



CLIMATE ALLIANCE
FOR jobs & clean energy

**RESILIENT
FUTURE** 

Whether we're white or Black, rich or poor, Indigenous or newcomer, we all want to leave future generations a healthy and beautiful Washington. But today, Washingtonians are grappling with multiple, simultaneous crises: a public health emergency, an economic catastrophe, a climate crisis, and a reckoning with our nation's racist history. Those who benefit from the status quo have tried to silence the voices urging change and asserting our right to have a say over what happens to the land, air, and water we all depend on.

It doesn't have to be this way. The crises we face are deeply intertwined, and a just recovery will require bold action. We know firsthand that the solutions needed to recover from the health and economic impacts of COVID-19 can also advance climate resilience - a need that remains as urgent as ever. We can expand access to affordable healthcare, housing, and clean transportation. We can have affordable energy options that clean our air and create thousands of good, safe jobs.

Starving our communities of the resources we need to live healthy lives is a choice we don't have to keep making. We know knee jerk cuts will only perpetuate these crises by damaging the critical services and jobs families depend on. By joining together, from our farms to our cities, we can rewrite the rules and create a Washington that puts the health, vitality, and prosperity of all its people before profits. By protecting our right to have a say about our future, we can ensure rules made about our air, water, and land serve our best interests.

Our broad coalition calls on state leaders to support the Resilient Future platform, which will set us on a path toward a climate resilient future for generations to come. Relief and Recovery efforts must invest in the long-term resilience of at-risk workers, low-income communities, communities of color, and tribal communities through the following actions:

- **People-Focused Solutions:** We must support communities hit hardest by the health, environmental, and economic crisis with direct investments.
- **Equitable, Participatory Decision-Making Process:** We must engage frontline workers, communities of color, tribal nations, and others most impacted by the health and economic crises in all decision-making processes.
- **Progressive revenue sources that drive down pollution:** For too long, corporations and large polluters have refused to contribute their share to the schools, roads, and community services we all rely on. We must ensure that corporations and the very wealthy who've done well in Washington do right by Washington.
- **Climate-Resilient Investments:** We need long-term investments that build a clean and resilient economy to support healthy and prosperous communities.

- **Clean & Just Approaches:** We need strategies that reduce pollution, increase climate protection, strengthen the power and voices of workers, address structural inequalities, and create well-paying jobs with protected collective bargaining rights.

How We Get There: Our 2021 Legislative Session Policy Priorities

- 1. We need environmental justice and equitable participatory decision-making processes to make sure our most impacted communities have a voice at the decision making table and a healthy future for generations to come.**
 - a. Require environmental justice in state law and state action
 - b. Make state government accountable to and collaborative with frontline communities
 - c. Direct environmental investments to communities highly impacted by pollution
- 2. We must build a clean and just transportation system that is efficient, affordable, creates living-wage jobs, cleans our air, and ensures a sustainable climate.**
 - a. Support [state-wide](#) and [local](#) progressive transportation revenue options that benefit low-income and rural communities.
 - b. Support [clean and just transportation investments](#) that reduce vehicle miles traveled, fossil fuel consumption, clean our air, create good local jobs, reduce over-policing and displacement, and allow everyone to get where they need to go efficiently, safely, affordably, and reliably.
 - c. Support transportation policies that help our state transition to a clean and just transportation system, including: Updating the state's transportation goals to meet health, equity, and environmental metrics, in continued support of the [Transportation for All](#) bill.
- 3. We need progressive funding that drives down pollution and supports climate-resilient investments.**
 - a. Support progressive revenue sources and financing mechanisms that make corporations, large polluters, and the very wealthy pay their share.
 - b. We must pass an equitable carbon pricing policy that reduces pollution and supports the just transition of workers and communities away from a harmful fossil fuel economy and into a clean and resilient future and meet our [strong carbon pricing criteria](#).

- c. We must create a state public bank to make sure our tax dollars stay in Washington and invest in our communities, not lining the pockets of wall street's fossil fuel financiers. The creation of a state bank is foundational infrastructure to support the just transition to a climate-resilient future.
- 4. We must update the Washington Growth Management Act to make sure we address climate change, affordable housing, and environmental justice in our state's land use planning.**
 - a. Include a Climate Change Element that requires planning for the reduction of greenhouse gas emission and vehicle miles traveled as well as adaptation, mitigation and protection against the impacts of the climate crisis.
 - b. Update the Housing Element for greater accountability in planning for all incomes and housing types. Require cities to identify and address historical exclusionary housing policies.
 - c. Embed environmental justice in planning requirements in both the Housing Element and Climate Change Element and ensure environmental justice is consistent across the land use planning process.
- 5. We must re-prioritize our state budget away from extractive and exploitative practices that criminalize, incarcerate and harm the health of Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC) communities and instead invest in the equitable distribution of sustainable investments in climate resiliency and the health and safety of BIPOC communities.**
 - a. Respect and support Black-led organizations and coalitions, and those most impacted advocating for racial justice policy change.
 - b. Equitable re-investment determined by the above could look like:
 - i. Expanding community health services in BIPOC communities in order to serve those impacted by the adverse health impacts of climate change.
 - ii. Equitable access to education, including broadband, fair housing and economic green infrastructure that can withstand the impacts of climate change in BIPOC communities.
- 6. We need immediate and long-term relief that directly supports communities hit hardest by the health, environmental, and economic crisis.**
 - a. Support Puget Sound Sage and Front and Centered's call for state-wide utility relief
 - b. Support the Tenants Union of Washington State's call for extending state-wide eviction moratoriums and rent relief.
 - c. Support Washington Families Tax Credit Coalition's call for direct cash assistance for low-income families by fully funding the working families' tax credit and a recovery rebate.

- d. Support the Washington Immigrant Solidarity Network's call for allocating an additional \$60 Million to the WA Immigrant Relief Fund to support immigrant workers.

7. We need clean and just state public purchasing and contracting that centers good job creation, equity, and the environment to ensure that every dollar of state spending delivers public good.

- a. Support the Buy Clean and Buy Fair Washington Act to eliminate dirty and exploitative manufacturers' unfair advantage in state purchasing and stop the race to the bottom that undercuts workers and increases carbon pollution.
- b. Support Washington BlueGreen Alliance's [recommendations for responsible state public spending and procurement](#) to ensure that every dollar of public money achieves the maximum public good. This includes attaching strong labor standards to all state investments to make sure that public money creates living wage jobs, not more low-wage, unstable work.