

Ambition • Restoration • Justice

Vision, Principles and Commitment on Climate Change

VISION: It's time for profound change in America. We can and must quickly transition to a clean energy economy and restore thriving nature in ways that support equitable education, health, justice and prosperity across the nation. We can and must compensate for our past damage by reversing the historical impacts of our pollution and inequities. We can and must ensure that all of us and future generations can lead healthy, secure lives without the threats of racism, injustice, and climate change.

We are compelled to act individually, collectively, and systemically because our accumulating carbon pollution, democratic degradation, and income stratification is unsustainable. We have the power to bring change. We can invest in the public good with broad benefits to society. We need to live our values and advocate for justice in our personal lives, social and workplace communities, and at all levels of policy with our actions and our votes.

PRINCIPLES: Together, we can achieve ambitious and equitable climate solutions rooted in shared American values that address climate risks and impacts by 2030. These solutions must:

Stop and reverse climate pollution: Solutions must generate abundant, low-cost, clean energy and ensure energy-efficient buildings, transportation and manufacturing targeting zero emissions by 2035 and elimination of historic emissions by 2050.

Equitably involve and benefit all Americans: Justice, equity, and inclusion must be central to all climate solutions discussions and actions with special efforts made to center youth, communities of color, low-income, rural, labor and other communities who have faced systemic disenfranchisement and disinvestment in setting policy and sharing in the benefits.

Prepare for harmful impacts: We must protect our families, communities and livelihoods today from the harmful impacts we are already experiencing from climate change with emphasis on vulnerable communities; and ensure that we are ready for rapid response to the health, mental health, economic and quality of life needs people face after experiencing climate-fueled impacts and disasters.

Protect and improve personal health: Solutions must clear the air, improve land and water quality; provide healthy and accessible plant-based food choices to nurture people's bodies and spirits; and support health reparation of communities plagued by toxic pollution.

Build equitable, shared and sustainable prosperity: Climate solutions must create good jobs with economic justice; a just transition for workers and communities negatively affected by our shift to clean energy, agriculture, transportation, and manufacturing; and a sustainable economy that supports better lives and livelihoods today and in the future.

COMMITMENT: Together, we will lead by example and embed the Principles in our personal lives; build public support and political resolve for effective climate actions in our organizations, communities and the public sphere, and vote for candidates and policies that make climate action a top priority.