

# What's at Stake and What's Possible for Bay Area Communities

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# Who Are the Laborers?

- Founded in 1903, with 500,000 members across North America and a history of progressive leadership
- A building trade union with members in every community, working in construction on roads, buildings, utilities, schools, commercial buildings and homes as well as in renewable energy, energy efficiency, and weatherization
- LiUNA stands for fairness for working people, regardless of color, gender, race or ethnicity, no matter our country or origin



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# We Believe In Reshaping America's Energy Future

- We believe in a green economy that promotes not only jobs but good-paying jobs with benefits such as health care, retirement, training, and career development, particularly for economically disadvantaged communities and environmental justice neighborhoods
- LiUNA supports comprehensive climate change legislation
- Laborers have helped build landmark renewable energy and energy efficiency projects such as Ivanpah, Sunset Reservoir, and the SFPUC Building, and we strongly supported Prop. 39

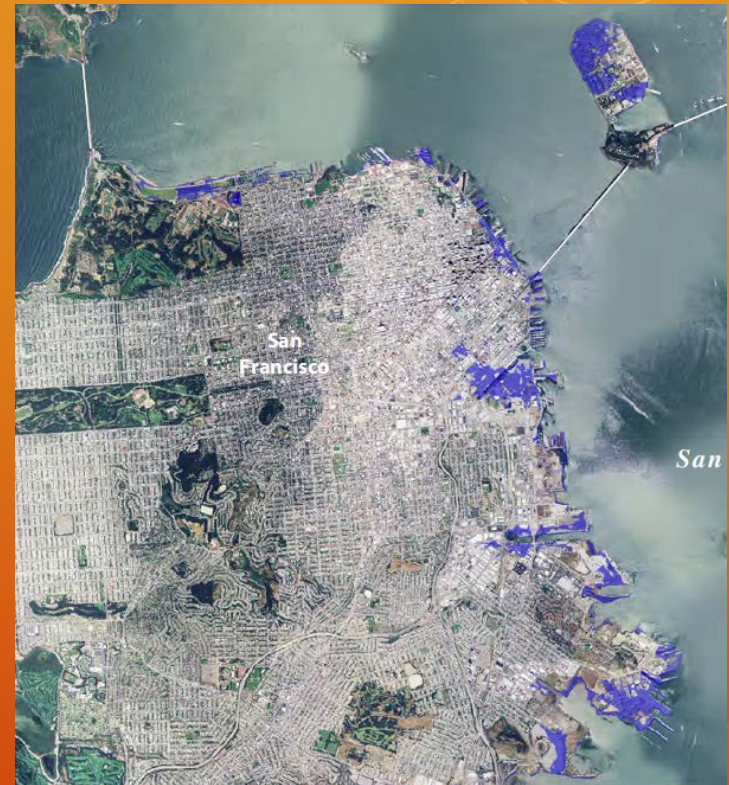


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# There Is Much At Stake For Bay Area Working Families

- Building trade unions have tens of thousands of members in the Bay Area
- Laborers Local 261 has 5,000 members in San Francisco, San Mateo, and Marin counties and there are more than 15,000 LiUNA members Bay Area-wide
- Many members live in communities that will be most negatively impacted by climate change
- At the same time, many working families are still recovering from the recession and, to quote President Obama, “may be concerned about the temperature of the planet, but it’s probably not their number-one concern”



Estimated Impact of 55 Inches of Sea Level Rise (BCDC, 2013)

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# What's Possible for Bay Area Working Families

- It is critical to connect clean energy and greenhouse gas reduction initiatives with economic opportunity in order to build partnerships between environmentalists and building trade unions
- It's about advocating not just for "clean energy jobs," but advocating for "good-paying clean energy jobs with benefits and access to apprenticeship"
- At the same time, building trade leaders must engage environmentalists to become fully conversant about the realities of climate change in order to educate our membership
- Both sets of stakeholders can do better to collaborate



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Thoughts?

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