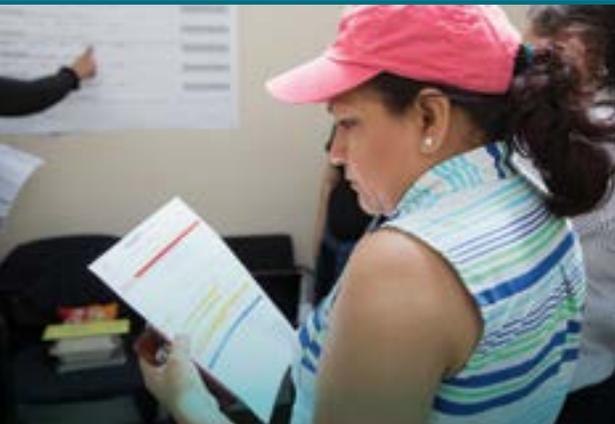


2017

SOLUTIONS FOR OAKLAND

VISION, ISSUES AND POLICY PLATFORM



WHO WE ARE: Oakland is better when we all have what we need to lead healthy lives and support our families. Together, we are building political power to bring the issues of our flatlands communities to the center of our city's agenda. This year we will fight for policy solutions that make Oakland stronger, safer, and healthier, from city hall to the state capitol to the ballot box. Together, Oakland is Rising.

OUR VISION: We envision an Oakland that stands for progress and sustainability, that models what is possible in American cities in the 21st century. We believe we can find collective strength in our city's diversity. We know that Oakland can reach its full potential when residents of any neighborhood, students of any school, riders of any bus, can help lead our city into the future. We believe that this vision is possible, and that we will achieve it one conversation, one action, and one vote at a time.

OUR MISSION: Oakland Rising educates and mobilizes voters in the flatlands to speak up for and take charge of issues impacting our lives. We are a multiracial and multilingual collaborative with deep roots in East and West Oakland neighborhoods, proving that everyday residents working together have the power to change the way our city is run. With longtime Oakland families and our newest neighbors working shoulder-to-shoulder, we are building on Oakland's incredibly rich history to advance smart, community-first solutions for a thriving Town.

Look inside to learn how we resist, protect and advance in this political moment. ➔



Dear Friends and Allies,

I have been thinking a lot lately about the concept of power. In its simplest form, power is defined as the ability to do work, or to get something done.

The work of Oakland Rising is to build and shift power. Our ongoing commitment to build and flex progressive political power with and for Oakland's working-class, immigrant, and residents of color is more critical than ever, especially given the extremist federal political climate we find ourselves in this year. As our federal government took a sharp turn to the right that threatens the fabric of our society and the lives of many of our beloved community members, we are proud to stand strong in our values of inclusion, equity, fairness, love and liberation.

Specifically, our work is to build progressive political power with the working-class, immigrants, and people of color to change who makes decisions and how things get done in our communities. And while we may not have big money, fame or even more than a handful of elected decision-makers who truly represent our interests, we absolutely do have the power of numbers, the power of our relationships, and the power of our shared values. And we're in it to win it.

This year, we will be bolder, more collaborative and more innovative than ever before. We will lead - together - with our values of inclusion, equity, fairness, transformation, love and liberation. The role of Oakland, the Bay Area and California in this political moment is to be a source of light and inspiration that protects and advances racial, economic and environmental justice.

Oakland Rising will continue to build and shift political power in these three ways:

1. Build and exercise progressive political power through mass-based electoral organizing and integrated organizing strategies.
2. Align and coordinate progressive forces through our collaborative model and practices on the citywide, regional and state levels to build the power of the social justice movement.
3. Recruit, train, advance, and support progressive leaders who lead in a collaborative, accountable and values-based way that centers racial, economic and environmental justice.

I invite you to learn more about our work in civic engagement, policy advocacy, leadership development and collaborative alignment in the following pages.

With love towards justice,

~ j

Jessamyn Sabbag

Executive Director

Lifting Up Leadership in the East Bay

This year, we are launching a new program to identify, recruit and train a cohort of progressive public leaders in Alameda County, **Lead East Bay**.

We are focusing on leaders with a demonstrated commitment to building racial, economic and environmental justice with working class communities of color. Our cohort will be comprised of people from progressive movement organizations, congregations, labor unions, and other community partners. Our goal is to identify, train and assist progressive leaders in achieving critical public leadership roles throughout our region.

Getting the right leaders into public leadership roles is critical in tackling the persistent issues in our region, such as the lack of affordable housing, which plague communities of color and contribute to the growing inequality in the Bay Area.

What makes Lead East Bay different from other leadership development programs is the focus on deep community roots and the network of support and accountability that participants will receive. We believe that no decision-maker - no matter how skilled, passionate or principled - can be effective and build the political will necessary to make change without these things.

We seek to reverse the trend of public leaders losing their focus on the values, goals and communities that brought them into leadership in the first place, and becoming reactive to political winds and paths of least resistance. We will build deep and lasting partnerships for grassroots activists while preparing them to succeed as values-based, goals-driven, and accountable public decision-makers.

With the successful implementation of Lead East Bay, we gradually expect to see:

- more accountability among public officials to working class communities of color;
- more inclusive decision-making within public agencies (involvement of working class communities of color in the decisions that impact us);
- more progressive political power for communities of color in the East Bay, and
- a leadership development ecosystem that is more focused on the needs of the movement rather than individual leaders.

For more information about Lead East Bay, contact shanthi@oaklandrising.org



THE POWER OF OAKLAND RISING'S 2016 FIELD PROGRAM AND VOTING BLOC



In 2016 Oakland Rising took part in the LARGEST statewide Field Campaign in California as part of California Calls and the Million Voters Project. While there were 18 statewide propositions and 12

local measures on the ballot, Oakland Rising focused on Propositions 55 to tax the rich and fund education, 56 to tax tobacco and fund education, 57 to keep youth out of adult prison and Measure JJ to protect Oakland renters.

In the past year we have created more than 150 jobs for voter outreach workers and trained 3 Team Leaders. Our "Daily Team" members are mostly Black and Brown Oakland natives from the flatlands and over 75% of them are previously incarcerated.



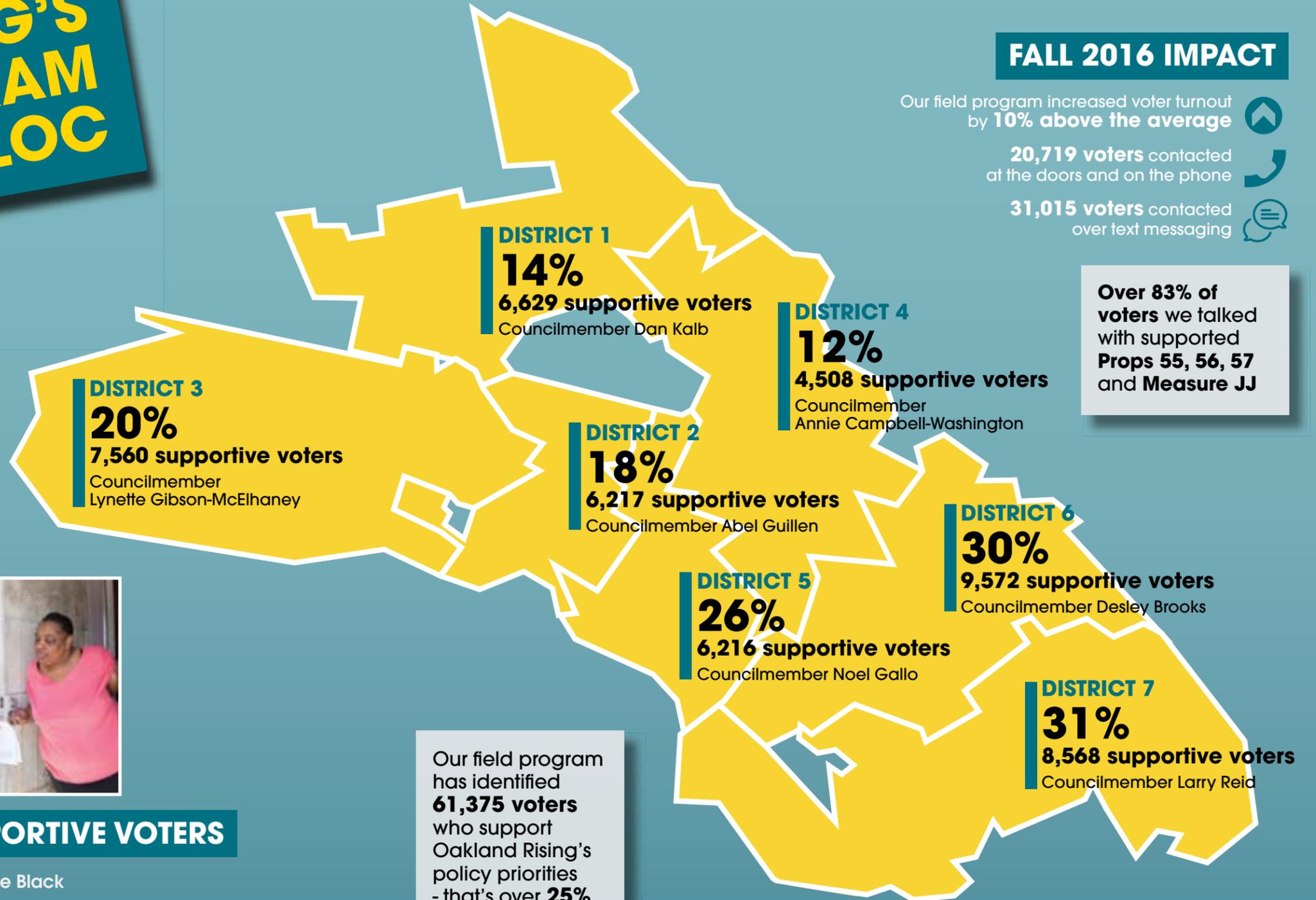
RESULTS: WE WON!

Prop 55	69%	In Favor
Prop 56	71%	In Favor
Prop 57	72%	In Favor
Measure JJ	75%	In Favor

OUR SUPPORTIVE VOTERS

-  47% are Black
-  14% are Latino
-  7% are Asian
-  44% have an income of less than \$50,000/year
-  21% are between 18-34 years old

WHERE OUR SUPPORTIVE VOTERS LIVE



FALL 2016 IMPACT

- Our field program increased voter turnout by **10% above the average**
- 20,719 voters** contacted at the doors and on the phone
- 31,015 voters** contacted over text messaging

Over 83% of voters we talked with supported **Props 55, 56, 57 and Measure JJ**

Our field program has identified **61,375 voters** who support Oakland Rising's policy priorities - that's over **25% of Oakland voters and growing.**

CITY AND COUNTY LEVEL POLICIES



Enforce Renters Protections

Housing is a human right. Oakland residents, whether homeowners or renters, deserve to live in stable and affordable homes. In 2015, community, labor and faith groups formed a coalition to protect Oakland renters. In the November 2016 general election, voters passed the Protect Oakland Renters Act (Measure JJ) with 75% voter support. This

expands Just Cause eviction protection to units built before 1996, increases tenant representation on the Rent Board, requires landlords to petition the Rent Board for increases that exceed 3%, and requires annual tenant notification about renters' rights and allowable rent increases. This year, we must ensure full implementation of these changes and enforcement of landlord compliance.

TAKE ACTION: Call your Councilmember and demand that the City of Oakland fully enforce and fund all aspects of the Protect Oakland Renters Act. For more information contact Camilo Zamora at camilo@cjjc.org

Stabilize Services for Homeless Families

Families with young children face daunting monthly expenses since the cost of living is so high in Oakland and the Bay Area. Economic stability for families with young children requires that our local government makes a strong investment in early childcare. Currently there are an estimated 114 children from 0-5 years old in temporary shelters or transitional housing programs in Alameda County. We call on the Alameda County Board of Supervisors to dedicate \$4 million to fund a collaborative approach to providing housing, early childhood education, quality afterschool care, and supportive services for homeless families residing in temporary shelters. This includes 200 emergency childcare vouchers, family navigators to connect our families to employment and housing opportunities, case management, on-site parent driven family enrichment programs and an implementation and oversight committee that consists of a diverse group of partner agencies.

TAKE ACTION: Call your County Supervisor and tell them that they should work with the community to take immediate action and address the Housing State of Emergency that they declared in the County Budget. For more information on how to get involved contact Clarissa Douthard at clarissa@pvoakland.org

Regulate Short Term Rentals

With the current crisis of affordable housing, we need to make sure that available housing units be used for long-term tenant housing and not for landlord profit on a short-term basis. Short-term rentals, through companies like AirBnB, contribute to gentrification and displacement by shrinking the stock of available long-term housing units. We need look no further than to San Francisco to see the consequences of dwindling housing stock, increasing rents, and rampant displacement of working class people. Oakland has the 4th highest rental market in the country and people are literally being forced to live in the streets, so the priority must be on providing more housing availability, not less. We demand that the City Council be proactive in preserving available housing for long-term tenant use. Specifically, we want our elected representatives to cap the length of time that short-term rentals can be offered in order to prevent landlords from bypassing renter protection laws and setting up de-facto hotels.



TAKE ACTION: Call your City Councilmember and tell them that regulating the short term rental market is necessary to protect residents of our city. For more information on how to get involved contact Tracey Corder at tracey@oaklandrising.org

Implement Revive Oakland

Oaklanders need good jobs if we want to stay in our homes, provide for our families and build a healthy and thriving Town. As developers and other companies seek to capitalize on Oakland's profitable location and market, we must ensure that they also bring benefits to our community. Community benefits include hiring local residents, paying living wages, and providing long-term employment. While we won these standards at the Oakland Army Base through our Revive Oakland campaign, we now must pressure the City and the Port of Oakland to uphold them. Moreover, we must educate and hold accountable the private companies including big box stores who may develop on the Army Base and who are not accustomed to operating under these standards. It is critical that the City and Port of Oakland are accountable to the legal agreements they made, and swiftly and thoroughly implement the community benefits agreement that we fought so hard to pass.

TAKE ACTION: Call your City Councilmember and the Port of Oakland and urge them to honor our agreement by holding themselves and private employers accountable to the employment standards. For more information contact Jahmese Myres at jahmese@workingeastbay.org

2017 POLICY AGENDA

STATE LEVEL POLICIES



Advocate for Re-Entry Employment

Recidivism decreases when our neighbors can return home to good jobs with good wages on which they can support themselves and their families. When voters passed Proposition 47 in 2014 - reducing six felonies to misdemeanors - it resulted in 1,400 more people coming home from jail in Alameda County. Unfortunately, employers often avoid hiring people who have criminal records, or offer them only low-wage work, contributing

to the cycle of recidivism. We must invest in the health, well-being and safety of our city as a whole by ensuring the availability and accessibility of living wage jobs for our formerly-incarcerated community members. The Justice Reinvestment Coalition, in partnership with the Alameda County Board of Supervisors, developed a program to hire the recently released 1,400 formerly-incarcerated people and provide ongoing job coaching and mentoring. Now we must pressure the Board of Supervisors to actually make it happen.

TAKE ACTION: Call your County Supervisor and urge them to fully implement the 1,400 Jobs Program. For more information about the Justice Reinvestment Coalition of Alameda County, contact Darris Young at darris@ellabakercenter.org

Build Up East Oakland for People of Color

Longtime East Oakland families deserve stable neighborhoods. As corporate developers and tech companies like Uber continue to be lured into Oakland, working class communities of color must not only be included in but also benefit from economic growth. East Oakland continues to be one of the last affordable areas for people of color – and we must be vigilant in keeping it that way. Community benefits should be mandatory in agreements with developers, including the proposed projects near Coliseum BART station and the Hegenberger Corridor. We can help our long time neighbors stay in their homes by requiring benefits that include: local hire, preservation of current affordable housing and construction of more, and “ban the box” on job applications to level the playing field for formerly incarcerated applicants. The City must develop and implement policies that invest in people over profit so that we can stop the displacement and thrive together.

TAKE ACTION: For information on how to protect, defend and support East Oakland, contact Jahmese Myres at jahmese@workingeastbay.org

Pass A Statewide Homeless Bill of Rights

Everyone in our city deserves the right to move freely and safely in public spaces. Bills targeting the dignity and livelihood of homeless people have no place in California. The Homeless Bill of Rights would ensure that housing status would not be used as a reason for police harassment and establish a “Right to Rest” law allowing people in public spaces to protect themselves from the elements, eat where allowable, and perform religious observances. As Colorado and Oregon consider similar legislation, California has a chance to lead the way on the rights of homeless people and the ending of the criminalization of poverty by passing the Homeless Bill of Rights.



TAKE ACTION: To receive information about listening sessions and get involved with Western Regional Advocacy Project, contact Janny Castillo at jcastillo@stmaryscenter.org

End Three Strikes Law for Youth

The criminal justice system should focus on rehabilitation and redemption, especially for our youth. As part of California’s Three Strikes Law, juveniles under age 18 can accumulate strikes, which in some cases is even encouraged as part of their plea bargains. This strictly punitive measure creates more barriers to a successful adulthood and limits access to education, employment, housing and mental health services. Young people do not make decisions the same ways that adults do, yet this provision treats them identically to adults. The state legislature must end the further criminalization of young people through the Three Strikes system, and instead focus on creating an environment that promotes healing and provides support.

TAKE ACTION: To stay up to date on committee votes and organizing meetings, contact Mar Valez at mvelez@curyj.org



Repeal Ineffective Sentencing Enhancement: The RISE Act

Our state budget priorities should reflect the community’s call to invest in public services and address the crisis of mass incarceration. The RISE Act – SB 180 (Holly Mitchell) – would repeal a 3-year sentencing enhancement for prior drug convictions, which has resulted in hundreds of our community members doing more time for minor offenses. The RISE Act would both repeal the costly and ineffective sentencing enhancements that

disproportionately affect young people of color, and free up funding that can be invested in programs and services to address community needs such as mental health and substance abuse treatment, job programs and affordable housing.

TAKE ACTION: Call your state legislators and urge them to support the RISE Act, let them know that you believe we should invest in public services, not jails. For more information, contact Emily Harris at emily@ellabakercenter.org

Increase Law Enforcement Transparency

To build true public safety, we need transparency, accountability and public trust in law enforcement. Currently, records of police officer misconduct are confidential and exempt from disclosure under the Public Records Act. In contrast, victims of police violence have no protection or right to privacy. SB 1286 (Mark Leno) would allow:

- public access to records related to sustained charges of serious police misconduct;
- public access to records related to any use of force that causes or is likely to cause serious injury including death; and
- the tracking of progress of the investigation by those who file complaints.

With police brutality coming more into the light thanks to efforts like Black Lives Matter, this is a critical time for our government to proactively advance policies that will ensure that police are held accountable to the highest standards of the law.

TAKE ACTION: Call your state legislators and tell them that you stand with the nearly 80% of Californians who believe that the public should have access to the findings and conclusions of sustained police misconduct. For more information, contact Mar Velez at mvelez@curyj.org

Overhaul the Cash Bail System

Income should not determine freedom, yet currently in our system of cash bail it does. Under state law, bail is set when a person is arrested in accordance to a county fee schedule which varies depending on the severity of the allegations. The accused person must then post the amount upfront or pay a 10% fee to a bond company before they are released. People in our community who cannot afford this fee remain incarcerated, resulting in a system that favors those with higher incomes. By passing SB 10 (Hertzberger), the state legislature would eliminate the privatization of the bail bond system and give judges discretion to eliminate cash bail for certain charges.



TAKE ACTION: Call your state legislators and urge them to eliminate the “debtor’s prison” form of bail by supporting SB 10 in committee and on the floor. For more information, contact Leili Devari at ldavari@bendthearc.us

End Coal Export in Our State

Clean water and fresh air are essential to our health and should be a basic standard for all areas of our communities. The transportation of dirty fossil fuels like coal threatens the safety of our communities, and is concentrated in neighborhoods where low-income, people of color reside. The banning of coal exports through our ports is an ongoing battle despite having won major victories in 2016 when Oakland city councilmembers voted to stop a coal export terminal in West Oakland, and when Governor Jerry Brown signed legislation banning state transportation funding for new coal exports. Coal is a dead end – investments in clean, renewable energy will benefit our communities by creating more jobs and less pollution than the coal industry. California needs to continue to invest in clean energy and lead the fight against climate change by ending the export of coal through all ports in our state.

TAKE ACTION: Call your state legislators and tell them that you want them to terminate coal exports statewide. For more information, contact Alvina Wong at alvina@apen4ej.org



Reform Property Taxes for Corporations

All Californians deserve fully funded schools, high quality healthcare, well-paved streets and highways, and thriving libraries and parks. Unfortunately, crucial programs and services, like education and healthcare, continue to see major cuts as corporations in California avoid paying their fair share in property taxes thanks to a 1978 loophole. The state would receive an additional \$9 billion dollars annually if we closed the loophole that allows corporations to dodge the responsibility of paying

their fair share. We must continue the fight we started with California Calls 8 years ago against the corporate agenda that values profit over our people, and demand investment in our communities.

TAKE ACTION: Call your state legislators and tell them to support Commercial Property Tax Reform and make corporations pay their fair share of property taxes. For more information on how to get involved contact Tracey Corder at tracey@oaklandrising.org

Provide Greater Access to Childcare for Families

Parents should have the freedom, flexibility and opportunity to increase their education level while accessing subsidized child care services. AB 273 (Cecilia Aguiar-Curry) would add English as a Second Language (ESL) and High School Equivalency (HSE) educational programs to the list of eligibility criteria for state subsidized child development services under the California Educational Code. Parents who do not speak English as their first language face greater challenges accessing services despite laws that require interpretation and becoming proficient in ESL and earning a HSE leads to better job prospects with the ability to earn higher wages. Parents deserve to take these classes while receiving childcare support to do so. Allowing greater access to childcare services benefits parents and offers more support as children enter the K-12 system.

TAKE ACTION: For more information on how to get involved contact Clarissa Doutherd at clarissa@pvoakland.org

Lift Up Environmental Justice Statewide

Environmental toxins are disproportionately concentrated in low-income communities and communities of color. The California State Legislature is considering a package of three bills which would help alleviate some of the dangerous impacts that concentrated pollution has on our bodies and our environment: AB 378 (Garcia and Holden), AB 523 (Reyes) and SB 366 (Leyva). AB 378 will ensure that reduction of greenhouse gas emissions happens equitably across the state, helping to ensure prioritization of those neighborhoods which are most impacted. AB 523 will direct a larger share of the pie from state clean energy funds to projects benefiting the most impacted neighborhoods, frequently working class communities of color. SB 366 will increase accessibility to shared solar and energy savings for working class communities.



TAKE ACTION: Call your state legislators and urge them to vote yes for AB 378, AB 523, and SB 366 in committee and on the floor. For more information on how to get involved contact Alvina Wong at alvina@apen4ej.org

Provide Sanctuary in Our State

Families should be able to live together safely, without fear of being separated. While cities across the state and the country have declared that they are sanctuary spaces to all residents, regardless of immigration status, they lack a consistent definition of what that means. Legislation (SB 54, DeLeon) would declare California a Sanctuary State with the following provisions: remove Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and Border Protection from local jails, ban state agencies from requesting or collecting anyone's immigration status, prohibit the use of county jails for immigration enforcement, and restrict ICE's access to state databases. In California, part of the resistance to a national agenda is protecting everyone who lives within our state.

TAKE ACTION: Call your state legislators and urge them to vote yes on SB 54 in committee and on the floor. For more information on how to get involved contact Andrea Lee at andrea@mujeresunidas.net

SNAPSHOT OF OAKLAND RISING'S 2017 POLICIES



Lead In The Health Care Fight

When quality, affordable healthcare is not provided to everyone, wellness becomes dependent on income. While the fate of Trump's "Affordable Health Care" proposal is yet to be determined as of publishing, it clearly poses a threat to millions of Californians and over 150,000 people in Alameda County alone would lose their health insurance. We need to not only fight this national legislation, but also be proactive and show that California can lead the way on this critical racial and economic justice issue. The Healthy California Act (SB 562, Senators Lara and Atkins) gives our state the ability to go on the offensive and provide a single

payer plan by imposing a tax on residents that would fund health insurance coverage for everyone through a state-run plan. This is not unprecedented, this plan passed in California in 2004 and 2006, however, it was vetoed at the time by then Governor Schwarzenegger. California should lead the nation by becoming the first state to pass single payer healthcare and affirm that quality of healthcare should not be based on income.

TAKE ACTION: Call your state legislators and the Governor's office and let them know that you support universal healthcare and we should pass it now. For more information contact Tracey Corder at tracey@oaklandrising.org



Enforce Renters' Protections
Stabilize Services for Homeless Families
Regulate Short Term Rentals
Pass A Statewide Homeless Bill of Rights



Advocate for Re-Entry Employment
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Reform Property Taxes for Corporations
Provide Greater Access to Childcare for Families
Provide Sanctuary in Our State
Lead the Healthcare Fight



As we resist, protect and advance it is important that we show active solidarity with progressive forces throughout our movement. That is why, in addition to presenting our policy priorities, Oakland Rising also endorses the Platform of the Movement for Black Lives as well as Unity Principles for the Women's March on Washington.

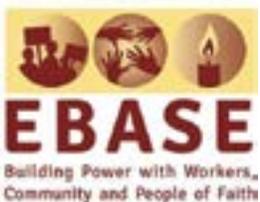
For more information visit their websites:

policy.m4bl.org/platform

womensmarch.com/principles

Building the Progressive Movement requires working together to build community power that wins.

THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS THAT ARE MEMBERS OF OUR COLLABORATIVE, WHICH INCLUDE:



THANKS TO OUR MANY PARTNERS ACROSS THE MOVEMENT, INCLUDING PARTNERS IN: Labor, Statewide Tax and Fiscal Policy Work, Criminal Justice, Bay Rising, Bay Resistance, Boys and Men of Color, Good Government, and Philanthropy.



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