

Resolution of EAA to Adopt a Green New Deal Platform

WHEREAS the Engineers and Architects Association (EAA) conducted a survey open to all EAA membership of their preferences of our union to adopt a Green New Deal Platform; and

WHEREAS the large majority of EAA members surveyed believe, as substantiated by overwhelming scientific evidence, that human-induced release of greenhouse gas emissions through the combustion of fossil fuels poses an existential threat to human civilization and our collective quality of life as we know it; and

WHEREAS the large majority of EAA members surveyed believe it is important to take bold steps to transition away from burning fossil fuels and reduce the risks due to climate change; and

WHEREAS the congressional Green New Deal resolution is a proposal for a ten-year economic mobilization to rapidly transition the US to a zero-carbon economy and, in so doing, regenerate and reorganize the US economy in ways that significantly reduce inequality and redress legacies of systematic oppression; and

WHEREAS the congressional Green New Deal has five goals, which are:

1. to achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions through a fair and just transition for all communities and workers;
2. to create millions of good, high-wage jobs and ensure prosperity and economic security for all people of the United States;
3. to invest in the infrastructure and industry of the United States to sustainably meet the challenges of the 21st century;
4. to secure for all people of the United States for generations to come clean air and water; climate and community resiliency; healthy food; access to nature; and a sustainable environment; and
5. to promote justice and equity by stopping current, preventing future, and repairing historic oppression of indigenous peoples, communities of color, migrant communities, deindustrialized communities, depopulated rural communities, the poor, low-income workers, women, the elderly, the unhoused, people with disabilities, and youth (“frontline and vulnerable communities”).

WHEREAS supporting the Green New Deal aligns with EAA's objectives to advance the economic, professional, and community status of EAA members by supporting outcomes that include but not limited to:

- providing a platform to empower members as active participants and not passive bystanders in meaningfully responding to the climate crises;
- expanding unionized jobs that deliver key services in housing, transportation, urban forestry, innovative waste and resource recovery, water conservation, recapture and recycling, renewable energy, data science, and workforce development;

- elevating EAA's leadership in working with a broad coalition of labor, environmental, and social justice organizations,
- building more accessible housing in convenient places near jobs and public transit,
- encouraging working from home, and
- increasing the City's transit subsidy for those who choose to report to work;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Engineers and Architects Association adopts a Green New Deal Policy Platform that will:

1. guide the EAA Board and members to assess a candidate's alignment with Green New Deal goals for those candidates seeking EAA endorsement and campaign contributions;
2. encourage EAA's support of local, state, and/or federal legislative initiatives that advance Green New Deal goals;
3. inform how EAA invests our reserves in investment funds that avoid funds that invest in companies that are involved in direct mining, exploration, extraction, production, and distribution of fossil fuels.
4. educate members of how all aspects of City governance advances or hinders the Green New Deal goals; and
5. notify members of opportunities to participate in events that support Green New Deal goals.

On Adoption of the Resolution, EAA shall append this resolution to the Policies of the Engineers and Architects Association. Furthermore, the Board directs the Constitution & ByLaws Committee to recommend additions and revisions to relevant sections of the Policies of the Engineers and Architects Association to reflect the Green New Deal Policy Platform. EAA's support of the Green New Deal Policy Platform is not contingent on the U.S. Congress passing the Green New Deal as introduced in the 1st Session of the 116th Congress as U.S. House Resolution 109, but rather, EAA commits to supporting the Green New Deal Policy goals as reflected in this resolution.