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News of how working people are fighting for a planet that is sustainable -- environmentally, economically, and socially. If you like what we are doing and want to connect, please sign up for our newsletter and other information on the Labor Network for Sustainability website

[\(Sign up here!\)](#). You are welcome to repost anything in this newsletter - help us spread the word!



We need your support to accomplish the work ahead. Your individual contributions will provide LNS with the resources we need for bold, independent action that will be necessary to accomplish our goals.

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## Labor at the People's Climate March

Thousands of trade unionists marched with the estimated 200,000 participants in the Peoples Climate March







### **Exemplary union participation: New York AFSCME's DC 37**

More than 100 members of AFSCME's local DC37 travelled from New York to take part in the Peoples Climate March. According to a report by Jon Forster of DC37's Climate Justice Committee,

They came to call for strong Federal action in the face of the growing climate crisis; they came to oppose the Trump proposals to decimate the Environmental Protection Agency and roll-back clean air and water protections; they came to call for the creation of good, union jobs as we transition to a clean energy economy; and they came to demand environmental justice, recognizing that climate change discriminates and disproportionately impacts low-income communities and communities of color.

The march was wonderfully diverse, colorful and loud as a myriad of banners waved, bands played and bullhorns sounded chants and encouragement. Over a dozen unions participated and more than 3000 union members marched. It was all with the growing recognition that the climate crisis is upon us, as tornados and vicious thunderstorms sweep across the Midwest, seawater daily bubbles up in the streets of Miami, and heat waves strike especially our urban areas, dramatically increasing our rates of asthma and stroke. The United States must very quickly undertake an economic shift to renewable energies on a scale that we have not seen since World War II, if we are to avoid slipping into far more catastrophic conditions. We can still do this and preserve our democracy, while creating good, union jobs, but as the marchers routinely chanted, we must do this NOW!

In addition to many unions and other labor organizations that were partner organizations of the Peoples Climate Movement, these unions representing

millions of workers were on the Steering Committee:

32BJ SEIU

1199SEIU United Healthcare Workers East

Amalgamated Transit Union

The American Federation of Government Employees, Council 238

American Federation of Teachers

American Postal Workers Union

Communications Workers of America

Service Employees International Union

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## Labor Rally for Climate, Jobs, and Justice

### LNS Reception Lets Labor Rest from Labors -- and Boogie

Friday night before the Peoples Climate March LNS held a Reception for the Labor Contingent and Friends with an evening of fun and entertainment hosted by [Joe Uehlein and the U-Liners](#)



### And far from Washington . . .

In the Bay Area, Climate Workers built labor-climate solidarity through both the April 29th Peoples Climate Mobilization and the May 1st May Day marches and general strike.





In an open letter, authored by Climate Workers, 85+ environmental and climate justice organizations pledged their support for striking workers on International Workers' Day ("May Day"), called on employers not to retaliate, and pledged to back any workers who faced retaliation. The [letter](#), read in part:

*"As environmental and climate justice organizations, we support workers who choose to walk off their jobs on May 1st because we know that the fight to protect land, water, air, and soil is inseparable from the fight to protect the life and dignity of workers, migrants, and communities of color. To workers participating in protests on May 1st, we say: 'Thank you. You deserve better. And we've got your back.'"*

In a telepresser, the Executive Directors of the Sierra Club, Greenpeace, the Climate Justice Alliance, and the Asian Pacific Environmental Network stated their support. Check out the great coverage on [Common Dreams](#) and [KPFA](#) (min 25.:12).

On April 29th, at the Peoples Climate Movement Bay Area, Climate Workers held a workshop to train climate activists to participate in the May Day Non-Retaliation Rapid Response Team. The workshop covered the rights workers can exercise to strike, how best they can protect themselves and their co-workers, and how communities members can be prepared to defend workers who may face retaliation.

On May 1st, Climate Workers together with environmental justice organizations like APEN organized a Climate Justice Contingent in the May Day march. The contingent rallied at Citibank to make the connections between the bank's involvement in both the Dakota Access Pipeline and private detention centers, saying "We fight against the same extractive economy that not only harms our planet, but also exploits migrants and workers."

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## Labor Debrief, Brunch, and Brainstorm

The day after the Peoples Climate March, LNS sponsored a workshop with trade unionists and allies on how to build on the momentum of the PCM and fight for an economic program for climate, jobs and justice.

The Labor Debrief saw the unveiling of the Labor Network for Sustainability's new working paper [\*Jobs for Climate and Justice: A Worker Alternative to the Trump Agenda\*](#).

Send comments to  
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### Just Transition

["Even Trump Can't Stop the Tide of Green Jobs"](#)

- with some hot quotes from LNS's Joe Uehlein.

BY [YANA KUNICHOFF](#)

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