

Omnibus California Green New Deal Act

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

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INTRODUCTION

Recent scientific reports on our current period of anthropogenic climate change from organizations and agencies around the world acknowledge that previous projections of the impacts associated with climate change have underestimated their severity and speed to such an extent that we now have less than a decade to act in order to have a probable chance of averting most of the catastrophic cascading events associated with rapid climate change, events that will disrupt the global economy and cause unprecedented human suffering. This discovery demands the declaration of a worldwide State of Emergency, and that coordinated Omnibus Green New Deal Acts, analogous to the New Deal implemented between 1932 and 1938 to redress the Great Depression, be implemented federally and in each state in the United States.

Despite growing global acknowledgement of the shocking reality that underlies the issuance of this emergency warning, our United States government, as well as the major fossil fuel corporations and their financiers and private shareholders, continue to knowingly and consciously exacerbate this present crisis by actively participating in a criminal conspiracy to make America the world's top producer and exporter of oil and natural gas. The scope and the scale of the changes that will, therefore, necessarily have to be undertaken to stop and reverse this present rate of global climate change must be as unprecedented in scope and speed as the climate crisis these types of policies have created.

However, the substantial challenge that this crisis presents to our human family also presents a unique historic opportunity to the nation and to the State of California to radically reduce or eliminate poverty and to provide sustainable economic security for everyone within our borders who is willing to participate in this revisioning of our present goals and means of economic development.

In heeding this call for the radical and immediate implementation of climate solutions in the form of a Green New Deal, many national organizations and individual legislators and candidates for political office have issued their own Green New Deal-type plan summaries similar to this document. However, few even come close to the scale, scope, or speed with which we need to achieve the level of atmospheric decarbonization climate scientists have reported must be reached just in order to have a greater than 50% chance of averting the worst of climate change.

Because of this shortcoming, the strategy that we at the Romero Institute have consciously embraced to govern the preparation of the California Green New Deal Act that is outlined below and currently being drafted in the form of an Omnibus Act is rooted in the assumption that the vast majority of legislative actions and climate policies that have been made and implemented to date all fall dramatically short of what is necessary to avert disaster. It is our judgment that this fatal lack of serious climate action is due to the fact that these policies that have been formulated

by the members of our present professional political leadership community pursuant to the traditional strategy of public policy-making that is restrained by the anti-social notions that what must be proposed must be immediately politically feasible and be able to be carried into effect while perpetuating the present unequitable and destructive socioeconomic status quo.

For this reason, the on-going drafting of the Act that is outlined below has been governed by the following two criteria: 1) What is absolutely necessary, according to the latest and most reliable scientific data, in order to limit global warming to under 1.5°C; and, 2) What is presently technologically possible to meet the needs arising from Criteria 1, or what technology exists in a nascent form and could reasonably be scaled up and deployed within the time frames demanded by climate change to meet said needs.

By consciously rejecting the long-held and deeply-ingrained political habit of seeking to accomplish nothing more than that which is presently deemed to be immediately politically feasible, rather than taking the steps that are rationally required to achieve that must necessarily be achieved in order to overcome this present crisis, we set forth the Legislative Summary below of a detailed plan for our State of California that will be fully realized in a full-length Omnibus California Green New Deal Act presently being drafted by our staff that will function as a template for state, national, and international climate action. The survival of our cohesive, global human civilization requires nothing less.

The Act that is outlined below demonstrates that, even without the support of our present Federal Administration — indeed, even directly in the face of the active opposition on the part of the present Federal Administration to all reasonable steps being attempted to stop global climate change — individual States, such as California, can muster the political, social, and business capacity to carry out, as quickly as is technologically possible, all that will be necessary: (A) to prevent global climate change from progressing beyond that level that is now absolutely unavoidable, in light of the global greenhouse gases that have already been emitted into our atmosphere; (B) to minimize the degree of ecological degradation that will be inflicted on our planet and (C) to adapt to the unavoidable changes that will be inflicted on our planet by the global greenhouse gases that have already been emitted into our planet's atmosphere, or that will not be able to be stopped, within a 5-to-8-year period without inflicting the same degree of loss of life and destruction of vital property that would be caused by the global climate change that The Act seeks to avoid.

The California Omnibus Green New Deal Act that is presently being drafted will accomplish the following:

I. Emission Mandates

The following constitute the overarching statewide mandates for global greenhouse gas emission reductions across all sectors of California's economy that the provisions to be included in the

complete Act to follow will achieve, based upon the most reliable, up to date scientific data available regarding the process of global climate change. These mandates require the state to plan and fully implement policies that extend well beyond statewide carbon neutrality by mandating annual carbon sequestration rates that will enable the state to function as a net carbon sink, sequestering more carbon than we emit, through the deployment of both natural processes and all the available methods of technology that will offset carbon emissions. In addition to this aggressive set of mandates for annual net carbon sequestration, the Act that this Outline reveals also requires the State of California to utilize a more-comprehensive method for inventorying greenhouse gas emissions that takes into account the full embedded life-cycle emissions of any product or service sold or provided in the State of California.

1. **Mandates for Overall Statewide Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction & Sequestration.**
 - a. Achieve an 80% reduction in statewide global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions below 1990 baseline year emissions by 2028;
 - b. Achieve net zero GHG emissions by 2030; and
 - c. Achieve and maintain annual net negative carbon sequestration rates of least 10% of 1990 baseline GHG emission levels by 2035.
2. **Global Greenhouse Gas emission accounting** shall be supplemented by Consumption-Based Emission Inventories (CBEI) in order to generate the most accurate baseline and progress estimates possible.

II. Governance

Implementing a California Green New Deal and ensuring a just transition for all Californians from our present fossil fuel-powered economy to a clean and sustainable renewable energy-powered economy in the face of our rapidly-changing state, national and global climate requires that the State of California address the current global climate crisis as a State of Emergency. To accomplish this fairly and effectively calls for enhanced assessment of the climate impact of every state and local policy, for dramatically improved coordination between and among every climate action undertaken on the part of every state agency and every local government, increases in public awareness of the actual emergency nature of the present global climate crisis, the increased awareness of the importance of everyone taking climate action, and the generating of a much more intense monitoring and enforcement of the State's progress in meeting its mandated climate goals. In addition to identifying the specific agencies of state governance that will be directly responsible for carrying out the mandates of the California Green New Deal, the Act that this Outline describes also requires California's government, in the process of carrying into effect this Act, to redress the State's historic and still-present social and economic inequities by placing a special emphasis on including in the programs mandated by this Act those citizens of California who have been historically excluded and disproportionately adversely affected by the negative impacts of climate change and our State's past environmental policies. This Act also requires the limiting of the influence on our State's public policy development of the

professional lobbying activities of greenhouse gas-generating industries while increasing the ability of marginalized groups to actively participate in policy design and implementation.

1. **Emergency Status.** Recognize and declare the global climate change crisis to be a Statewide Emergency, and immediately devote all necessary state resources to transitioning, as immediately as is technologically possible, to a 100% clean energy economy.
2. **Establishment of Climate Score Rating.** The State of California shall immediately establish both the criteria and the procedure pursuant to which the adverse climate impact on the health and well-being of our people and our natural systems resulting from any action undertaken on the part of any state government agency may be as accurately assessed as current science allows. This mandate will apply to, but will not be limited to, all state government agency actions affecting, in any way: climate change; agriculture; forestry management; coastal regions; zoning; housing; transportation; energy; industrial activities; waste management; and water, to which action will be assigned a climate score. These criteria shall be developed and periodically updated through consultation with, and with the consent of, leaders from affected communities and relevant experts. These criteria shall be determined by what has been determined, by this Act, to be scientifically necessary and technologically feasible, and shall be set forth in three categories. These are: Sustainability; Resilience; and Equity.
 - a. The California State Senate Standing Committee on Environmental Quality shall utilize these criteria to assign and publish a numerical score for every piece of proposed state legislation.
 - b. Every other state agency and every other government agency in the State of California — at every level of regional, county, city and local government — shall develop and publish a specific procedure pursuant to which that agency shall assign a similar climate score to each presently-on-going and every future-proposed policy and government action, explicitly including development, planning and permitting decisions, and for sharing this “climate score” with every affected community and the public.
3. **Establishment of an Office of Climate Action.** The State of California shall establish, fund, staff, and support in every way requested an Office of Climate Action within the California Air Resources Board. This Office of Climate Action shall: (a) coordinate all “climate actions” between every state agency and any county, municipal, or local government; (b) provide educational materials and programs and actively reach out to residents and businesses throughout the state educating and mobilizing them concerning actions to be taken to stop and reverse global climate action; (c) take all steps necessary to see to it that each state agency responsible for assuring the just transition identified in this Act is carried into fruition performs its duties in regard to the effectuation of this Act and (d) serve as the central agency gathering and disseminating news and resources

regarding California's climate action. The Office of Climate Action shall also compile and publish an annual report detailing all climate-related activities undertaken by every agency of the state in the previous year and proposed to be undertaken in the following year throughout the state.

4. **Expand Environmental Justice Protections and Indigenous Peoples' Rights.** The State of California shall take active steps to correct and provide a remedy for all past or present racially-biased climate-related policies and actions that, directly or indirectly, negatively impact communities of color throughout the State, including: endorsing, in this Act, and adopting as a governing principle of the Act the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and "The Principles of Environmental Justice" issued by The First National People of Color Environmental Leadership Summit and take active steps to see to it that these principles be observed in all State activities pertaining to this Act.
 - a. Expand Environmental Justice and Indigenous Peoples' Rights. The State shall correct racially-biased policies and actions that, directly or indirectly, negatively impact communities of color throughout the State.
 - b. Adopt the Principles of Environmental Justice from the First National People of Color Environmental Leadership Summit as well as the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in all State activities pertaining to this Act.
 - c. Formally recognize the genocide committed against the Native Americans existing in what is now California, and acknowledge and formally apologize for the role State policies and actions have played in harming Native American communities and other communities of color throughout State history.
 - d. State education requirements shall be updated to include historically accurate accounts of the treatment of Native American peoples and other peoples of color throughout State history, based whenever possible on narratives from affected communities or their descendants.
 - e. Abolish requirements for California schools to include curriculum promoting the California Mission system, and require educational materials discussing the California Mission system to explain the racial injustices committed by the Missions.
 - f. Prohibit the naming of State infrastructure (streets, parks, forests, etc.) after, or the erection of statues, plaques, or any form of monument in recognition of perpetrators of genocide as defined by the United Nations' Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide. This prohibition shall be applied retroactively to existing State infrastructure.
 - g. Formally recognize all Native American tribes in California currently petitioning for federal recognition, and aid existing and future petitions by those tribes for federal recognition.

- h. Undertake a comprehensive and public review of all ratified and unratified treaties between the California government and Native American peoples living within State bounds in coordination with, to the fullest extent possible, the descendants of treaty signatories.
 - i. Support Native American tribes in California that wish to declare personhood for a natural environmental feature, such as a river, mountain, grove, lake, aquifer, etc, that is located on current or historical territory for that tribe.
 - j. Give full support to the State Truth and Healing Commission, which shall be given authority to give limited instruction to State agencies dealing with issues relevant to Native American communities regarding State policies or actions impacting Native American communities.
 - k. Require that a majority of the leadership of the Office of Native American Affairs are enrolled members of a Native American tribe located in California.
5. **Expand Fair Political Practices Outreach Committee.**
- a. The State shall increase funding, staffing, and interagency support for the Fair Political Practices Committee to ensure the highest ethical standards are met in all State activities with regard to the implementation of this Act, with a particular focus on ending regulatory capture through lobbyist influencers in California, expressly recognizing and acknowledging that, to date, the outsized influence of industry lobbying groups on the legislative and regulatory activities of the state have subverted the intended functionality of at several major state agencies, resulting in taxpayer funds being used for the primary benefit of private industry executives and shareholders.
 - b. Particular attention, in this regard, is to be given to any agency, department, or commission that is charged with regulating the activities of the fossil fuel industry. For example, this Act shall:
 - i. Increase agency transparency to outside watchdog entities like investigative reporters and nonprofits.
 - ii. Undertake interdisciplinary studies of problematic regulatory structures with a consortium of research and/or nonprofit organizations to produce robust recommendations to be acted upon by the State.
 - iii. Ensure, and publicize, that legal violations by government staff will be prosecuted by the State to the fullest extent.

III. Green Financing

This California Green New Deal shall call for the mobilization of public and private capital to implement all steps and activities that shall be deemed necessary to meaningfully redress the present global climate change crisis. As an alternative to the current banking system in the U.S. and California that does not meet the climate or equity objectives of this Act, the California Green New Deal as set forth in this Framework will be financed through a system of public

banking that is primarily accountable to public interest and demands. This Framework requires that current and historically disadvantaged communities are given priority in investments for economic and infrastructure development under the California Green New Deal. Ensuring a just transition will also require the state to address issues related to insurance standards that will become especially burdensome under climate change, as well as any market-based climate policy mechanisms that have the potential to disproportionately impact the well-being of vulnerable and frontline communities.

1. Reestablish the existing California Infrastructure and Economic Development

Bank. For the purpose of encouraging and promoting sustainable social and economic development, the State of California shall reestablish the existing California Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank (IBank) as a State public bank, similar to the Bank of North Dakota, and engage in the business of banking, and for that purpose shall maintain a system of banking owned, controlled, and operated by it, under the name of the California State Bank (CalBank).

- a. CalBank shall be founded and operated according to the highest public banking standards, including prohibiting the bank from opening retail locations or otherwise competing with community banks or credit unions, strict anti-corruption clauses with robust review and accountability procedures, a commitment to equity and public transparency, a diverse board of directors comprising persons associated with community development as well as financial experts, and permanent Community Advisory and Expert Advisory Committees each with one rotating voting member on the board of directors.
 - b. CalBank shall coordinate with in-state local and regional public banks, community banks, credit unions, and tribal governments to maximize investment in and funding accessibility for activities associated with this Act, particularly through the issuance of below-market-rate loans not linked to credit score or credit history.
 - c. CalBank will be responsible, under the supervision of the State Treasury Department and CalEPA, for administering and certifying California Green Bonds.
 - d. CalBank shall be prohibited from investing in or providing funds in any way to projects involving the development of fossil fuel infrastructure or supply.
- 2. Expand the California Green Bond market to at least \$100 billion by 2025, \$500 billion by 2030, and \$1 trillion by 2035.**
- 3. Divestiture of state funds from fossil fuel industry by 2025.** Investigate state activities, agencies, and organizations including pension planning, institutional investments, current and potential insurers, state educational institutions, and any other avenue through which taxpayer funds are spent for investments in and underwriting of companies or projects perpetuating the extraction and use of fossil fuels in order to fully divest state funds from

the fossil fuel industry by 2025, and to reinvest as much as possible in California Green Bonds to finance state climate action.

4. **Protection of Disadvantaged Communities.** Ensure a just transition to a sustainable economy by prioritizing current and historically disadvantaged communities for economic and infrastructure development.
 - a. Undertake a comprehensive study specifying the communities and/or individuals covered by this provision, delineating and quantifying the needs of the target populations, as well as characterizing past access and impediments to access of the services similar to those to be provided by this office, and experiences to date by communities within and outside of California in providing these services in times of disaster. The results of this study will be made available to all agencies and programs empowered or referenced by this Act.
 - b. Create a Climate Justice Resiliency Fund to ensure justice and adequate support for communities whose health, housing or economies are directly affected by climate change or by the transition to a green economy, and/or to members of all communities made more vulnerable to disasters by reason of historic disadvantages, age, illness, disability, homelessness or dire poverty.
 - c. Funding shall be provided by a new 1% tax on incomes over \$1 million, modeled after the Mental Health Services Act, as well as a portion of state revenue collected from the enforcement of environmental regulations.
 - d. Offer zero-interest loans for renewable energy development, community resilience, and environmental remediation projects for frontline and disadvantaged communities, with requirements prioritizing the use of leadership and labor from the community being served.
 - e. Increase funding for the California Organized Investment Network program to accelerate responsible investment in underserved communities.
5. **Climate Insurance Standards.** Expand funding, staffing, and the scope of Climate and Sustainability Office (CSO) within the California Department of Insurance to accelerate the development and adoption of California climate insurance standards.
 - a. The CSO also shall be responsible for identifying and providing technical and financial assistance to vulnerable and frontline low-income communities to ensure affordable climate insurance is available to all Californians in need.
 - b. The CSO shall coordinate with regional Climate Action Coordinators in the Office of Climate Action to ensure municipalities, tribal governments, and regions are educated about steps they can take to minimize risks related to climate change, including climate insurance costs.
 - c. Work with insurers to develop practices requiring or rewarding customers for engaging in fire prevention and other behaviors that minimize risk and/or promote the climate actions aligned with climate mitigation and adaptation in general and as defined within this Act in particular.

6. **Cap-and-Trade Revision.** The State shall direct the Air Resources Board to review and revise the current Cap-and-Trade program to create a Cap-and-Fine program in its place to strongly disincentivize continued pollution by major industrial polluters, specifically preventing them from continuing to purchase credits allowing them to continue polluting.
 - a. Require each industrial corporation to submit a quarterly, third-party-verified, official filing detailing the steps which that corporation is actively undertaking and progress made during that Quarter toward the total elimination of their GHG emissions.
 - b. The Senate Standing Committee on Environmental Quality shall establish a set of standards defining which GHG emissions it is technologically feasible for corporations to avoid emitting as of a given quarter, and with due lead time for such adaptations taken into account, and penalties that increase exponentially for every unit of global greenhouse gas emitted by a California corporations during that past Quarter above that which is deemed capable of having been avoided and/or captured and permanently sequestered by that corporation given the technological state-of-the-art that was technologically available in the field of endeavor of that corporation during that Quarter, thereby generating monies that shall be directed to developing additional means of avoiding and/or capturing and sequestering industrial greenhouse gas emissions in that corporation's area of industry.
 - c. The State shall create and maintain an easy-to-use, streamlined, web-based reporting form for this purpose that shall be made available to all industrial corporations, in all languages commonly used in California.
 - d. The State shall provide loans or subsidies to accomplish this emission avoidance and/or capturing and sequestering to small businesses and entities that demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the Air Resources Board, requisite financial need.

IV. Green Workforce

This section seeks to address the current and future workers that will be implicated in California's transition to a clean economy. While it is likely that a segment of the state's workforce will be displaced as a result of the implementation of policies as set forth in this Framework, the large investments needed to scale up California's efforts in addressing climate change will spur the creation of thousands of new green jobs to carry out the work of the Green New Deal in the areas of green infrastructure and manufacturing, conservation and restoration, clean energy development and more. Modeled after the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) created under President Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal, this Framework calls for the creation of a California Green Corps program. In addition to providing meaningful, well-paying jobs and other education and employment pathways for all Californians wishing to take part in the state's

climate efforts, the California Green Corps will give priority to those workers displaced as a result of the transition to a clean economy to ensure a just transition.

1. **California Green Corps.** The State shall create and fund a California Green Corps (CGC) administered through the California Labor & Workforce Development Agency, the purpose of which is to give Californians the means and opportunity to work together in the domestic and global effort to secure a sustainable and healthy future.
 - a. The CGC shall employ at least 1 million Californians by 2025 in “green jobs” as defined by the Federal Bureau of Labor Statistics, and at least 2 million by 2030.
 - i. The Labor & Workforce Development Agency shall create or support the creation of regional and/or sub-regional Green Corps hub offices that provide convenient and equitable access for all Californians seeking training or employment through the Green Corps.
 - ii. The State shall create and offer a state-level Work Opportunity Tax Credit to employers who hire workers transitioning out of the fossil fuel industry. Workers looking to transition out of the fossil fuel industry will be prioritized over workers from other industries to ensure nobody is left unable to provide for themselves and their dependents during this transition period.
 - iii. In conjunction with the California Public Schools, California Community College, California State University and the University of California, as appropriate, the CGC shall provide educational and training programs in transportation, energy, agriculture, urban planning, waste management, water management, wildfire management, resilience planning and disaster response, and any other relevant sectors needed to fulfill the requirements set forth in this Act. Coursework shall, as fully as possible and as consistent with the purposes of this Act, be designed to yield high school diplomas, college credit and college degrees.
 - b. Workers who join the CGC will be guaranteed a living wage, job placement assistance, relocation assistance, full healthcare benefits, and education and/or vocational training as needed for the worker’s desired career path in green jobs.
 - c. The CGC shall provide educational and training programs in transportation, energy, agriculture, urban planning, waste management, water management, wildfire management, disaster response, ocean and estuary restoration activities, environmental justice and community advocacy, and any other relevant sectors needed to fulfill the requirements set forth in this Act.
2. Ensure that all work done by the CGC adheres to the highest labor standards, including family-sustaining salaries, local labor and supplier preferences, project labor and community agreements, and fact-based safety standards.

3. Ensure that all CGC training and employment opportunities are accessible equitably for all people, especially for those in low-income and historically disadvantaged communities.
 - a. State spending on activities covered in this Act will prioritize minority- and women-owned businesses, cooperatives and employee-owned firms, and community-owned and municipal enterprises.
4. Assess the requirements and accomplishments of inmates in California's State and Federal prisons who have been involved in fire-fighting and other disaster or climate-related actions and develop related transitional programs to qualify them for and facilitate their entry into skilled Green jobs or higher education programs relating to activities covered in this Act upon completion of their sentences.
5. The State shall actively support the rights of all working Californians, including those trained or employed through the Green Corps program, to unionize based on a simple majority.
 - a. These rights shall be extended to include classes of workers not currently protected in their ability to unionize, such as private sector workers not engaged in interstate commerce.

V. Education

It is crucial that California's educational and workforce development efforts are designed to provide the specific training needs for workers in the transition to a clean economy. Preparing the next generation to adapt and deal with the effects of a changing climate will require enhanced, equitable public education and increased public awareness and engagement in the science of climate change and its impacts.

- 1. Increase public engagement in climate change impacts and solutions through strengthened regional identities.**
 - a. The California Office of Climate Action will provide information regarding climate change, its impacts, its dangers and its opportunities for leadership directly to the populace of local, affected, and tribal communities, along with information about effective responses to these challenges, the means by which communities may gain the assistance they need to make good use of these emerging solutions, and the various resources and services provided by this Act.
 - i. These resources shall be developed for, and in collaboration with, regional community partners to increase group buy-in, foster a collaborative community spirit, and ensure information being distributed is highly targeted to specific regions.

- ii. Resources shall include information on maximizing individual contributions to climate solutions, as well as habit and lifestyle changes that may lessen an individual's contribution, including expanded public education opportunities relating to waste reduction for more effective sorting and product choice, dietary preferences, energy options, and water use and conservation in California on the statewide, regional, and individual level.
 - iii. Guidelines for the development of these resources shall include to:
 - 1. Include personal experiences from individuals impacted by climate change using emotional storytelling;
 - 2. Foster and utilize social group identities to promote and increase collective action;
 - 3. Emphasize locally relevant, short-term impacts and how they are consequences of long-term planning;
 - 4. Present solutions both in terms of what can be gained and of the negative consequences avoided;
 - 5. Leverage intrinsic motivations to support long-term, sustainable planning.
2. **Increase the availability and quality of California public education, including higher education.**
- a. Revise policies and increase funding to California public schools, colleges, and universities such that:
 - i. All teachers in California public schools, colleges, and universities earn a one-job living wage with health benefits regardless of the wealth or location of the communities involved, but with particular attention to rural, low-income and historically underserved communities;
 - ii. Faculty and courses are sufficient in content and rigor, and with enough classes and seats, to meet the mandates specified throughout this Act and with no delay in program completions;
 - iii. Compensated hours beyond those in the classroom allow sufficient time for the development and updating of knowledge, curriculum and methods that this Act depends upon, including but not limited the expansion and refinement of content and instruction related to climate change, green jobs and industries, STEM, critical thinking, and ethics;
 - iv. Districts engaged in union negotiations are not unduly constrained by inadequate funding but that state laws that affect employee rights and union activities are strengthened, particularly in regions such as rural schools, that have patterns of insufficient regard for such rights;
 - v. The availability of post-high school training relevant for specialized agricultural occupations at community colleges and four-year institutions,

including ocean farmer training programs, are increased, with program benefits ranging from pre-qualification for loans to new farmer training programs.

- b. Implement a student loan debt-forgiveness program for California State college and university graduates entering the California Green Corps (CGC) and/or other climate science-related jobs in the non-profit and public sectors.
 - i. The State of California will provide increased opportunities for members of the public to receive a certification or Associate's Degree in climate related studies and community environmental organizing, in order to provide trained and effective climate ambassadors and liaisons to create more climate and energy literacy in Californian communities.
- c. Ensure that public schools teach a climate justice curriculum that educates students in: the science of climate change, the social and economic causes and implications of climate change (with an explicit focus on environmental justice for frontline communities and communities of color), activism for climate justice, climate change solutions, and professions within the green workforce.
- d. Reestablish an on-going requirement from 3rd through 12th grades of coursework in "civics" to cover not only explanations of the formal systems of democratic government at all levels in the USA, but emphasizing and developing the skills and responsibilities of citizens in identifying, educating themselves about, and solving the problems associated with social justice, public health and well-being, climate mitigation and adaptation.
- e. Incorporate into established courses and/or, where needed, develop new courses and/or requirements, that assure students in the California public school system have:
 - i. Ample and extensive hands-on experience with natural systems, both wild and domestic, including the routine use of citizen science and service learning to meet these objectives;
 - ii. Current understandings of systems theory in general and of ecological, social and economic systems, and the dynamics of systems change, in particular;
 - iii. A working facility with such "soft skills" as have traditionally been taught only in business curricula, including but not limited to collaborative problem-solving, team building, conflict management, project management, long range planning, risk assessment and the critical use of media-based information.
- f. Revisit the California Community College Master Plan to define new paraprofessional occupations in emerging technologies, particularly those pertaining to sustainability, and specify standards for credentialing, continuing professional education and career transfer requirements, as well as to ensure that

California Community Colleges act as local centers of public information, community leadership, and the knowledge essential for the general public to achieve the structural changes and community actions required for the challenges of a changing climate.

- g. Under the coordination of the Office of Climate Action, and in partnership with relevant State agencies, the State shall create, amply fund, and administer simple, streamlined grant and fellowship programs for University of California and California State University students, researchers, faculty, departments, and campuses that are or will undertake productive research and/or development activities that contribute significantly to activities pertaining to this Act.

VI. Transportation

As California's largest source of greenhouse gas emissions, addressing the state's transportation sector must be central to a California Green New Deal. In addition to improving the state's public transit systems and increasing the ability of residents to utilize active, non-car modes of transportation through land use and planning, the state will need to take drastic actions to limit the use of fossil fuel-burning passenger vehicles and carbon-intensive transportation fuels.

Although there is significant potential within the transportation sector for emissions reductions, it is important that the mobility and financial well-being of middle and low-income households in California are not disproportionately burdened by the transportation policies set forth in this Framework. This means increasing access to financial resources and incentives to ensure that all households and local jurisdictions in California are able to afford zero emission vehicles and infrastructure.

1. **Reduce Sector-wide GHG Emissions.** Reduce net emissions from California transportation sector by 80% by 2028, and 100% by 2030.
 - a. **Achieve 100% carbon-neutral motor vehicles fleet by 2030.**
 - i. **Limit the purchase, sale, and import of hydrocarbon-powered motor vehicles.** The State of California shall prohibit any private or commercial automobile, truck, bus, or other means of motorized transportation that are powered from the combustion of hydrocarbons from being registered with the California Department of Motor Vehicles after January 1st of 2025.
 1. Increase the availability of electric vehicle (EV) rebates to households earning up to 200% of the state poverty limit.
 - a. EV rebates for low-income households shall be paired with credit-independent, zero-interest loans coordinated by CalBank in order to ensure all households that wish to purchase an EV can afford one.

2. Create a tiered system of EV rebates that municipalities “unlock” by achieving set renewable energy procurement standards before or on established deadlines.
 3. Increase program funding for the Consumer Assistance Program (CAP), also known as Cash for Clunkers, administered through the Bureau of Automotive Repair, and offer additional incentives for families and individuals trading in their used vehicle for a U.S.-made EV.
 4. The State shall incentivize the development and adoption of electric or renewably-powered heavy-duty vehicles for short-range purposes (transit buses, urban delivery vehicles, port and warehouse operations, construction equipment, etc).
 5. Exemptions may be granted on a case-by-case basis, solely for activities that directly result in quantifiable public benefits that cannot be technically performed by non-hydrocarbon-burning motor vehicles.
 - a. Granted exemptions will be subject to additional registration fees that will be used to fund the research and market deployment of renewable biofuels.
- ii. The State shall provide funding to achieve 100% electrification of public school and transit buses and municipal fleets by 2025, prioritizing low-income communities and communities suffering poor air quality.
- b. Amend the Low Carbon Fuel Standard to eliminate petroleum use and dependency by requiring all transportation fuels purchased and sold in the State of California to be renewable by 2030.**
- i. The State shall immediately incentivize and support the development of fossil fuel alternatives such as biodiesel and other biofuels, to meet the demand of interstate and international travel, trucking, shipping, and aviation purposes.
 1. The State shall identify and purchase or claim existing fossil fuel refinery and transportation infrastructure that can be usefully converted to the production of renewable biofuels.
 - a. Infrastructure converted under this provision shall prioritize benefits for local workers and community members to ensure a just transition.
 2. The use of prime farmland to grow crops for biofuel production shall be prohibited, but marginal State lands suitable for biofuel crop production shall be made available through low-cost leases to biofuel crop growers.

- c. **Public multi-use refueling stations.** The State, through the Department of Transportation, shall construct and maintain public multi-use refueling stations that co-locate major refueling and/or recharging methods at locations that maximize public access such that there is proportionate density of charging stations to local population size.
2. **Reduce all Vehicle Miles Traveled and require that per-capita Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) by passenger vehicles decrease by 10% of 2020 levels by 2030.** Implement funding allocation practices that support the establishment or growth of communities oriented toward reduced auto reliance or alternative modes of travel to increase the proportion of trips made by non-car modes of transportation.
 - a. Promote human-powered transportation by increasing State funding for municipalities/metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) developing supportive infrastructure and incentive programs, such as designing streets to prioritize non-passenger vehicle travel, instating “car-free” days in congested areas, expanding bike storage areas on public transportation, offering community bike share programs, etc.
 - b. The State shall provide increased incentives for municipalities and MPOs developing low- or no-cost, carbon-free public transportation.
 - i. Allocate proportionally more funds to MPOs that move aggressively to realize near-term GHG reductions or develop and use sustainability performance criteria for broader allocation
 - ii. Implement a regional tax on regions that fail to implement RTPs/SCSs consistent with the goals of this Act.
 - c. Regional public transportation shall be coordinated by the Office of Climate Action in collaboration with the Department of Transportation to ensure connectivity and continuity exists between regional public transportation options.
 - d. The State shall direct the Department of Transportation to work with research institutions, industry partners, and other relevant organizations and agencies to develop shipping optimization and logistics programs for all freight trucks entering or leaving California to reduce empty loads.
3. **Research and Development.** The State of California shall provide funding for research and development in the following areas:
 - a. Sustainable, safe, low-cost, long-lasting batteries for electric vehicles that are recyclable or compostable;
 - i. Additional targets should include extending the range of electric vehicles and increasing the charging speeds of electric vehicle charging technology/infrastructure.
 - b. Renewable biofuels that are interchangeable and intermixable with fossil-based transportation fuels without vehicle modification.

- i. Priority shall be given to research into kelp-based biofuels to minimize diversion of agricultural farmland for biofuel production.

VII. Forestry Management & Ecosystem Stewardship

Central to a California Green New Deal will be improving California's forest management and ecosystem stewardship priorities and practices with the aim of ensuring resilience under climate change and maximising environmental service benefits from California's diverse ecosystems. In addition to mobilizing state agencies and funds to improve the health of California's terrestrial and marine ecosystems, this Framework calls for a coordinated approach to sustainable ecosystem stewardship management across local jurisdictions, agencies and land ownerships in order to make a meaningful impact at the landscape scale.

1. **California Forest Carbon Plan.** The State shall direct CalBank, CGC, CSA, CalEPA, CAL FIRE, CNRA, and other relevant departments and agencies to immediately fund and implement recommendations made in the Forest Climate Action Team's California Forest Carbon Plan in order to rapidly improve the health, safety, and resiliency of all California's forests and prevent the release of greenhouse gases associated with tree death and wildfire. These agencies shall be responsible for:
 - a. Undertaking an expedited review and revision of the Forest Carbon Plan to ensure recommendations are based on the most current information available;
 - b. Accelerating the pace and scale of forest and watershed improvements on non-federal forest lands through financial incentives, Green Corps labor, and community benefit programs;
 - i. The State shall provide sufficient resources to the lead agencies in California forest management to ensure State forested lands are managed safely and sustainably by increasing the rate of forest and watershed improvement treatments to approximately 500,000 acres on non-federal lands annually by 2024.
 - c. Supporting Federal goals and actions to improve forest and watershed health and resiliency on in-state Federal lands through the Good Neighbor Authority program;
 - d. Preventing forest land conversions through easements, acquisitions, and coordinated land use planning;
 - e. Innovating solutions for wood products and carbon-negative biomass utilization to support ongoing sustainable forest management activities;

- f. Protecting and enhancing the carbon sequestration potential and other ecosystem services provided by healthy, well-managed forests;
 - g. Supporting key research, data management, communications, and accountability needs;
 - h. Identifying and leveraging beneficial partnerships between State agencies and with local and regional organizations, with a special emphasis on landscape- or watershed-level collaboration.
 - i. The State shall increase efforts to partner with tribes in preserving carbon through improved forest management on tribal lands with the aim of protecting forest tribal lands and increasing their land base and ownership of ancestral lands.
2. **Sustainable Ecosystem Stewardship Management.** The State shall direct CNRA, CAL FIRE, the Coastal Commission, the Bay Conservation and Development Commission, the Coastal Conservancy, and CalEPA to review programs and internal policies with respect to the unique challenges to ecosystem stewardship posed by climate change, and to revise as necessary to meet State climate and sustainability goals and in the view that climate change will cause severe and possibly irreversible harm to California's diverse ecosystems.
- a. Additional funds shall be allocated to these agencies as needed to maximize beneficial ecosystem functionality, including carbon sequestration potential.
 - b. Policies must be reviewed under a holistic impact assessment and mitigation framework that simultaneously assesses impacts on biodiversity, ecosystem function, and ecosystem services and meets the standards of the international Convention on Biological Diversity.
 - c. Additional grant funding shall be made available to support research and community engagement around activities relating to sustainable, ethical, and equitable ecosystem management.
 - d. The CNRA shall create and maintain a statewide, open-access database on restoration outcomes monitoring to foster evidence-based restoration and management actions.
 - e. The CNRA shall establish and operate a network of remote ecosystem monitoring sites spanning bioregions and ecosystems across the state to provide continuous monitoring and early detection of changes.
 - f. CalEPA and CNRA shall jointly coordinate and oversee organized citizen science and monitoring programs for engaging and cost-effective early detection of new arrivals and diseases and to observe changes in flowering timing, seed set, and other life-cycle events in relation to environmental cues.
3. **Coastal, Marine, & Aquatic Ecosystems.** The State shall direct and provide funding to the California Coastal Commission, the Bay Conservation and Development Commission, the Coastal Conservancy, and the Department of Fish and Wildlife to

review and provide recommendations for revisions of the Coastal Act and other relevant legislation to ensure the protection, restoration, and sustainable development of California's coastal and marine habitats through measures including but not limited to:

- a. **Coordinated Regional Planning.** The Coastal Commission shall oversee the administration of regional coastal planning agencies responsible for comprehensive conservation planning for coastal habitats to allow scope for retreat of soft sediment shorelines like beaches.
 - i. Regional planning should include current conditions and resources, existing uses and designations, projections for change, and the use of innovative conservation and restoration approaches.
- b. **Marine Protected Corridors.** The Department of Fish and Wildlife shall work collaboration with participating research and nonprofit institutes to develop and establish a new Marine Protected Area (MPA) designation for limited corridor zones linking larger MPAs.
 - i. These corridors shall be intended to aid in the free movement of species between MPAs and may be limited in duration, by seasonal, and/or to specific sectors of ocean habitat.
- c. **Blue Carbon Habitat Restoration.**
 - i. The State shall address the extensive loss of Bull kelp (*Nereocystis luetkeana*) and Giant kelp (*Macrocystis pyrifera*) forests and ecosystems along California's coastlines and promote the rapid recovery of kelp forests.
 1. Each California Marine Protected Area shall, in coordination with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and the California Coastal Commission, follow the example set by the Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council in developing and carrying out a Kelp Recovery Plan that includes recommendations to comprehensively address kelp loss and facilitate management and recovery of bull kelp populations.
 - a. These plans and recommendations shall support local recreational and commercial nearshore fisheries.
 - b. These plans and recommendations shall leverage and grow community engagement and participation in recovery efforts and citizen science.
 2. The State shall promote the recovery of sea star populations and restoration efforts to dramatically reduce urchin densities in accordance with the recommendations made by the Kelp Recovery Working Group.

- ii. The California Coastal Commission shall strengthen regulations governing coastal seagrass and wetland habitat restoration and protection from development.
 - d. Recognize upper shore zones as Environmentally Sensitive Habitat Areas (ESHAs) and designate beaches as coastal wetlands to provide a policy framework to address impacts to beach ecosystems.
 - i. Extend the boundaries of MPAs inland from the mean high tide line to the extreme high water line to protect sandy beach ecosystems.
 - e. **Coastal Sand Mine Ban.** Immediately prohibit all coastal sand mining, including non-coastal mining activities that can be shown to impact coastal sand movement or replenishment.
 - f. **Marine Sound Restrictions.** In cooperation with research institutions and relevant nonprofit organizations, the Department of Fish and Wildlife shall establish and enforce maximum underwater decibel level restrictions from human activities in or affecting designated MPAs in order to protect marine wildlife.
 - g. **Coastal Sage Scrub.** Strengthen regulations governing coastal sage scrub habitat protection and restoration to ensure habitat resilience.
 - h. **Delta Resiliency.** Review Delta programs to ensure levee infrastructure is sufficient to withstand rising sea levels and greater storm surges.
 - i. The State shall develop a GIS map of allowable uses within State coastal zones by 2022.
- 4. **Terrestrial Ecosystems.** The State shall direct and provide funding to the CNRA, CalEPA, the Department of Fish and Wildlife, and other relevant agencies to review and provide recommendations for revisions of relevant legislation to ensure the protection, restoration, and sustainable development of California's terrestrial habitats through measures including but not limited to:
 - a. **Land Conservation Purchases.** Increase funding for land conservation purchases and outreach to landholders educating them on the costs of pursuing business-as-usual strategies for land management under a changing climate.
 - i. Offer extended payment plans for land purchases through tax incentives to land sellers to lower upfront costs for the State.
 - b. **Chaparral Protection.** The CNRA shall increase grant funding to and cooperation with tribal agencies, research institutions, and nonprofit organizations to maximize chaparral habitat biodiversity and resiliency.
 - i. Chaparral habitats should be managed with respect to fire according to similar principles as floodlands and floods; that is, as a habitat punctuated by significant, stochastic disruptions.

VIII. Community Planning

This Framework for a California Green New Deal will mobilize state agencies and funds to reduce the emissions of California's building sector, improve the resiliency of the built environment, and reduce the vulnerability of California's communities to the impacts of climate change. Improving the resilience of California's communities under climate change will mean decarbonizing the state's building sector, aligning zoning and land use with climate and equity goals, reducing vulnerability to climate impacts and disasters through improved community planning and disaster preparedness and response, and furthering community goals that enhance equity and human well-being.

1. Green Buildings.

- a. **Building Emissions Standards.** Achieve 50% below 1990 baseline year GHG emission levels by 2025, 80% below 1990 levels by 2028, and net zero carbon emissions by 2030.
- b. **Electrification of Buildings.**
 - i. **Natural Gas Ban.** The State shall implement a ban on the use of non-renewable natural gas in all new municipal, residential, and commercial building construction, effective January 1, 2021.
 - ii. All operational municipal, residential, and commercial buildings shall be retrofitted to completely free of the use of non-renewable natural gas by 2025, 2028, and 2030, respectively.
 1. The State shall provide financial incentives, including grants and zero-interest loans, to support the research and rapid market deployment of:
 - a. Residential electrification technologies such as electric air source heat pumps for space heating and cooling, heat pump water heaters, electric and induction stoves, as well as electric and heat pump clothes dryers;
 - b. Commercial electrification technologies such as electric arc furnaces, induction furnaces, dielectric heaters, and resistance heaters and combusted electrolytic hydrogen.
 - iii. CalBank shall coordinate financial incentives, in the form of zero-interest loan, need-based grants, tax credits, and other appropriate forms of financing, for property owners undertaking retrofits combining high-efficiency HVAC and appliance electrification, whole-building envelope retrofits, and on-site or community solar and energy storage. No incentives shall be offered promoting the use of any non-renewable natural gas.
 1. Property owners shall be prohibited from passing costs associated with such retrofits on to tenants through rent hikes or special fees.

- iv. Require all new commercial and residential buildings, as well as all substantial remodels of commercial or residential buildings, to be wired to support high-output EV charging.
 - c. The State shall incentivize the research, development, and use of sustainable building materials to reduce the overall environmental footprint of new construction and remodels.
 - d. Improve the self-sufficiency of California’s municipal buildings by requiring all municipal agencies to complete a local hazard assessment and mitigation report, and at minimum equip facilities that can serve as emergency shelters with onsite renewable energy generation and energy storage on an islandable microgrid sufficient to provide backup emergency services for nearby communities for at least three consecutive days.
 - e. Require all new housing developments to include accessible space appropriate for residents to maintain individual or community garden farms. This space should include adequate natural lighting and hookups for high-efficiency irrigation.
 - i. Offer property tax incentives for existing domestic properties that have or develop and maintain a productive garden farm.
- 2. **Zoning and Land Use.**
 - a. Promote urban sustainability initiatives in line with the Ahwahnee Principles for Resource-Efficient Communities to improve the environmental and social conditions of all communities, prioritizing vulnerable or historically disadvantaged communities, without rendering those communities inaccessible for future residents of limited economic means (i.e., “gentrification”).
 - b. The State shall amend the Government Code with the policies laid forth in the More HOMES Act to eliminate density restrictions for housing near high quality transit and in job-rich areas and align zoning regulations with climate and transportation goals.
- 3. **Community Resiliency Measures.**
 - a. **Regional Resilience Network and Community Resilience Centers.** The State shall implement a statewide Regional Resilience Network program, coordinated through the Governor's Office of Emergency Services and run by local municipal and participating tribal governments, that establishes a network of always-open Community Resilience Centers (CRCs) to improve disaster response, prevention, recovery, and, where necessary, managed retreat for all communities throughout California.
 - i. The Regional Resilience Network shall comprise sufficient CRCs to serve all people in California, including any tribal governments that choose to participate, organized into a number of regions, with one central CRC per region serving as the coordinator for all the CRCs in that region. This central CRC shall be the primary avenue of communication between

- regional CRCs and the Office of Emergency Services, as well as with regional emergency response forces and other relevant organizations.
- ii. CRCs may be constructed new for the purposes of this Act, or may be housed in and/or developed in partnership with existing local public facilities, libraries, schools, health clinics, or other established centers or organizations, so long as the CRCs are able to provide free or low-cost services needed by their communities that are accessible to all, and are safe, clean, and welcoming.
 1. CRCs must be fully powered by on-site renewable energy resources on an islandable microgrid and equipped with adequate energy storage to at least provide basic services for seven days.
 2. CRCs must be sited, to the fullest extent possible, in low-risk areas that are readily accessible to the public via multiple modes of transportation.
 3. The State shall provide grant funding to municipal and tribal governments and other organizations for the purpose of building adequate CRC facilities or retrofitting existing buildings to serve as CRCs, so long as such projects utilize local and/or Green Corps labor.
 - iii. CRCs shall provide emergency preparedness and response services for their communities, including but not limited to climate-controlled shelter, food, water, basic medical services, charging stations for electronics and vehicles, and educational resources, presentations, and short courses for community members on disaster preparation, ways to mitigate risk and increase resiliency, and other relevant topics.
 1. CRCs shall provide services tailored for the communities in which they are located, with particular focus on area-specific risks such as coastal storm surges, wildfires, or earthquakes.
 - a. In areas with wildfire risk, CRCs must offer a robust array of services and resources to ensure the risks of these severely destructive events is minimized to the fullest extent possible.
 - iv. CRCs are encouraged to partner with local hospitals, health care providers, colleges, universities, nonprofit organizations, and relevant businesses to increase the quality and quantity of services provided.
 - v. CRCs shall advertize information regarding their operation and services offered in local newspapers, television channels, and websites, and through bi-annual mailed notices.

- vi. The State shall provide funding to municipal and participating tribal government agencies for additional staff and resources as needed to manage and run CRCs for their communities.
- b. **Public Heat Relief Zones.** Increase density of publicly-available, no-cost municipal heat relief zones in urban areas where temperatures currently or may in the future reach levels hazardous to human health.
 - i. Public heat relief zones must be accessible by public transit and include, at minimum, hydration stations, basic emergency supplies, and shaded areas with misting capabilities.
 - ii. Zones shall be operated and maintained by the appropriate municipal agency, which may apply for funding from the State for this purpose.
 - 1. Zones shall be electronically mapped and locations made available on municipal websites.
- c. **Community Wildfire Resilience.** The State shall minimize the potential for wildfire disasters and reduce human exposure to high-intensity by facilitating adaptive resilience to wildfire in settings with moderate-to-high fire risk.
 - i. **Advanced Community Wildfire Protection Planning.** Require any municipal government holding land greater than 5% of which has determined by CAL FIRE to be in a High or Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone to create and implement an Advanced Community Wildfire Protection Plan (ACWPP), for which grant funding shall be made available under the following requirements:
 - 1. It must be developed in collaboration by local and state government representatives and with local community members to ensure community needs are met, and may be written as part of a regional effort;
 - 2. It must give priority to ensuring the safety of frontline, vulnerable, or disadvantaged communities;
 - 3. It must identify and prioritize areas for fuel reduction, coordinated land defensibility, and community resilience;
 - 4. It must recommend and assist with measures homeowners and communities can take to reduce structural ignitability and emergency preparedness throughout the area addressed by the plan.
 - ii. **Fire Code Expansion.** The State shall implement zoning and building code policies that increase community wildfire resilience, including but not limited to regulations that:
 - 1. Increase spacing requirements for buildings to create barriers to stop wildfires from spreading;

2. Promote the use of fire-resistant building materials in new and existing buildings;
 - a. CAL FIRE shall offer a 10% rebate on the cost of fire-resistant building retrofits in low-to-moderate fire risk areas.
 - b. Require that all new construction within high fire-risk areas use fire-resistant building materials and design.
 3. Require multiple access for homes and neighborhoods, a minimum road width sufficient for emergency response access, adequate water supply, and signage to help fire-rescue workers aid in fire suppression efforts in the event of wildfire;
 4. Limit development in the wildland-urban-interface (WUI) and other fire-prone areas using smart growth development strategies and incentivize dense development in lower wildfire risk areas.
 - a. The State and CAL FIRE shall re-establish and levy a fire prevention fee on buildings and other habitable structures located on parcels within State Responsibility Areas (SRAs).
- d. **Urban Forestry.** By 2030, the State shall increase total urban tree canopy statewide by 20% above 2020 levels, targeting disadvantaged and low-income communities and low-canopy areas, with a preference for planting local native species and varieties that provide substantial carbon storage and are resilient to climate-linked stressors.
- i. Increase funding for CAL FIRE's Urban & Community Forestry Program and establish regional offices to provide more targeted, responsive technical and financial assistance for municipal and tribal governments in drafting and carrying out Urban Forestry Plans that promote local diversity, community health and resilience, and urban carbon sequestration.
- e. **Coastal Resiliency.** The State shall direct and provide support to the California Coastal Commission (CCC) to review existing municipal and regional Climate Action Plans (CAPs) to ensure adequate coastal resiliency measures are being undertaken across the coastline, and to re-review CAPs that have significant updates made regarding coastal planning.
- i. The State shall make funding available to municipal and regional government agencies with CCC-approved CAPs to undertake needed coastal resiliency measures.
- f. **Public broadband connectivity and high-speed internet access.** Increase grant funding supporting the creation and operation of Community Service Districts that provide affordable, accessible, resilient internet and cellular access.

- g. Prohibit landlords and homeowner's associations from enforcing requirements that conflict with State climate action goals, such as prohibiting rooftop solar or garden farms, or requiring the upkeep of grass lawns.

IX. Agriculture & Food Security

In addition to minimizing emissions and environmental degradation associated with agricultural activities, this Framework for a Green New Deal aims to implement a systemwide transition in California agriculture that both reduces the vulnerability of the state's food system to the impacts of climate change and increases the capacity of California's agricultural sector to contribute to climate change mitigation. In order to achieve the emissions reductions standards set forth in this Framework and maintain the state of California as a net sink of carbon, California will need to increase the pace and scale of efforts to expand carbon farming and other climate smart agriculture practices. Ensuring a just transition for California's agricultural sector and farmers will also require implementing policies that prioritize economic justice for farmers and protect the health and well-being of rural farming communities throughout California.

1. **Reduce agriculture-related emissions and transition all of California's 25 million acres of agricultural lands to be maintained as a net sink of carbon.** Reduce sector-wide net GHG emissions by 50% by 2025, achieve sector-wide net zero emissions by 2030, and maintain net annual negative carbon sequestration rates equivalent to at least 5% of the State 1990 baseline GHG emission levels by 2035.
 - a. **Dairy and Livestock Emissions.** The State shall expand upon the provisions laid forth in SB 1383 by requiring California's dairy and livestock industries achieve the following reductions in GHG and anthropogenic emissions: a 40% reduction in methane emissions from 2013 levels by 2025, an 80% reduction in methane emissions from 2013 levels by 2028, and a 100% reduction in methane emissions from 2013 levels by 2030.
2. **The State shall declare food supply security to be a statewide security issue and make ensuring food security for Californians under a changing climate a top priority.**
3. **Food Security and Regenerative Food System Governance.**
 - a. The State shall require that the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) transition away from the current industrial system of agricultural production, and to a system of regenerative agriculture in California that prioritizes soil health and livestock integration practices that contribute to carbon sequestration, biodiversity, minimizing environmental impacts, and farmworker fairness.
 - b. **California Standards for Regenerative Agriculture (CASRA).**
 - i. The State, no later than January 1, 2021, shall codify and publish a comprehensive set of practices and guidelines to be known as the

California Standards for Regenerative Agriculture (CASRA) through the CDFA that will serve as the primary regulatory code for regenerative agricultural practices statewide.

1. CASRA policies should follow the principles outlined by the Rodale Institute, and prioritize emission reductions/carbon sequestration, soil health, diversity, humane treatment of animals, and social equity, similar to the Regenerative Organic Certification being developed by the Regenerative Organic Alliance.
 2. Supplemental to CASRA, the State shall develop a web-based tool that allows farmers and ranchers to estimate the GHG and cost savings associated with implementing various CASRA policies.
 3. CASRA policies shall be developed and revised upward in collaboration with agricultural stakeholders, experts, and scientists through an inclusive, iterative outreach process.
 4. Farming operations of increasing size and intensity shall be subject to ratcheting standards to ensure policies are responsive, effective, and equitable.
 - a. Farming operations that adequately demonstrate compliance with CASRA shall be eligible to receive official accreditation through the CDFA certifying the operator's commitment to regenerative, equitable farming practices.
- ii. Beginning in 2027, all State-supported public institutions must solely purchase agricultural products sourced from suppliers that both adhere to CASRA guidelines and file annual reports listing CASRA actions taken and the associated estimated GHG reductions/carbon sequestration rate of those actions.
 - iii. The State of California shall implement a tax on producers and importers of non-CASRA-compliant meat, dairy, egg, and aquaculture products that will be increased annually according to a pre-set plan.
- c. **Strengthening California Climate Smart Agriculture Programs.**
- i. The State shall provide increased funding through the California Green Bonds program to the CDFA to improve and expand Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) programs.
 1. Increased grant funding, including a greater proportion with options for long durations, shall also be offered to non profit organizations for activities supporting CSA program implementation.

- ii. The CFDA shall immediately initiate a public review of existing CSA programs to improve program integration and most effectively meet State goals.
 - 1. As part of this review, the CDFA shall study and implement measures to synergize livestock waste management with composting activities.
- d. **Crop Insurance.** The State shall amend the California Insurance Code to prohibit crop insurance policies that the Department of Insurance Climate and Sustainability Office (CSO) determines to be in conflict with State sustainability goals.
 - i. The CSO shall increase outreach to farm insurance customers and providers to educate market participants on the benefits of and best practices to achieve alignment of insurance policies and risk management practices with CASRA and State sustainability goals.
- e. **The State shall promote and incentivize the transition toward low-GHG emission diets.**
 - i. **Decrease state-level public sector procurement of meat and dairy products.** Shift public food purchasing and feeding programs away from carbon-livestock products towards less carbon-intensive, plant-based alternatives.
 - 1. The State shall mandate that all dairy and meat products offered by school lunch programs be organic certified and locally supplied when possible.
 - ii. The State shall prohibit the import or sale of cattle products sourced from areas in which forest lands were degraded into cattle grazing lands, such as beef imported from what previously was the Amazon rainforest.
 - iii. The State shall follow the example set by the World Resources Institute's Cool Food Pledge and provide incentives and planning and technical support to dining facility food providers, including companies, universities, public schools, hospitals and public facilities in order to reduce food-related greenhouse gas emissions.
 - iv. **Farm-to-Table Distance Reduction Incentive.** The State shall offer tax rebates applicable for by registered in-state farmers that will be set to be inversely proportional to their average “farm-to-table” distance; that is, the distance their products are shipped before reaching an end-user or primary distributor.
- 4. **Livestock and Manure Management.** The State shall implement legislation that directly regulates GHG emissions from California’s dairy and livestock industry and supports a transition to more sustainable management of livestock systems that are ecologically sound, improve soil health, and sequester carbon in the soil, including:

- a. Immediately prohibiting open manure lagoons and other manure management practices that allow methane to escape into the atmosphere;
 - b. Identifying the feasibility of requiring all cattle and sheep in the State of California to be fed an amendment/amendments that reduce methane produced through enteric fermentation, such as the red algae *Asparagopsis taxiformis*;
 - i. If feasible, the State shall provide subsidies to reduce or eliminate the costs associated with this policy.
 - c. Creating a Livestock Renewal Fund to help large confined animal feeding operations and dairies transition to regenerative, humane practices;
 - d. Incentivizing small- to mid-sized dairy and livestock operations by imposing a scaling tax based on per-acre cattle densities for large operations;
 - e. Providing funding for development of a regenerative grazing logistics service and incentivize farmers to participate;
 - f. Requiring that all California dairies participate in the California Dairy Quality Assurance Program to ensure full compliance with existing state, federal, and local regulations;
 - g. Banning the use of antibiotics for growth promotion and disease prevention in animal farms.
5. **Transition to Regenerative Farming.** The State shall lead a transition to sustainable, regenerative agricultural practices based on sound ecological principles that reduce GHG emissions, sequester carbon, bolster agricultural and food system resilience under climate change, and increase equitable ownership of California's agricultural lands.
- a. Streamline existing State regulations and bureaucratic processes pertaining to organic certification and farming in order to create incentives for organic practices and remove incentives for traditional practices.
 - b. **Expand the application of healthy soil management practices that build soil organic matter and sequester carbon.** Greatly increase funding and State support for the CDFA Healthy Soils Program to meet the goals of implementing carbon-sequestering CDFA Healthy Soils management practices on at least 1 million acres of rangeland and farmland combined by 2025, 5 million acres by 2030, and 10 million acres by 2035.
 - i. The State shall establish the goal of engaging 3% of the state's total agricultural lands annually in carbon-focused farming and agricultural practices that promote soil health and sequester carbon.
 - ii. The State shall openly accept funding applications from farmers and ranchers statewide, but shall identify and perform targeted outreach to operations with significant carbon sequestration potential.
 - c. **Reduce the application and use of synthetic, fossil-fuel based inputs.**
 - i. **Artificial fertilizer phase-out.** The State shall immediately implement a point-of-sale fee followed by a phase out all use of artificial fertilizers and

fertilizing materials by 2024 in conjunction with educational programs on sustainable fertilizer use to encourage more judicious use of fertilizer.

1. Revenue from this fee shall be used to create a fund for small and mid-sized farms to offset a portion or all of revenue losses associated with transitioning to practices free from the use of artificial fertilizers, over a limited period. .
- ii. **Non-organic pesticide phase-out. The State shall immediately identify and rank in order of environmental and societal risk the pesticides currently being used by California farmers and begin phasing out the highest-ranking pesticides with the goal of banning all non-organic certified pesticides by 2027.**
- d. **California Central Seed Supplier.** The CDFA, under the supervision of its Director and in cooperation with the University of California and other California-based agricultural research organizations, shall establish a Central Seed Supplier responsible for securely maintaining healthy, genetically diverse stocks of agricultural and vegetable seeds for equitable distribution and sale to California-based farming operations at no or low cost.
 - i. The Central Seed Supplier shall be managed and operated as a public benefit organization with the mission to support affordable, equitable, resilient regenerative agricultural practices in California, and shall prohibit any person that has significantly profited from private seed industry monopolization from serving in any decision-making capacity within the Supplier.
 - ii. The State shall fund cooperative seed research and development through the Central Seed Supplier and California research institutions to promote the genetic diversity and climate resiliency of crop species and other plants of societal importance.
- e. **Substitution and diversification.** Diversify California’s agricultural product portfolio and substitute animal agriculture, water-intensive crops, and other resource-intensive crops with locally-adapted, nutritionally necessary, and/or low-impact, high-value plant crops.
 - i. The State shall allocate funds to the CDFA to be used to incentivize the production of specific crop species that contribute to improved soil health, lowered GHG emissions, decreased water and pesticide use, and shortened farm-to-table distances.
 1. Incentivize the production of diverse and underused protein crops, such as pulses, for human consumption as much as economically feasible.

- ii. The State shall provide incentives to farmers that promote diversity in crop rotation and perennial planting such that no annual crop shall be planted in the same field for more than two years in succession.
 - 1.
 - f. **Increase funding for agricultural research.** The State shall increase grant funding for the State agricultural research institutes such as the UC Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program, the UC Agriculture and Natural Resources Program, and the California State University Agriculture Research Institute to increase engagement in the development of regenerative agricultural technologies and strategies.
 - i. Specific funding priorities shall include on-farm demonstration projects, farmer-led research, and targeted outreach to farmers.
- 6. **Agricultural land use.** Protect and preserve California’s agricultural lands and reduce vulnerability to pressures from climate change and shifting land use patterns, with special protections given to lands with high carbon sequestration potential and other Prime and other Important Farmlands, as defined by the USDA and Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS).
 - a. Reduce the annual rate of statewide farmland conversion to non-agricultural uses by 50% of 2015 levels (from 39,500 to 19,750 acres per year) by 2030 and achieve no net farmland conversion to non-agricultural uses by 2040.
 - i. Prioritize reducing farmland conversion on the lands that have the highest potential for carbon sequestration.
 - ii. Restrict conversion of natural and working lands to urban and suburban development by limiting development in areas near prime farmland.
 - iii. Increase funding for the California Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation (SALC) Program and the California Farmland Conservancy Program (CFCP).
 - iv. Increase incentives to municipal governments for identifying and prioritizing farmlands for conservation and identifying land suitable for urban in-fill and high efficiency development.
 - 1. Require local governments in counties with a high proportion of Prime and Important Farmlands to create public inventories of remaining agricultural lands and a plan to retain them as agricultural working lands.
 - 2. Require local governments to adopt minimum standards for farmland mitigation when a project results in the conversion of farmland to non-agricultural uses.
- 7. **Prioritizing farming communities.** Help California’s farmers adapt to climate change and provide support to help them remain stewards in environmental services and ensuring food supply security under a changing climate.

- a. Farmer Liaison Program. The CDFA shall expand the existing role of Resource Conservation Districts to include a robust Farmer Liaison program that will provide personalized technical and regulatory support to individual farmers and ranchers within each District. The purpose of these liaisons is to assist farmers with navigating State and Federal regulations and bureaucratic processes, locate and apply for funding and grants, stay abreast of relevant advances in technology, policy, and agricultural science, and serve as farmer advocates in order to ease the burden on farmers and ranchers.
- b. The CDFA shall be responsible for enacting policies and offering financial assistance to protect farmers and consumers against fluctuations in prices, revenues, and yields resulting from the impacts of climate change and the transition to a regenerative food system.
- c. The Governor and the state Legislature shall take action to remove specific barriers facing agricultural industry participants who lack legal immigration status to secure quality jobs or housing, become entrepreneurs, or participate in the mainstream economy.
- d. The State shall enhance the lives of California's farmworkers by ensuring the right to organize unions, higher minimum wages, overtime and health care coverage, and safe and affordable housing.
- e. Protect farmworkers and rural communities from chemical and biological pollution, including pesticide and herbicide drift, and other agricultural activities that threaten human health and well-being.
 - i. Prevent incompatible land uses by creating human health buffer zones prohibiting hazardous activities such as gas extraction operations, cattle and dairy AFOs and CAFOs, and pesticide applications from taking place near sensitive receptors such as schools and residences.
- f. The State shall adopt a Services Bill of Rights for all communities to establish minimum requirements for providing adequate public services in order to ensure that all of California's rural farming communities have access to adequate and reasonably-priced municipal services, including safe and affordable drinking water.
- g. The State shall instruct the CDFA to review and revise state agricultural funding programs to support independent, small-and mid-sized farms engaged in regenerative farming practices.
 - i. Offer tiers of subsidies for agritourism operations engaging in increasing levels of regenerative farming to purchase advertising space in local newspapers and other community publications.
 - ii. Offer set-term incentives for small- and mid-sized farmers transitioning to organic or regenerative practices.

- iii. Increase grant funding opportunities for nonprofit organizations for work supporting farmer cooperatives and community farmland ownership.
 - h. Expand the CalFresh program to increase enrollment rate of eligible residents.
 - i. The CDFA shall coordinate with the Department of Justice in order to enhance protections for the legal rights of small farmers and agricultural communities.
 - i. Prosecute antitrust lawsuits against big agriculture monopolies and cartels, including seeds manufacturing conglomerates, that prevent or damage the State's ability to achieve sustainable agricultural practices.
 - ii. Prohibit companies from locking farmers into contracts that limit which products and crops they can sell and to whom they can sell their crops.
 - iii. Prohibit contractual terms that limit repair options for owners of farm and agriculture machinery.
- 8. **Sustainable fisheries and regenerative aquaculture.** The State shall invest in regenerative ocean farming, community-based fisheries, and the development of blue economies to sequester carbon, create new jobs, and reduce food insecurity.
 - a. **Ocean Farming Governance.** The State of California shall build a just foundation for the blue economy in which ownership models ensure that blue carbon farmers benefit from the entire value chain.
 - i. Establish a Restorative Ocean Aquaculture Research and Policy Program under the California Natural Resources Agency to address challenges in farm-scale algae and shellfish production, ocean-based carbon sequestration, streamlined and community-driven permitting, and market innovation throughout the industry.
 - ii. The State shall mandate that the California Air Resources Board adopt a Compliance Offset Protocol for tidal wetlands management and restoration projects that may be used to generate tax incentives.
 - 1. The State shall invest in the development of blue carbon science, practices and policies necessary for coastal wetlands, seagrass beds, kelp and other blue carbon ecosystems that have carbon sequestration benefits to enter carbon markets.
 - iii. The State shall identify algal species appropriate for California's individual bioregions, with special emphasis on high-value species or species able to significantly reduce enteric fermentation when fed to ruminant animals such as cattle and sheep.
 - b. **Regenerative Aquaculture.** The State shall promote the development of regenerative ocean farming and other climate-smart aquaculture that demonstrably sequester carbon with the aim of developing a network of sustainable, community-based aquaculture operations along the California coast.

- i. The State shall provide grant funding to support the research, development, and market deployment of sustainable, long-term carbon sequestration through aquaculture or related techniques.
- ii. In allocating blue carbon investments, the State shall direct CARB to give priority to community-based, small-to mid-sized regenerative ocean farming operations.
 1. To prevent monopolization of California’s kelp farming industry, the total number of acreage owned and operated by an individual entity for kelp farming shall be limited.
 2. The State shall quickly establish and streamline the permitting process for small- to mid-sized kelp farming operations, and offer no-interest loans for individuals establishing such operations.
- iii. The State shall also ensure that fishery-dependent jobs and local economies receive a just transition to sustainable practices.
- c. **Community Fisheries.** The State shall support sustainable, community-based fisheries and local blue economies.
 - i. In cooperation with the State Fish and Game Commission, the State shall provide financial and technical support to improve domestic working waterfronts and expand community-based fisheries programs that provide individuals and small fishing operations greater access to sell their catch directly to the public.
 - ii. The State shall invest in local seafood processing centers and infrastructure to encourage the local use of locally-caught seafood.

X. Energy

Electricity decarbonization and the transition to 100% renewable energy will be critical to addressing the climate crisis and meeting the emissions reductions goals as set forth in this Framework. California’s current system of energy procurement, transmission and distribution cannot adequately facilitate this transition at the pace and scale needed, and the equity goals of this Green New Deal will not be achieved unless this system is operated in the interest of the public. By eliminating the shareholder model for Electric Service Providers and establishing a system layered system of accountability with Community Choice Energy agencies, municipal utilities, and a new State-run Provider of Last Resort, this Framework ensures local control over electricity procurement decision-making and higher accountability to energy consumers.

1. **Regulatory Structure.** Reshape California’s energy procurement, transmission, and distribution structure as a bottom-up, decentralized, layered-decomposition optimization model based on interlocking, islandable micro- and mesogrids overseen on municipal/regional scale by Community Choice Energy (CCE) agencies, municipal

utilities, or other non-profit Electric Service Providers (ESP), and on the state level by the California Independent Systems Operator (CAISO).

- a. The State shall prohibit the trade or transmission of electricity in California by any Electric Service Provider operating under a shareholder model by 2024.
 - i. Corporations that currently operate under the shareholder model shall be immediately prohibited from paying dividends until they meet established energy and environmental standards to prevent wildfires and other disasters.
- b. Recognize and support California's Community Choice Energy (CCE) agencies and municipal utilities as the State's primary distribution service operators, responsible for coordinating local and regional development of renewable energy and energy storage resources, and ensure maximum community involvement and benefits.
 - i. Streamline and standardize the regulatory process for jurisdictions to form or join a CCE or municipal energy utility, and provide technical and financial support through the Office of Climate Action to municipalities interested in joining a CCE or municipal energy utility.
 - ii. Allow CCEs to purchase and own grid infrastructure in addition to providing electricity procurement services.
 - iii. Make permanent community advisory councils mandatory for all CCEs and municipal utilities.
 - iv. Expand the California Alternate Rates for Energy (CARE) Program to be more accessible to disadvantaged communities.
 - v. Incentivize CCEs and municipal utilities to offer programs such as on-bill financing for energy efficiency and solar upgrades.
- c. Re-establish the California Alternative Energy and Advanced Transportation Financing Authority as the California Energy Authority (CEA).
 - i. The CEA shall be designated as the Provider of Last Resort for energy services for the entire State, responsible for ensuring safe, reliable, affordable energy is available to all Californians in the event an existing ESP is unable to provide these services.
 1. The CEA shall also serve as the default energy utility for any area of the State not served by a CCE, municipal utility, or other non-profit ESP.
 - ii. The CEA shall be responsible, under the supervision of the Public Utilities Commission, with ensuring Resource Adequacy (RA) for the State by coordinating with existing CCEs, municipal utilities, or other non-profit ESPs.
 - iii. The CEA shall establish regional offices across the State that will coordinate RA, clean energy goals, regional infrastructure development,

and other issues pertaining to providing safe, reliable, equitable access to energy services with local CCEs, municipal utilities, and other non-profit ESPs.

1. Service regions shall be established to maximize CEA's ability to ensure safe, reliable, equitable energy access.
- iv. CEA shall work in coordination with the State CNRA and with the US Forestry Service through the Good Neighbor Authority when necessary to ensure rapid, equitable, and sustainable development of renewable energy and energy storage infrastructure, including Pumped-Storage Hydropower, on public lands.
2. **Electricity Decarbonization.** California shall reduce the total greenhouse gas emissions associated with the production of all electricity bought and sold in the state by 75% by 2025 and by 100% by 2030.
 - a. Immediately prioritize the generation and use of carbon-free electricity over electricity from fossil fuels, including by depowering fossil fuel power plants during peak carbon-free resource generation periods.
 - b. Phase out the extraction, refinement, storage, sale, distribution, and combustion of non-renewable natural gas in California by 2030.
 - i. Concurrently increase the generation, capture, and use of renewable natural gas from sources such as landfills, anaerobic digesters, manure lagoons, etc.
 - ii. Ensure that renewable natural gas generation, capture, transmission, and end-user infrastructure have an average leak rate of under 0.1%.
 - c. Limit the amount of unlabeled "Unspecified" electricity procured by an Electric Service Provider to be no more than 10% of its total procured load.
3. **Renewable Energy.** Increase California's renewable electricity procurement requirement to 50% by 2025, 80% by 2028, and 100% by 2030.
 - a. The State shall include distributed renewable generation, including rooftop solar PV, as counting toward its renewable energy procurement goals, and shall direct the CPUC to fully account for the cost savings and other benefits of distributed generation and solar in cost-benefit analyses of renewable energy resources.
 - b. Create or re-establish state subsidies and incentives for renewable power resources to diversify the state's power portfolio.
 - i. Offer grants to fully fund distributed solar and storage projects for low-income, frontline, and historically disadvantaged communities.
 1. Immediately prioritize distributed solar and storage development for all utility customers in High Fire Threat Districts, with highest priority given to public health care facilities.
 - ii. Offer no-upfront-cost loans for distributed solar and storage to all California residents, regardless of credit rating or legal status.

- iii. Create and fund a dedicated Geothermal Mining Program to drive the development and adoption of sustainable, self-powered mining operations to reduce our reliance on, and the environmental impacts associated with, imported lithium and other minerals mined using traditional methods.
 - c. Local government agencies and community stakeholders shall be coordinated by Cal-GEM to produce a Transition Plan that transitions away from fossil fuel development such that it benefits local workers and community members, with particular emphasis on communities historically or currently impacted by fossil fuel development.
 - d. Streamline the permitting processes for building certified renewable energy resources to accelerate and expand renewable development.
 - i. Expand solar energy and storage permitting streamlining regulations, including those in AB 546 (2017) and AB 2188 (2014), to provide additional State financial and technical support to municipalities in reviewing and administering permits.
 - e. The State shall require all state agencies to only purchase 100% renewable electricity for all in-state activities by 2024. Any projects the State undertakes to develop renewable energy resources to meet this requirement shall utilize union labor through Project Labor Agreements.
 - f. As the demand for power from hydropower facilities utilizing artificial reservoirs that are not currently in use or that are not planned to be used for public water storage is eliminated due to renewable energy requirements set forth in this Act, those facilities shall be removed along with any associated dams and the site restored to its previous state in order to restore natural flow back to California's rivers and streams.
- 4. **Energy Infrastructure Resilience.** Prioritize and accelerate policies and programs that increase the resilience of California's energy infrastructure, particularly infrastructure impacting vulnerable communities, to the impacts of climate change, in support of a bottom-up, decentralized, layered-decomposition optimization structure.
 - a. Allocate additional funding for local microgrids and city-scale or regional-scale "mesogrids" that can provide decentralized power generation and distribution, including under disaster conditions such as wildfire or earthquake.
 - b. Direct the CPUC to undertake grid hardening and other resiliency efforts, including burying power lines and ensuring vegetation-free corridors in high wildfire risk areas.
 - c. California shall increase its total energy storage capacity to 5 GW by 2025, 15 GW by 2030, and 40 GW by 2040 through the expansion of existing programs like Self-Generation Incentive Program (SGIP) and through other activities, such as retiring and replacing existing fossil fuel peaker power plants with energy storage. At least 50% of total storage capacity shall be installed as part of local

microgrids, regional mesogrids, and/or as behind-the-meter distributed storage in order to ensure grid resiliency under disaster conditions.

- i. Protect and enhance the ability for consumers to be free from unfair utility-imposed costs and barriers to solar-plus-storage.
- d. Ensure the safe and rapid decommission of the state's remaining nuclear power facilities, and provide transition funding for plant workers and local communities to offset economic and environmental costs associated with the facilities' operation, closure, demolition, and waste management.

XI. Industry

This Framework requires the state to address sector-related emissions primarily driven by fuel combustion and production, as well as other industrial activities that contribute to environmental degradation and climate change. Banning extraction and limiting the production of fossil fuels within the state of California will be critical to protecting the health and well-being of communities throughout California and in ensuring that the state's climate goals are met. Reducing the climate impacts of industrial activities in California will also require enhanced accountability for corporations and individuals responsible for the bulk of emissions and environmental degradation. This Framework also aims to improve the state's industrial activities by supporting green businesses, expanding market access for local producers, and incentivising the production and use of more sustainable consumer goods.

1. Reduce total emissions from California's industrial sector by 80% by 2028 compared to a 2020 baseline and achieve a carbon neutral industrial and manufacturing sector by 2030.
 - a. Industrial corporations that are technologically unable to meet these standards shall be required to purchase or fund carbon offset projects to achieve net carbon neutrality for each individual corporation.
2. **Fossil Fuel Phase Out.** The State shall take steps to end the extraction, refinement, sale, and use of all fossil fuels within California.
 - a. Place an immediate moratorium on all new in-state fossil fuel extraction operations and infrastructure, including wells, storage facilities, pumping stations, pipelines, etc, and take steps to end all production and use of fossil fuels in California.
 - b. Immediately undertake a comprehensive investigation and review of all in-state fossil fuel operations, including permitting, maintenance, safety, and environmental impact.
 - c. Ensure penalties for operations in violation of state regulations are strictly enforced and collected by CalEPA, and are at the maximum severity allowable by law.

- d. Phase out all state subsidies and support for fossil fuels and fossil fuel-specific infrastructure by 2025.
3. **Environmental Accountability.** In recognition that most environmental damage is done by corporate entities under the direction of private individuals, the State shall increase taxes, fines, and penalties for corporations, executives, board members, employees, and investors found guilty of environmental harm to actually deter violation of State and Federal law.
 - a. Impel CalEPA to properly enforce state regulations and expand CalEPA's Environmental Justice Task Force.
 - b. In coordination with the CalEPA Environmental Justice Task Force, the State shall create an Office of Environmental Justice within the Department of Justice that will be tasked with investigating corporations, executives, and boards of directors responsible for grievous environmental harm by intent or willful neglect, and with pursuing legal action against guilty parties, particularly the fossil fuel corporations that have knowingly brought about the climate crisis. This office will also be responsible for facilitating impacted members of the public in bringing legal action against corporations, agencies, and individuals that have or are currently causing major environmental harm that directly impacts the public.
 - i. Under this Office, establish a process of annual assessment and reporting to both houses of the California Legislature and the Office of the Governor on the state of compliance to all of California's laws regarding environmental security, identifying areas in need of further scrutiny or action, and practices of notable efficacy to be recognized and replicated.
 - c. Instances where corporate environmental harm has been proven to have directly and unavoidably resulted in the loss of human life shall be required to result in non-avoidable prison time for any corporate leadership found responsible.
4. **California Buy Clean.** Expand and strengthen the California Buy Clean Program set forth in AB 262 (2017) to include more eligible materials, particularly structural and/or filler materials such as wood, concrete, drywall, insulation, etc.
5. **Responsible Advertising.** The State shall prohibit the public advertisement of goods or services deemed by CalEPA to contribute significantly to climate change or other forms of environmental degradation, specifically including fossil fuel-powered vehicles.
6. **Supporting Green Businesses.** Create incentives to support the development and operation of certified Green Businesses and B Corps focused on sustainability, resilience, and low- or zero-carbon pollution operations.
 - a. Offer funding for large, mid-sized, and small businesses looking to upgrade critical in-state equipment, facilities, or supply chains that would result in significant emission reductions through statewide grant and loan programs.
 - b. Incentivize collaborative research into non-GHG alternatives to high global warming potential industrial chemicals such as F-gases.

7. **Green Products and Services.** The State shall require all products and services traded in California that are determined by CalEPA to be highly carbon- or water-intensive in, or that otherwise result in significant environmental harm from, their production, use, or end-life to be clearly and informatively labeled for consumers, to be enforced by the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA).
 - a. Distributors of products or services determined by CalEPA through an annual review to be in the 90th percentile of carbon- or water-intensity for similar products or services shall be given until the next annual review to lower their score out of the 90th percentile, and if this target is not met that product or service shall be banned for sale in California until the distributor can prove to CalEPA's satisfaction that the product or service is no longer in the 90th percentile of carbon- or water-intensity for similar products or services.
 - b. OEHHA shall publish and maintain an active database of products and services, along with the responsible entities, on a public website.
 - c. CalEPA shall offer voluntary Green Product and Service (GPS) certification programs that enable providers of low-carbon, low water-intensive, and/or environmentally-beneficial goods and services in California to receive official recognition.
 - i. Providers shall be encouraged to label GPS-certified products and services to increase customer awareness of sustainable goods.
 - ii. Green Product & Service certified products and services shall be eligible to receive tax incentives proportional to the level of sustainability maintained.
8. **Community Food Program.** The State shall direct the Department of Public Health (CDPH) and the CDFA to combine and expand California's Farmer's Market and Cottage Food Programs into a Community Food Program that will further incentivize local business creation and promote local food growth and distribution. This program shall:
 - a. Allow individuals and small producers become certified Community Foods providers to sell foods they grow and/or prepare out of their homes and at designated Community Food Markets;
 - b. Require municipalities to provide adequate space and technical support for regular Community Food Markets to take place, providing greater than five (5) certified Community Foods providers submit notice to their municipal government requesting the establishment of a local Community Food Market;
 - c. Allow up to \$100,000 in annual gross revenue for home-based participants;
 - d. Allow home-based participants to employ the equivalent of two full-time employees;

- e. Multiply and streamline training and certification opportunities, and require all State materials about this program are equally available in all major languages used in California.
9. **Responsible Tropical Forest Use.** The State shall support responsible use of global forest resources by expanding the California Tropical Forest Standard to apply to all recipients of grants, loans, and contracts awarded as part of the activities described in this Act.

XII. Waste Management

This Framework for a California Green New Deal reduces sector-related emissions and addresses issues associated with waste disposal in California by transitioning away from the current production and consumption model and into a more closed loop system that limits the creation of waste at the source and maximizes the potential for recycling and reuse. Special emphasis is placed on limiting the production of less-recyclable materials sourced from fossil fuels that are especially harmful to the environment, such as single-use plastics. This Framework allows for more universal access to compost and recycling services and calls for enhanced public outreach to improve public awareness of waste management issues and the individual actions that can contribute to addressing them. Issues relating to hazardous waste materials and disposal, as well as harmful landfill emissions that contribute to climate change and impact the health and well-being of nearby communities, are also addressed.

1. Reduce the net GHG emissions of California's Waste Sector by 80% by 2028 and achieve net carbon neutrality by 2030.
 - a. The State shall immediately prioritize capping in-state landfills under the direction of the Department of Resources, Recycling, and Recover (CalRecycle) and in coordination with municipal and participating tribal waste management providers in order to capture methane and other gases from waste decomposition, which make up more than 95% of all emissions associated with waste management.
2. **Promote a circular economy in California.** Increase landfill diversion rate for compostable, organic materials and recyclable materials to 90% by 2025, and 100% by 2030.
 - a. Ban the production and sale of single-use packaging and priority single-use plastic products in California by 2025 and all other single-use plastic articles by 2028. To achieve this goal, CalRecycle shall:
 - i. Require in-state producers of, or licensed importers of, single-use packaging and priority single use plastic products to register with the Department and report any data that the Department deems necessary;

- ii. Develop and enforce standardized labeling requirements regarding the recyclability, compostability, or reusability of packaging and priority single-use products;
 - iii. Impose minimum post-consumer recycled content requirements for a packaging or product category, where appropriate, in order to create or enhance markets for recycled material;
 - iv. Evaluate and coordinate appropriate economic mechanisms to reduce the distribution of single-use packaging and priority single-use products or to transition single-use packaging and priority single-use products to reusable alternatives and increase the recyclability or compostability of single-use packaging and priority single-use products, including, but not limited to, allowing producers to establish and operate a collection and deposit program, assess a generation-based fee, an advanced recycling fee, pay as you throw fees, or extended producer responsibility for single-use packaging and priority single-use products.
 - v. Support local governments in prohibiting stores from selling single-use goods or packaging that cannot be composted or recycled at local waste management facilities.
- b. CalRecycle shall require municipal waste management districts to provide every business and household with waste pickup receptacles for both compostable and recyclable goods, and to impose a ratcheting fine and a mandatory waste management class on businesses and residents that routinely fail to sort their waste into the appropriate receptacle or adequately clean recyclables.
 - i. Customers that routinely achieve high rates of accurate sorting and recyclables cleaned shall receive a discount on their waste management bills that the State shall reimburse if a waste management district can demonstrate financial hardship from providing such discounts.
- c. CalRecycle, in coordination with appropriate State, local, and tribal agencies, nonprofit organizations, and private waste management service providers, shall provide technical and financial assistance to municipal waste management districts and participating tribal governments to expand and enhance regional waste processing capabilities, including recycling plants, anaerobic digesters, caps for existing landfills, and community CRV redemption centers.
- d. CalRecycle, in coordination with appropriate State, local, and tribal agencies, nonprofit organizations, and private waste management service providers, shall provide technical and financial assistance to municipal waste management districts and participating tribal governments to produce region-specific educational materials that educate businesses and residents in how and why to properly identify and sort their waste based on the capabilities of their waste management services provider(s).

- i. CalRecycle shall also work with industry participants to ensure clear communication of regulations, benefits, and penalties.
 - e. CalRecycle shall establish a Circular Economy and Waste Pollution Reduction Panel for the purpose of identifying barriers and solutions to creating a circular economy, comprising members from or experts in local government, waste management services, environmental and economic sustainability, industrial ecology, life cycle analysis, and pollution control.
 - i. This Panel shall immediately oversee the creation and implementation of a certification program for sustainable, durable, and zero-waste goods to foster market development and public engagement.
 - f. CalRecycle shall administer and oversee actions identified through the California Ocean Litter Prevention Strategy and the Statewide Microplastics Strategy.
 - g. The State shall provide grant funding for research into the feasibility of adopting sustainable, non-polluting plasma waste incineration, or other similar waste destruction techniques, for waste not able to be recycled or composted such as biowaste or hazardous chemicals.
 - i. These techniques should be evaluated for utility in meeting disposal needs on regional and community scales.
 - h. Create incentive programs rewarding manufacturers and distributors for eliminating as much packaging and other disposable materials from their products as possible, and for converting packaging from landfill-grade material to easily processable, 100% recyclable or compostable materials.
 - i. Create tax incentives for grocery stores based on the amount of goods sold free of packaging, such as through bulk bins or refillable container programs.
 - i. Offer grant funding to accelerate the deployment of environmental plastic pollution solutions, including for research and market development.
 - j. Provide subsidies and grants to support the development of high-quality community reuse centers, where residents can procure low- or no-cost donated goods.
 - i. Programs that provide free pick-up services to local retail suppliers and grocery stores that choose to donate unsold or excess goods and/or food shall be prioritized for funding.
- 3. **Nuclear Waste Management.** The State shall direct the California Energy Commission and CalEPA to comprehensively review and revise current nuclear waste management regulations and practices to ensure the highest-quality safety measures are in place.
 - a. Under the coordination of these agencies, the State shall identify high-risk areas, such as near coastal regions or population centers, that shall be prohibited for use as nuclear waste storage sites.

- b. Only potential nuclear waste storage or disposal site identified as safe by the State shall be developed for use, and only with the consultation and consent of nearby and affected communities.
- c. The State shall investigate the feasibility of petitioning the Federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission to amend the 1954 Atomic Energy Act in order to secure State authority to manage nuclear waste storage and disposal for highly radioactive waste generated or housed in California.

XIII. Water

Improving the state's water management systems to be adaptable and reliable under a changing climate must be a top priority for California. In ensuring that all Californian's have access to safe, affordable water supplies, this Framework calls for enhanced water conservation and reuse across urban and agricultural uses, investments in the state's aging water storage and conveyance system, and changes in the way the state's water resources are owned and allocated for various uses. Modernizing the state's water governance institutions and transitioning away from the state's current, decentralized system for funding and governing water management will allow the state to make more coordinated and scientifically-based water and land use decisions. Managing the state's water resources under a changing climate will also require us to reexamine what should be viewed as "reasonable and beneficial" uses of water, and who should have claims to water use rights throughout the state.

1. **Modernize California water resource management.**

- a. The State shall amend the California Water Code to review and redefine the "reasonable and beneficial" use of State water resources to explicitly account for the increasingly greater challenges faced by California under a rapidly-changing climate.
 - i. The use of State water resources for uses that degrade the public's ability to readily access affordable clean water, particularly for the use in water-limited areas of growing crops that the CDFG determines to be low-utility or luxury crops, shall be prohibited.
- b. Conjunctively manage groundwater and surface water resources through the State Water Resources Control Board (WRCB) to minimize shared risks associated with climate change for all water stakeholders in the State.
 - i. Create a permanent Central Water Bank administered by the State WRCB, with coordinated Regional Water Banks in the nine regional WRCBs, to enable and facilitate statewide, inter-regional, and intra-regional groundwater and surface water transfers. These Water Banks shall:
 - 1. Oversee and manage in-state water trading to be in line with local and regional sustainability goals;

2. Prohibit the trading of water for purposes deemed wasteful or harmful to the public good;
 3. Educate prospective and current market participants on the review process for trades;
 4. Serve as a central information repository for market participants and the public for water availability, trade volumes, and market prices.
- ii. Improve local and regional surface water and groundwater quality and quantity monitoring through strengthened regulations and additional funding opportunities for municipal water management agencies.
 - iii. Require active managed groundwater recharge in vulnerable or overdrafted watersheds with appropriate hydrogeological conditions, or in watersheds with appropriate hydrogeological conditions that can reasonably supply nearby vulnerable or overdrafted watersheds that are not appropriate for groundwater recharge.
- c. Under the administration of the State Department of Water Resources (DWR), plan, provide funding for, and implement integrated local and regional water management solutions and improve regional coordination and collaboration between water districts and municipalities that share the same groundwater basins and/or watersheds.
- i. Projects shall be selected and developed in line with the Ahwahnee Water Principles to the fullest extent possible.
 - ii. Projects that increase groundwater recharge rates shall be prioritized for funding, particularly those benefiting aquifers that have been overdrafted and/or threatened by saltwater intrusion.
 - iii. Water transportation and storage projects funded through this program shall be coordinated with Regional Water Banks and the California Water Commission in order to ensure adequate infrastructure exists to meet the evolving needs of California under a changing climate.
 - iv. Funded projects shall use Green Corps labor wherever possible, with local labor being the next highest priority.
- d. The State WRCB shall form a Water Rights Accounting Task Force to begin immediately and regularly reviewing and quantifying existing claims to water use rights throughout the State.
- i. Claims shall be reviewed to ensure they adhere to the standards of reasonable and beneficial, taking into consideration the evolving definitions of reasonable and beneficial water use under a changing climate.
 - ii. Surface water claimants shall be limited to either riparian use or appropriative use, but not both.

- iii. **Nestlé Clause.** In recognition of the limited and precious nature of California’s water supplies and the repeated violations of the public trust by bad actors, immediately review commercial water licences issued for bottled water, particularly in drought-prone areas, revoke licenses or drastically increase per-gallon fees, and pursue legal action as needed to protect California’s limited water supply.
 - 1. Companies extracting California surface or groundwater shall be required to provide rigorous, 3rd party-verified proof that their extraction operations are not causing harm to local or regional water resources, are providing a significant public benefit, and are taking place with the explicit consent of local public stakeholders.
 - iv. Assign and adhere to an environmental water budget for each river system to ensure the proper functioning of essential ecosystem services.
- 2. Improve the resiliency of California’s water treatment, storage, and conveyance infrastructure under a changing climate.**
- a. The State DWR shall undertake the review of existing water treatment, storage, and conveyance infrastructure serving the public in California and create a priority list of projects immediately vulnerable to rising sea levels, changing precipitation patterns, or other impacts associated with climate change.
 - b. Under the supervision of the State DWR, the State shall make strategic investments to increase the resilience of California’s water treatment, conveyance, and storage infrastructure through coordinated funding programs for municipal, tribal, and regional government agencies, nonprofit organizations, and industry partners.
 - i. Funded projects shall use Green Corps labor wherever possible, with local labor being the next highest priority.
 - ii. The highest priority shall be given to vulnerable infrastructure serving or impacting disadvantaged communities.
 - iii. Examples of appropriate projects for these funding programs include relocating or reinforcing vulnerable coastal wastewater treatment plants, replacing aged or unsafe pipelines, or restoring floodplains to increase groundwater storage rates.
- 3. Ensure that all communities in California have access to safe and affordable sources of drinking water.** Under the conditions of the current climate emergency, the Department of Water Resources shall require municipal water management agencies to increase the proportion of water sourced locally and decrease per capita potable water use through water conservation and efficiency measures.
- a. **Water Conservation.**

- i. The DWR shall oversee the development and instatement of mandatory regional goals for lowering per capita water use, which shall be reviewed regularly and revised as needed.
 - ii. **Water demand offsets.** Implement a mandatory water offset fee for all development projects requiring a new water service, all new Accessory Dwelling Units, development projects with an existing water service that are undergoing a change in use that is expected to increase water demand, and existing commercial and agricultural customers that are increasing water demand.
 - 1. Offset fees shall be increased in areas experiencing water shortages or aquifer overdraft.
 - 2. Fees shall be lowered for development surpassing minimum water efficiency requirements.
 - 3. The revenue generated from payments of water demand offset fees shall be used to fund local water conservation projects that reduce water use and improve resiliency.
 - iii. **Reduce agricultural water impacts.** In coordination with the CDFG, CalEPA, and other relevant agencies, the DWR shall administer programs that increase the productivity of California agriculture while reducing water and energy use, improve water quality, and increase the reliability of water supplies during water shortages and emergency conditions.
 - 1. Identify and phase in prohibitions on the most inefficient irrigation techniques, and provide financial assistance to transition to high-efficiency irrigation for agricultural operations that can demonstrate an undue financial burden associated with purchasing needed equipment and labor.
 - iv. **Rural Drinking Water.** Increase support for infrastructure projects that help provide rural communities with access to safe, clean and reliable drinking water from local sources.
- b. **Water Reuse.**
- i. **Recycled water.** The State WRCB shall amend the Water Quality Control Policy for Recycled Water to require the statewide objectives of increasing the use of recycled water 2 million acre-feet per year (afy) in 2025 and to 3 million afy by 2030.
 - 1. In coordination with State and Regional WRCBs, DWR shall establish water recycling requirements for municipal water management agencies that are based on local conditions but that collectively achieve State water recycling goals.

- ii. **Greywater.** The DWR shall provide financial and technical assistance to homeowners, housing organizations, and businesses for the purpose of expanding greywater use for landscape irrigation.
- iii. **Agricultural return water.** The CDFA shall require the collection and reuse of a determined percentage of tailwater from field crop operations, and shall provide financial and technical assistance to farmers that can demonstrate undue an undue financial burden associated with this meeting this requirement.
- iv. The State shall find and declare that the discharge of treated wastewater from ocean outfalls that does not provide a significant environmental benefit is a waste and unreasonable use of water.
 - 1. Require such discharges to be reduced by at least 50% on or before January 1, 2025, and by 100% by January 1, 2030.
- c. **Improve public water quality.** The DWR shall ensure the public continues to have access to safe water supplies for residential, commercial, and agricultural uses under a changing climate.
 - i. Increase State funding and technical assistance for local and regional water monitoring on all sources of public water, particularly in coastal and agricultural areas.
 - ii. In coordination with WRCB, impose ratcheting fines on individuals or entities found to have seriously or continuously exceeded water pollution standards.
 - 1. Violators shall be given a reasonable grace period after being found responsible to correct the infraction, after which they shall be subject to criminal liability.