Decarbonizing Homes While Creating Quality Jobs in your Community

CCEC Forum: June 14, 2023

Presentors: Jennifer West, Jordan Ackerman, Billi Romain Moderated by Chiara Arellano

Who's in the room?

Raise your hand if...



Defining decarbonization



ALL-ELECTRIC

Heat Pumps Induction Cooktops Electric Vehicle Charging

RENEWABLE ENERGY

Cleaner energy on the grid Local solar, wind, geothermal Distributed storage Microgrids





ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Intelligent controls High Performance Windows & Doors Well insulated building envelope Natural light and passive solar Efficient appliances and lighting

Defining decarbonization

JOB

QUALITY



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High Road Partnership Vision

A residential building decarbonization industry that supports quality jobs, engages a qualified workforce, and provides stable career pathways for disadvantaged workers while simultaneously reducing greenhouse gas emissions and building more resilient communities.



Partnership Principles (summarized)

- 1. Dialogue with union partners and non-union residential contractors
- 2. Build capacity and increase access for small, BIPOC, and women-owned residential contractors to become high road employers
- 3. Access to quality training and high road employment for **BIPOC**, women, and other disadvantaged job seekers and workers
- 4. High road labor standards in publicly-funded residential decarb programs
- 5. Increase the participation of high road, union contractors in the residential decarbonization retrofit market.

Jordan Ackerman Policy & Public Affairs Manager at Construction Trades Workforce Initiative (CTWI)



Construction Trades Workforce Initiative

The Decision - High Road or Low Road

High Road Decarb Construction

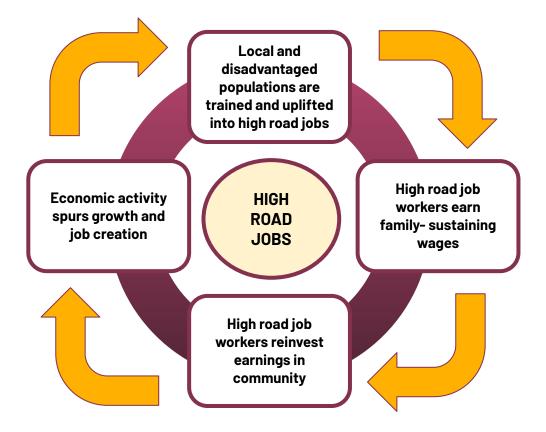
- Family-sustaining wage jobs
- Safe working conditions
- Healthcare and retirement benefits
- Investment in training



Low Road Decarb Construction

- Low wage jobs
- Unsafe working conditions
- Lack of healthcare and retirement benefits
- Lack of investment in training

The Virtuous Cycle



Union Apprenticeship Programs

Facts about Union Apprenticeship Programs:

"Earn while you learn"

- 3- to 5-year training programs
- State-approved apprenticeship training
- Average starting pay ~\$26/hr
- Zero student debt
- Excellent benefits: health, retirement, paid time off
- Self Funded
- Labor Management Partnership













Labor Standards



- 1. Require prevailing wages at every contracting tier
- 2. Healthcare Portable and available to dependents and should meet Covered California's Silver Level
- 3. Portable retirement benefits
- 1. Participating in a State approved apprenticeship program that trains a skilled workforce
- 2. Attainment of industry appropriate certifications
- 1. Regional targeted hire requirements to ensure the participation of disadvantaged workers and/or graduates from approved MC3 pre-apprenticeship programs
- 1. A history of abidance with building code and labor laws
- 2. Adopting a Multi-Craft Community Workforce Agreement or Project Labor Agreement negotiated with the Building Trades

The Benefits of Standards

FAIR WAGES & BENEFITS

LABOR STANDARD(S)

1) Require prevailing wages at every contracting tier

2) Healthcare Portable and available to dependents and should meet Covered California's Silver Level

3) Portable retirement benefits

BENEFITS

- Creates more family-sustaining careers in the construction trades
- Increases workplace morale, and productivity, as well as recruiting, training, and retention of workers
- Creates healthier communities and safer communities
- Raises average wages and standards of living for construction workers
- Fuels Bay Area economic growth and prosperity through reinvestment
- Reduces strain on the social safety net

TRAINING & CERTIFICATION

LABOR STANDARD(S)

1) Participating in a State approved apprenticeship program that trains a skilled workforce

2) Attainment of industry appropriate certifications

BENEFITS

- Develops a highly trained and qualified construction trades workforce
- Creates greater efficiency and quality in construction projects
- Ensures appropriate safety training and reduces workplace accidents
- Develops the talent pipeline

REGIONAL TARGETED HIRES

LABOR STANDARD(S)

1) Regional targeted hire requirements to ensure the participation of disadvantaged workers and/or graduates from approved MC3 pre-apprenticeship programs

BENEFITS

- Ensures equal opportunity is afforded to historically marginalized and disadvantaged workers including women, BIPOC, formerly incarcerated, veterans, and residents of low-income communities
- · Ensures that regional hires are reflective of the diverse population and demographics of the Bay Area
- Develops a Bay Area economy that inclusively offers upward economic opportunity to all residents
- · Reduces strain on the social safety net

COMPLIANCE & ACCOUNTABILITY

LABOR STANDARD(S)

1) A history of abidance with building code and labor laws

2) Adopting a Multi-Craft Community Workforce Agreement or Project Labor Agreement negotiated with the Building Trades

BENEFITS

- Ensures work is conducted in a safe and orderly manner in compliance and accordance with the law
- Ensures appropriate safety training and reduces workplace accidents
- Creates a mechanism of accountability to address potential violations and provide remedies

Resources to Becoming High Road



rebates & incentives How to access capital & financing

How to work under a Project How to work under a Pr Labor Agreement (PLA)

How to access a skilled & diverse worker

The benefits & process to becoming a structure becoming a signatory contractor

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ULTIMATE ONSTRUCTION RESOURCE CENTER UNDERSTANDI AND PROJECT LABOR AGREEMENTS THINGS TO KNOW BEFORE YOU JOIN

CTWI 💥 Emerald Cities 🛞

Becoming a Union Signatory Contractor

What is a signatory contractor?

A union signatory is an individual, company, or other entity that has agreed to comply with the union guidelines outlined within a specific Master Labor Agreement (MLA) of that particular trade.

Why become a signatory contractor?

- Access a skilled, trained workforce through state-certified apprenticeship system
- · Gain opportunities for growth by working on large high-profile projects
- · Access signatory contractor networking opportunities
- Access new innovative tools/materials/certifications as the industry evolves
- · Gain the ability to participate in a Contractors Association and influence industry decisions

The Process for Becoming Signatory



apprenticeship programs, and regional partnerships. Learn more about their work at ctwi-btca.org

www.ctwi-btca.org

Recommendations for Achieving High Road Residential Decarbonization

Advocate for Triple Bottom Win Narrative: People, Planet, Prosperity

Climate vs labor

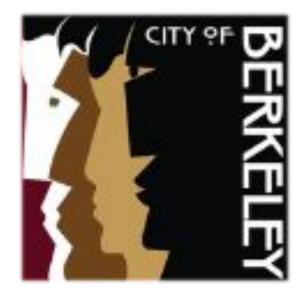
MWDBE contractors vs workers

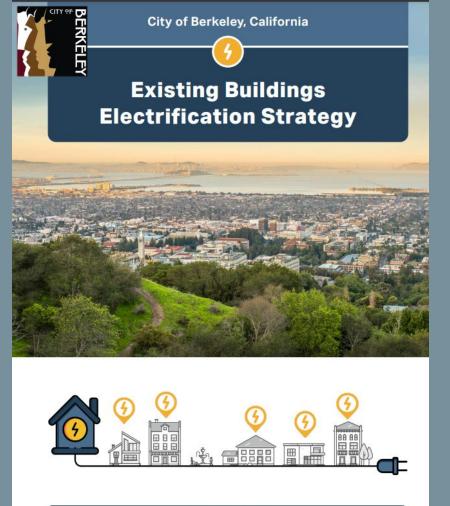
Don't reinvent the wheel: Tap into the existing union workforce pipeline

Design Programs and RFPs that incorporate labor standards

Utilize existing models and best practices - Project Labor Agreements, City of Berkeley example

Billi Romain Manager of the Office of Energy & Sustainable Development at the City of Berkeley





November 2021

Berkeley Equity Guardrails



ACCESS TO HEALTH & SAFETY BENEFITS

Ensure equitable access to marginalized communities and others most impacted by climate change, to health, safety and comfort benefits from electrification for both home owners and renters. Due to the upfront costs of electrification, many households will need financial support to have access to high quality upgrades and the benefits of electrification, including long-term cost savings.



ACCESS TO ECONOMIC BENEFITS

Ensure all community members, especially marginalized communities have equitable access to affordable funding and financing mechanisms, and to high-road job opportunities.



MAXIMIZE EASE OF INSTALLATION

Ensure that incentives and programs for the community provide meaningful support to renters, owners, and marginalized community members to provide a simple process that minimizes the burdens and impacts associated with the installation of high quality electric equipment installed by a fairly paid and well trained workforce

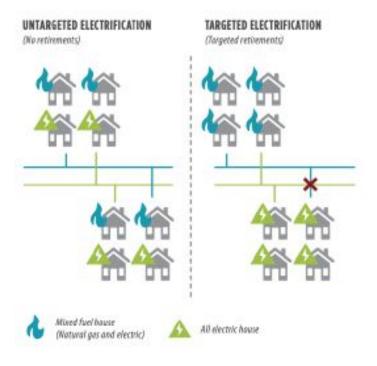


PROMOTE HOUSING AFFORDABILITY & ANTI-DISPLACEMENT

Ensure upgrades don't displace renters or overburden homeowners. Programs should support housing production, housing preservation, and tenant protections.

Policy Pathways

- Time of Replacement and Renovation
- Time of Sale
- Building Performance Standards
- Neighborhood Aggregation & Gas Pruning



Berkeley's Just Transition Pilot Program \$1.5M

- Assess low-moderate income aggregated residential electrification opportunities
- Set workforce standards and contractor qualifications
- Manage aggregated electrification direct installs



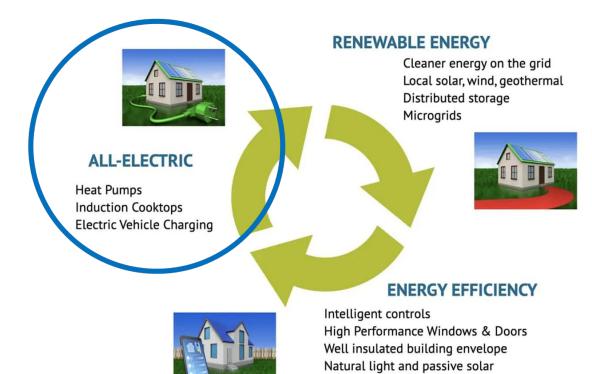




Jennifer West Program Manager at StopWaste



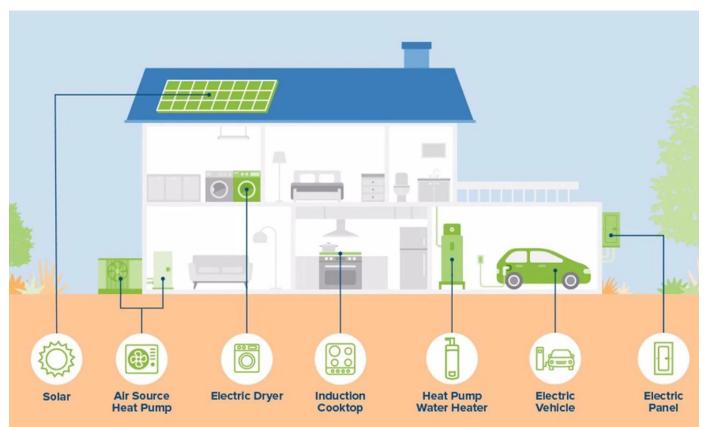
Three steps to decarbonize buildings



Efficient appliances and lighting

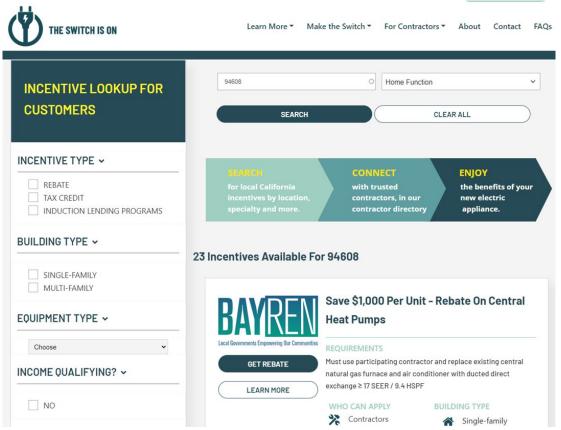
https://elemental.green/7-simple-steps-to-decarbonize-your-home/

Who can help decarbonize your home?



Graphic courtesy of City of Palo Alto Utilities

How to pay for it?



Developing new solutions

- Upstream
- Health of homes and community
- Creative approach to training
- Incentivize quality jobs
- Reduce costs
- Educate customers and community
- Direct install programs
- Aggregate
- What ideas and experiences do you have to share?



Thank you + Contacts



Jordan Ackerman

Policy and Public Affairs Manager

jordan@ctwi-btca.org





Jennifer West

Program Manager

jwest@stopwaste.org





Billi Romain

Manager of Office of Energy & Sustainable Development

bromain@cityofberkeley.info





Chiara Arellano

High Road Initiatives Manager arellano@risingsunopp.org

