

Recommendations to the Executive Board from the CFT Climate Task Force

In order to meet the goals set forth in the “Resolution Committing CFT to a Climate Justice Agenda” passed at the 2016 CFT Convention, the Climate Justice Task Force met on 9/16 in San Diego and came up with the following recommendations for the Executive Board:

1) That we adopt the CFT Climate Justice Task Force **Mission Statement**.

2) **Member Education:**

- That the Labor in the Schools Committee helps create materials first for membership education and eventually also for community and classroom use.
- That we have a session on climate justice in collaboration with Labor in the Schools committee at next CFT convention
- That we invite Naomi Klein or other prominent climate justice speaker to next CFT convention
- That we add a “Climate Justice Resources” section to the CFT website that will include educational materials for the entire membership.

3) **Political Endorsements:**

- We propose that CFT add the following question on climate justice to CFT candidate questionnaire: “CFT is committed to a climate justice agenda which marries the need to address the challenges created by the threat of catastrophic climate change with efforts to address economic inequality. Where do you stand on climate justice and related issues? What have you done to address climate justice? What specific steps do you think we should take in the future?”
- Other ideas?

4) **Legislative Work**

- We propose that CFT leadership pick a person on the legislative staff to be the standing lead in working with labor and environmental partners to support legislation addressing climate change and other environmental issues.
- We also propose that we work with the Retirement Committee to investigate and promote divestment of our retirement systems from fossil fuels and other climate harming industries. This includes but should not be limited to passing resolutions at school and college boards, working with our representatives on the retirement boards themselves, and supporting legislation with this aim.

5) **Community partnerships**

- We propose that CFT encourage individual locals to start local Environmental Caucuses and to promote Labor Council Environmental Caucuses.
- We propose that the CFT should look to work with, support, and form formal partnerships with progressive environmental allies and other unions doing climate justice work, including but not limited to legislation, policy, and direct action.