are black, Indigenous, people of color, low income, and those struggling with mental health challenges, is community-driven and democratically-funded, environmentally-regenerative, and prioritizes local and independent businesses; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Berkeley commits to suspend any and all projects and policies that are incompatible with protecting the earth and people from further environmental degradation, social inequality, public health risks, and global warming; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Berkeley commits to the formation of a co-funded regional collaborative effort to begin as soon as possible and formally requests all regional agencies, cities, and counties to a shared table to devise and execute a just transition plan to the regenerative economy here in the Greater Bay Area through a regional green new deal; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Berkeley calls for a regional agencies, cities, and counties to agree on a shared definition of the Bay Area's bioregion, to define the shared limits of our bio-region's carrying capacity and to organize our governance to be bio-regionally regenerative, sustainable, and to define a developmental trajectory that maximizes the health and vitality of the ecosystems, wildlife, and people for generations to come; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Berkeley urges all neighboring governmental agencies (including local, state and federal) to suspend any and all projects and policies that are incompatible with protecting the earth and people from further environmental degradation, public health risks, and global warming; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Berkeley identifies our current economy with its focus on near-term perpetual growth requiring resource extraction and wealth enclosure as defunct and incompatible with the needs of sustainability, human thriving, and dignity, and calls for a new economic system which in its design meets human needs within planetary and local environmental and social boundaries of wellbeing and furthers human and ecological flourishing, furthers a regenerative human presence on earth, achieves equitable distribution of resources throughout the planet, and achieves sustainability just a just and regenerative transition to bring emissions to zero and adapt to further warming in the near and long term; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Berkeley commits to enacting a deep decent emissions scenario radically reducing its environmental footprint aiming for zero in the next 10 years through a real time decadal city wide response network.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Berkeley endorses the intention and vision behind a global Green New Deal that reverses centuries of colonization, and post-colonial imbalances of power, health, wealth, sovereignty, addresses the climate emergency at the speed and scale necessary, and protects the world from impending climate impacts; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Berkeley recognizes the importance of Indigenous leadership in designing and implementing a regenerative economy in Berkeley, the Greater Bay Area, and the World, and shall invite delegates from Indigenous communities to all stages of the planning and implementation process.

Just Transition Resolution for the FITES Committee 10/21/2020

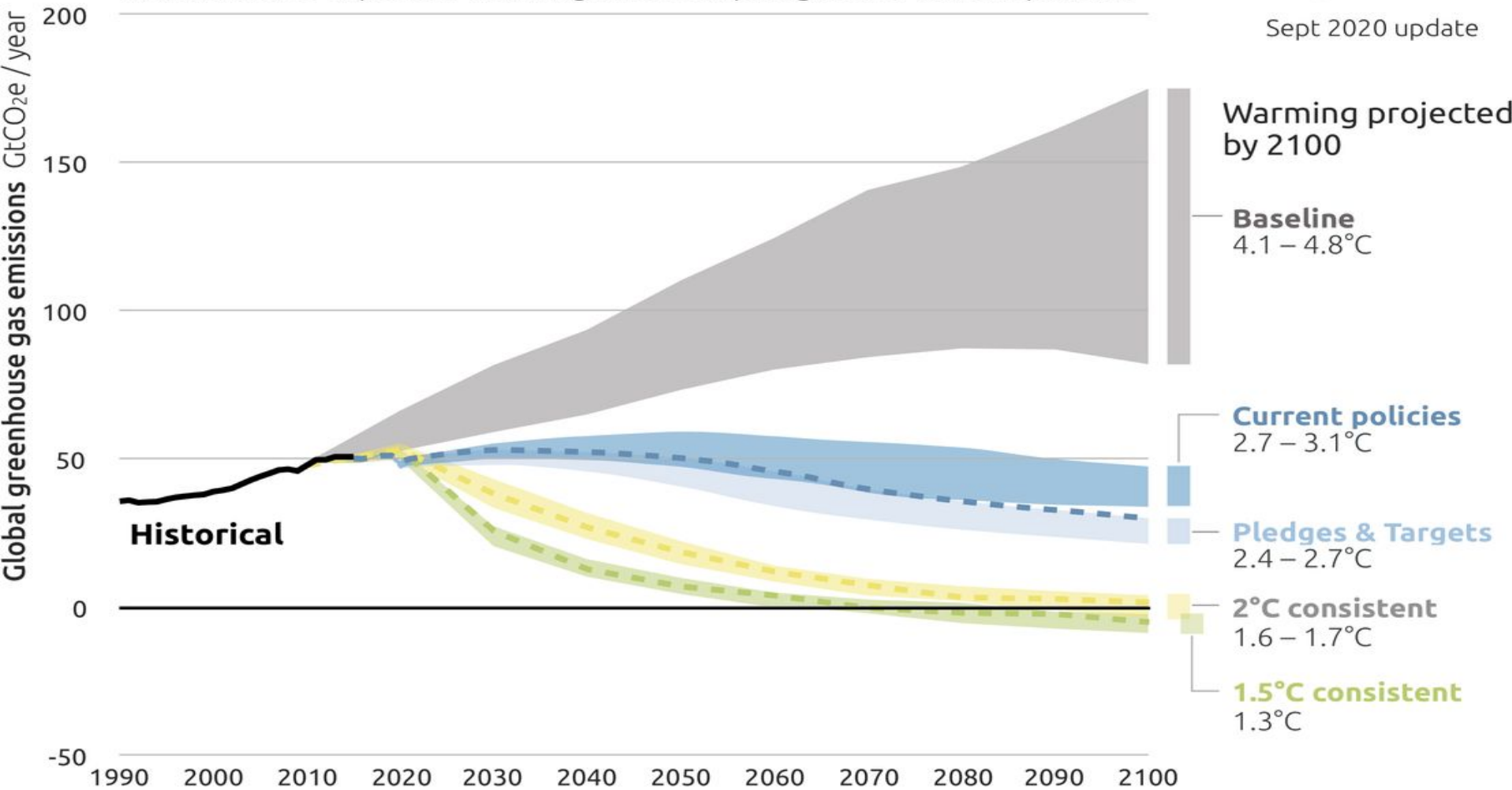
2100 WARMING PROJECTIONS

Emissions and expected warming based on pledges and current policies

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Sept 2020 update



The Climate Reality:

- These are the final years to transition off fossil fuels and recover dying ecosystems, secure ethical migration practices, and prevent climate apartheid
 - A deep descent scenario is unavoidable to preserve life and has yet to be established
-

We need to coordinate a safe and just transition to a one planet compatible global economy that equitable and renewably distributes abundance.

The City of Berkeley recognizes sustainability is not enough and will:

- 1. Invest in a regenerative whole-city infrastructure, policy, development and design process**
 - 2. Embrace Doughnut Economics meetings social needs within planetary boundaries**
 - 3. Draft a set of ordinances ensuring only earth-friendly products are sold within city limits by 2025**
 - 4. Focus the Commissions on a Just Transition**
 - 5. Create a Just Transition Commission**
-

6. Fund form and hold a regional and statewide collaborative through 2050 to plan a Just Transition to a Regenerative Economy here in the greater Bay Area.
 6. Form a transnational task force to be sustained until 2050. to co-execute a shared transitional peace effort in moving their immediate societies and economies toward ethical and regenerative trajectories
 6. Define the hard bio-regional boundaries by which Berkeley and the Bay Area governments will attempt to govern safely within
 6. Suspend any and all projects and policies that are incompatible with protecting the Earth and people from further environmental degradation, social inequality, and public health risks
 6. Center indigenous leadership in all of the above
-

9. Calls for a new economic system which in its design meets human needs within planetary and local environmental and social boundaries.

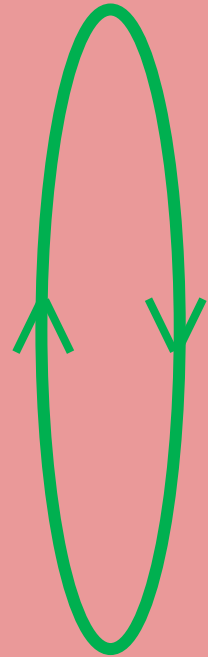
10. Endorse a Global Green New Deal

The Big Ideas:

Formally organize the region, and governments globally who have declared a climate emergency, to form an international task force through 2050

Action has to be taken on all levels in parallel

- Globally/internationally
- Nationally
- On state level
- Bio-regionally
- On **city** level/locally
- On neighborhood/community level
- On family level/individually



The Big Ideas:

Initiate a full-scale
societal mobilization
toward a regenerative
economy

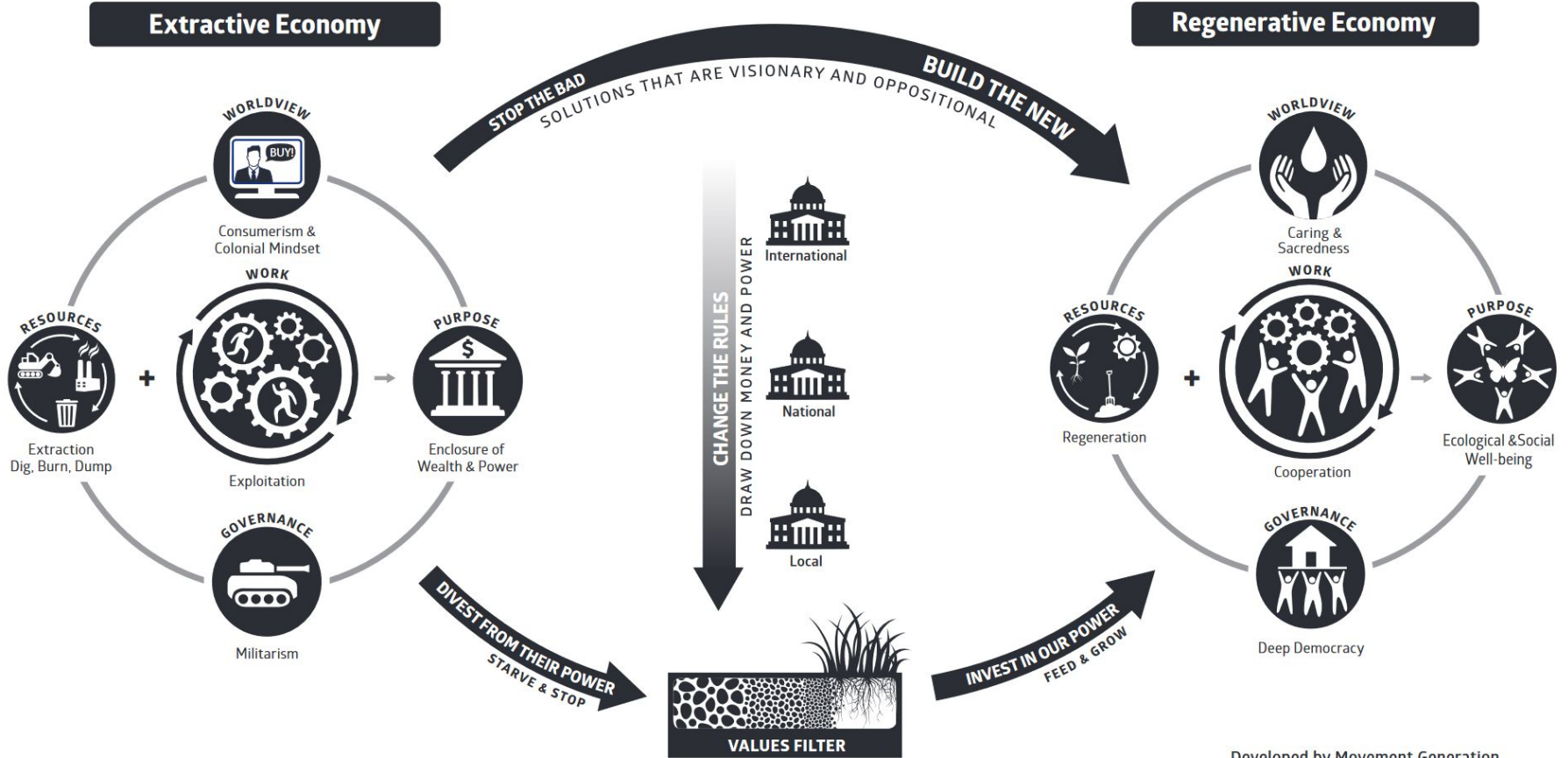
This is what the world is waiting for, the moment when we enter full transition mode.

Berkeley as a community is ready for this. Berkeley as a city is positioned to do this regionally and globally being the 6th city to declare a climate emergency

The Big Ideas:

Commit to a just transition ethos and framework developed by frontline environmental justice organizations for Berkeley's sustainability efforts

A STRATEGY FRAMEWORK FOR JUST TRANSITION



- A JUST TRANSITION MUST:**
- ▶ Shift economic control to communities
 - ▶ Democratize wealth and the workplace
 - ▶ Advance ecological restoration
 - ▶ Drive racial justice and social equity

Formalize these criteria and standards for projects with oversight:

PROTECT: *Solutions must protect, not harm our communities.*

REPAIR: *Solutions must repair the harms of our extractive economy.*

INVEST: *Solutions must move non-extractive and equitable investments to our communities and workers.*

TRANSFORM: *Solutions must provide the foundation to transform relationships and structures so that they are rooted in respect, equity, and justice.*

How we govern or fail to govern a just transition will determine the strength and wellbeing of all of Berkeley's residents for generations to come worldwide.

Oakland has a race and equity department, a direction we should follow.

We cannot leave justice to chance. Formalizing the standards with appropriate oversight and data is the only ethical option we have.

**The Big Ideas:
Going beyond
sustainability - Bay Area
as a fully regenerative
economy**

**7 Counties: Sonoma, San
Francisco, Contra Costa,
Santa Clara, Alameda,
Santa Cruz, San Mateo**

18 Bay Area Cities: Richmond, Oakland, Hayward, El Cerrito, Fairfax, Sebastopol, San Jose, Petaluma, Cupertino, Alameda, San Anselmo, Benicia, Cloverdale, Cotati, Healdsburg, Santa Rosa, Windsor, Menlo Park, Santa Cruz

Sustainability means

- Meeting our needs without interfering in future generations' ability to meet theirs
- Operating within planetary and bio-regional boundaries

Regeneration means

- Reversing ecological overshoot, GHG emissions, public health impacts, and centuries of ecological and genocidal violence
 - Replenishing depleted soils, fisheries, ecosystems
-

This will require a planning processes and design methodologies that are explicitly regenerative, justice-enacting, and resilient to shocks

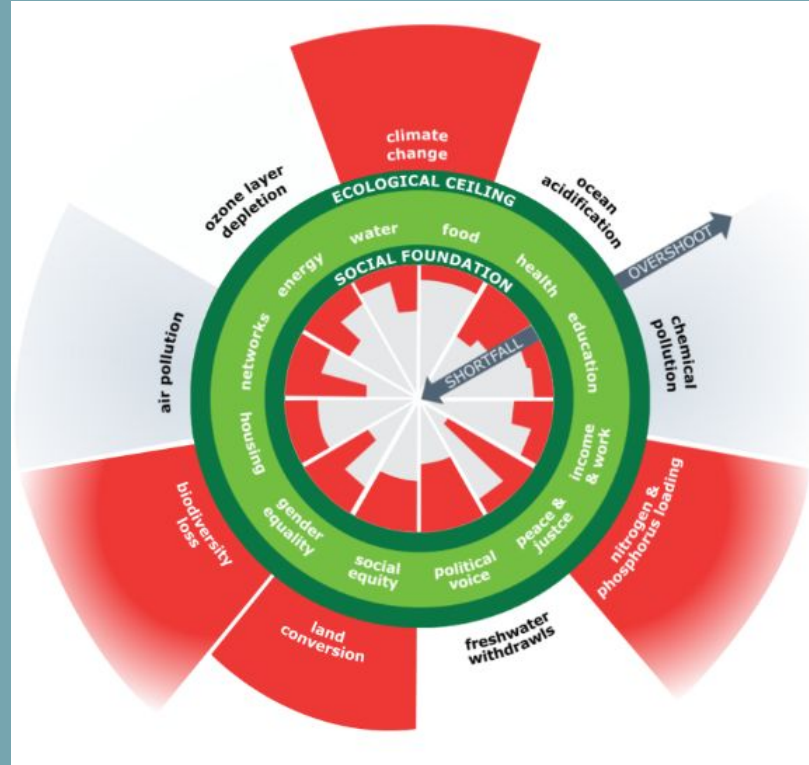
The Big Ideas:
Build Doughnut Economics
methodology into Berkeley's
Sustainability planning and the
Bay Area's regional planning

The Doughnut offers a vision of what it means for humanity to thrive in the 21st century



- The **ecological ceiling** consists of nine planetary boundaries, beyond which lie unacceptable environmental degradation and potential tipping points in Earth systems.
- The twelve dimensions of the **social foundation** are derived from internationally agreed minimum social standards, as identified by the world's governments in the Sustainable Development Goals in 2015.
- Between social and planetary boundaries lies an **ecologically safe and socially just space** in which humanity can thrive.

Doughnut Economics: The world is currently outside the safe and just space on alarmingly many dimensions



Doughnut Economics at city level: 4 lenses



The Big Ideas:

Draft ordinances to accelerate the Circular Economy and the Cradle-to-Cradle standard for products and services sold in Berkeley

“Everything is a resource for something else. In nature, the “waste” of one system becomes food for another. Everything can be designed to be disassembled and safely returned to the soil as biological nutrients, or re-utilized as high quality materials for new products as technical nutrients without contamination.”

Instead of tackling each product at time such as take out food, single use plastic, etc.

Set a standard for all products to be zero waste - biodegradable - food for ecosystems by a certain date

Big Ideas:

Lobby the region to shift to bioregional governance.

Bring the Bay Area's ecological footprint toward the planets and it's own carrying capacity

Bay Area Bioregion:

The San Francisco Bay Bioregion encompasses the entire San Francisco Bay Area and Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta

Thank you
