



Planning & Development  
Office of Energy & Sustainable Development

## Berkeley's Just Transition Pilot Program

The City of Berkeley's Just Transition Pilot Program was funded by City Council to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and the impact of climate change on low-to-moderate income residents by providing the direct installation of building electrification, energy efficiency, and weatherization measures in existing affordable housing buildings and for income-qualified households. Electrification refers to the process of replacing technologies that use fossil fuels, such as oil and natural gas, with technologies that use electricity. Electrification measures include replacing gas water heating, HVAC, electrical upgrades, and cooking equipment with systems that run on clean electricity. These upgrades improve indoor air quality, increase comfort, decrease greenhouse gas emissions, and can make homes safer and more resilient to extreme weather conditions.

The Just Transition program requires that upgrades be completed by pre-qualified contractors who meet minimum labor standards to ensure that residential electrification construction work also provides economic benefits to workers. Just Transition funds can be used for labor, energy efficiency equipment, building envelope improvements, heat pump water heaters and/or heat pump air space heating/cooling, induction cooking ranges, and related work for health and safety upgrades in buildings with income-qualified residents.

### Home Electrification Partners

The City of Berkeley is working with the following partners to help make building electrification more accessible for income-qualified residents.

[Rebuilding Together East Bay Network \(RTEBN\)](#), the lead partner, is a non-profit organization serving income-qualified households in several jurisdictions across the East Bay. RTEBN coordinates donors and volunteers to meet critical needs in the community for repairs, renovations, and safety modifications. RTEBN is implementing the Just Transition program in the Berkeley community by providing outreach and managing individual projects and relationships. RTEBN is working with various implementation partners including Ava Community Energy, Quit Carbon, Quality Conservation Services, Rising Sun Center for Opportunity, and Habitat for Humanity Silicon Valley/East Bay.

[Construction Trades Workforce Initiative \(CTWI\)](#), a subcontractor to RTEBN on the project, is the nonprofit arm of the Building & Construction Trades Councils of Alameda and Contra Costa Counties. CTWI works to ensure the long-term sustainability of the construction industry by bridging the gap between union construction labor and key stakeholders. For the Just Transition program, CTWI will be facilitating electrification trainings for contractors, co-creating labor standards, and helping to recruit and employ a diverse pool of contractors.

Please contact [electric@berkeleyca.gov](mailto:electric@berkeleyca.gov) for more information.