



ANALYSIS OF INNOVATIVE

# ENVIRONMENTAL & CLIMATE POLICY ACHIEVEMENTS

The Solutions Project Grantees, 2024





Just Solutions drives innovative, equitable solutions to the climate crisis in support of healthy, resilient communities and accountable democratic institutions. The movement strategy of Just Solutions is grounded in a belief that the most impactful policies can be created, passed, and implemented at the state level. As a result, Just Solutions invests deeply in the leadership of state-level coalitions and organizations to spur innovation, build powerful networks, and accelerate climate solutions that protect and strengthen community health and resilience, reduce greenhouse gases as quickly as possible, and end our country's dependence on fossil fuels.

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The Solutions Project (TSP) is a national non-profit organization that funds and amplifies climate justice solutions created by frontline communities building power for an equitable and regenerative economy. TSP employs a two-pronged grantmaking and narrative communications strategy to super-power grassroots climate justice solutions, prioritizing communities most impacted by climate change and historic environmental harm, including Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) communities.

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# Key Findings

This report highlights a selection of the innovative policies that resulted from the work of frontline environmental and climate justice communities and organizations supported by The Solutions Project (TSP) at the local, state, and federal levels in 2024.

The report assesses **9 policy achievements** led by or involving The Solutions Project grantees that have the potential to:

**BENEFIT OVER**

**41 Million People**

across the country

**UNLOCK OVER**

**\$4.3 Billion**

annually in public investments

Promising significant **community, public health, and climate benefits** for environmental justice communities.

These achievements include precedent-setting policies that, despite strong political headwinds, offer opportunity for replication and continued progress at the local, state, and future federal levels. The achievements featured in the report reflect the success of TSP's movement accountable grantmaking model and the critical role of future philanthropic action in ensuring a Just Transition. Given the current political environment, we have noted where 2024 policy wins are now threatened and are being defended through legal, advocacy, and narrative strategies.



**This report highlights a selection of innovative policies that resulted from the work of frontline environmental and climate justice communities and organizations supported by The Solutions Project at the local, state, and federal levels in 2024.**

The following TSP grantees made material contributions to the policy and other wins listed in this report: ALIGN, Asian Pacific Environmental Network (APEN), Communities for a Better Environment (CBE), New York City Environmental Justice Alliance (NYC-EJA), NY Renews, Strategic Concepts in Organizing Policy and Education (SCOPE), United Farm Workers Foundation (UFW), Urban Tilth, WeCount!, and West Street Recovery. TSP grantees have been among the many partners working to achieve impact in policy design, enactment, implementation, and defense at every level of policy making. This report examines the impacts of selected local, state, and federal policy achievements secured by TSP grantees as a result of TSP's investments and capacity-building support, often over many years. Each of the examples analyzed involved the work of TSP-funded grassroots groups or alliances who are understood to have played significant and ongoing roles in achieving policy success within a broad coalition of partners. The achievements featured in the report indicate the success of TSP's movement accountable grantmaking model and can also serve as a model for future philanthropic action to ensure that a Just Transition can be realized.

Achievements over the past year highlight the changing and precedent-setting models resulting from the strategies of frontline communities to advance environmental and climate justice, to realize community self-determination, and to build democratic governance from the ground up. For example, whereas many of the achievements highlighted in last year's assessment<sup>1</sup> focused on efforts to generate funding to support a Just Transition through state budget allocation processes, many of the accomplishments highlighted in this year's report demonstrate a different approach—generating funds via fines and fees assessed

to make polluters pay. Some of these initiatives, most notably New York's Climate Superfund Act and the City of Richmond, California's recent settlement agreement with the Chevron Corporation, set important precedents for future state, local, and federal action.

This report hones in on nine policy successes among the many campaign wins and other accomplishments of TSP's grassroots grantee partners in 2024 that bring measurable benefits to people and the planet. These successes often reflect the work of TSP grantees working alongside many other partners and groups towards a collective goal. Our findings show that the nine TSP grantee policy achievements analyzed have the potential to benefit over 41 million people across the country. In aggregate, these policy wins unlocked more than \$4.3 billion per year, including an estimated \$3 billion a year that fossil fuel companies will be required to pay under New York's Climate Superfund Act.

The 2024 policy successes, while strong achievements in their own right, also highlight opportunities for replication, deepening, scaling, and further innovation. However, strong headwinds at the federal level and in various states mean that dedicated efforts will be needed to protect previous accomplishments while continuing to chart the course for future action. The accomplishments highlighted in this report are evidence of the collective will to protect, defend, and advance environmental and climate justice at the grassroots community level. Sustaining and building on those achievements will require a philanthropic sector dedicated to ensuring that grassroots organizations and frontline communities are well-resourced for the fights ahead and are positioned to continue innovating, strategizing, and mobilizing for success.

<sup>1</sup> Just Solutions, "Impact Analysis of Innovative Climate Policy Achievements: The Solutions Project Grantees, 2021-2023," May 2024.





The 2024 climate successes presented below highlight some of the work of TSP grantees in advancing climate policymaking and/or setting precedents for future action. Many of these achievements reflect the collective success of TSP grantees working in partnership with broader coalitions and networks. The successes highlighted are limited to accomplishments that were passed, adopted, or implemented in 2024. Many of these successful efforts leverage model environmental and climate solutions resulting from TSP's investments in New York and California, which are serving as important "test kitchens" for policies that raise the ceiling of possibility for the overall climate justice movement. TSP investments in more challenging political environments like Louisiana, for example, also contribute to policy innovations, as in the federal rule limiting pollution from chemical plants featured in this report. TSP partnered with Just Solutions to assess what each of these initiatives will mean to communities across the country.

## For each of the grantee accomplishments highlighted below, Just Solutions assessed:

- The number of people who are known to benefit or can be expected to benefit, with a focus on frontline communities.
- The amount of funding unlocked through each initiative that can be directed to climate justice outcomes: improving community resilience, adaptation, public health, and well-being and facilitating a Just Transition.
- The community, public health, and climate-related outcomes associated with each initiative.
- The broader impact or significance of the environmental or climate policy success as a model or tipping point for other geographies or levels of government policy-making.

Below, two local, four state, and three federal policies are highlighted. They are presented in alphabetical order by geography within each section. Calculations of the number of people estimated to benefit rely on regulatory or agency reporting, news reports, and U.S. Census Bureau data. Where Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) population estimates are provided, calculations are based on demographic data for all populations that are not classified as non-Hispanic white. These demographic data are included on the basis of significant adverse racial disparities in climate impacts, public health outcomes, and community investments. Data related to the amount of funding unlocked by each initiative are similarly drawn from government estimates and/or news reporting.

### SUMMARY Cumulative Impact of Featured Policies

Number of Policy  
Accomplishments Highlighted

9  
Policies

Estimated People Benefiting in  
Communities Across the U.S.

+41.6 Million  
People

Money Unlocked for  
State and Local Budgets

+\$4.3 Billion  
Annually

# Settlement Agreement with Chevron Corporation<sup>2</sup>

## Richmond, CA



The City of Richmond and Chevron Corporation entered into a settlement agreement in August 2024 providing that Chevron would pay the City \$550 million over 10 years for General Fund use. In exchange, the City removed a proposed measure from the November ballot that would have placed a \$1 per barrel tax on oil refined at the company's Richmond facility for the next 50 years. The proposed tax would have generated an estimated \$60-90 million per year, based on past refinery production data. The settlement does not affect existing taxes (e.g., property taxes) currently levied on Chevron.<sup>3</sup>

### MONEY UNLOCKED

\$550 million total.

- \$50 million per year from 2025-30.
- \$60 million per year from 2030-35.<sup>4</sup>

### BENEFICIARIES

Richmond's ~114,000 residents, 83% of whom are BIPOC.<sup>5</sup>

### OUTCOMES

#### Community

Generates much-needed revenue to help the City of Richmond address a \$34 million budget deficit for 2024-25.<sup>6</sup>

#### Public Health

Facilitates a multi-decade community-led plan to diversify the city's tax base to fund critical public services, reduce reliance on tax revenue from the Chevron refinery, and ultimately retire the plant, which would reduce pollution levels for residents and improve public health and the quality of life.

### ← IMPACT →

Residents of the City of Richmond have set a precedent for local governments to make polluters pay while laying a foundation to shift the City away from a reliance on the tax revenue generated through fossil fuel operations.



# Central Business District Tolling Program

## New York City, NY



Also known as “Congestion Pricing,” this program was created via a state budget agreement in 2019. The program received Federal approval for the program in June 2023, but implementation was subsequently paused in the summer of 2024 by Governor Kathy Hochul. A \$9 peak toll for cars entering the zone was agreed upon in late 2024, leading the Governor to allow implementation. It creates a “Congestion Relief Zone” covering much of lower Manhattan. The peak toll will increase to \$12 in 2028 and to \$15 in 2031. It is expected to generate \$500 million annually for the first three years, \$700 million annually after the first toll increase, and \$1 billion annually beginning in 2031. Revenue will be directed to making much-needed improvements to New York City’s public transit system.<sup>7</sup>

### ← IMPACT →

This first-in-the-nation congestion pricing program reduces the local impacts of traffic congestion, enhances public health, and encourages greater use of public transit.

### MONEY UNLOCKED

Estimated \$500 million in tolling revenue per year from 2025-27.

Estimated \$700 million per year from 2028-30.

Estimated \$1 billion per year from 2031 on.<sup>8</sup>

### BENEFICIARIES

Approximately 617,000 residents living within the Congestion Relief Zone, which includes several environmental justice communities (e.g., Chinatown, Lower East Side).<sup>9</sup>

### OUTCOMES

#### Community

- Generates revenue to contribute to needed public transit upgrades & improvements.<sup>10</sup>
- Reduces vehicle travel times in Lower Manhattan.<sup>11</sup>

#### Public Health

- Reduces emissions of key pollutants (e.g., particulate matter, nitrogen oxides) across a 12-county study area in analysis years 2023 and 2045 over a “No Action Alternative,” including a 1.1% reduction in particulate matter emissions (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) in 2045.<sup>12,13</sup>
- Reduces noise.
- Improves safety for bicyclists and pedestrians.<sup>14</sup>

#### Climate

- Reduces annual greenhouse gas emissions, estimated at 32.2 million tons per year in carbon dioxide-equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>e) in 2023 and 27.6 million tons per year (CO<sub>2</sub>e) in 2045.<sup>15</sup>
- These reductions are achieved in part through increased public transit usage, including a 9% increase in bus ridership, a 6% increase in subway ridership, an 8% increase in Long Island Rail Road ridership, and a 4% increase in Metro-North ridership in January-February 2025,<sup>16</sup> thereby reducing greenhouse gas emissions by displacing automobile use.<sup>17</sup>

### THREATS

The current Federal Administration called for an end to the program by March 21, 2025 and has revoked its initial approval. The Metropolitan Transit Authority filed a lawsuit in response. The Administration subsequently issued a 30-day extension as discussion continues, and now a timeline agreed to in court proceedings related to the lawsuit suggest that the program will remain in effect at least through the Fall of 2025.<sup>18</sup>

# Oil and Gas: Idle Wells (AB 1866)<sup>19</sup>

## California

Signed into law in September 2024, this legislation creates an escalating fee schedule on idle wells, based on the length of time the wells have been idle. The bill holds oil companies accountable for maintaining and plugging idle wells in order to reduce public health and climate risks. Fees assessed annually range from \$1,000 per well for wells idle less than three years to \$22,500 per well for wells idle 20 years or more. Beginning in 2029, the penalty for wells idle for more than 25 years increases to \$60,000 per well.<sup>20</sup> There are over 35,000 idle wells in California across 37 counties, two-thirds of which are located in Kern County.<sup>21</sup> BIPOC and low-income communities have been found to experience particularly high exposures to risks associated with oil and gas wells in California at large and Los Angeles County in particular.<sup>22</sup>

### MONEY UNLOCKED

To be determined, depending upon compliance.

### BENEFICIARIES

- Nearly 590,000 California residents lived within 1 km of an idle or retired well between 2015-2019, including a disproportionately high percentage of Black people (the proportion of Black residents living in close proximity to an oil well in California is roughly 45% higher than their proportion of the state population).<sup>23</sup>
- An estimated 1.1 million residents lived within 1 km of an active well between 2015-2019 estimate and stand to benefit in the future when these wells retire.
- Approximately 92% of Californians live in a county with at least one idle oil well.<sup>24</sup>

### OUTCOMES

#### Community

- Improves quality of life.
- Reduces stress resulting from improved health and safety.

#### Public Health

- Expected to decrease air and groundwater pollution from inadequately maintained idle wells.<sup>25</sup>
- Reduces risks to public health and safety from financially at-risk operations and poorly-monitored wells, which can lead to well abandonment.<sup>26</sup>

#### Climate

Results in likely but hard-to-quantify reductions in methane leakage from unplugged idle wells.<sup>27</sup>

### ← IMPACT →

This legislation incentivizes the plugging of idle oil wells throughout California and implements an escalating level of fines for oil and gas operators who fail to do so.



# Oil and Gas: Low Production Wells: Baldwin Hills Conservancy: Equitable Community Repair and Reinvestment Account (AB 2716)<sup>28</sup>

## California

Signed into law in September 2024, this legislation governs the Inglewood Oil Field, the largest urban oil field in the state covering about 1,000 acres and consisting of about 655 active oil wells.<sup>29</sup> The oil field is located in the Baldwin Hills area of Los Angeles, the majority of which is located in unincorporated Los Angeles County.<sup>30</sup> About 80 acres are located in Culver City.<sup>31</sup> The oil field is estimated to produce about 2–3 million barrels of oil per year.<sup>32</sup> The law requires that all wells at Inglewood be closed and sealed by the end of 2030. In the meantime, fines of \$10,000 per month will be assessed beginning in March 2026 on low-production wells until they are decommissioned and plugged. Revenue will be directed towards creating an “Equitable Community Repair and Reinvestment Account” for the benefit of residents living within 2½ miles of the oil field.<sup>33</sup>

### MONEY UNLOCKED

To be determined, depending upon compliance.

### BENEFICIARIES

Nearly one million people living within five miles of the oil field, including the historically Black communities of Baldwin Hills, Culver City, View Park, and Ladera Heights (estimated population of 92,000).<sup>34</sup>

### OUTCOMES

#### Community

Generates revenue that will be directed to park creation, expansion, and maintenance; affordable housing; urban greening; climate mitigation and resilience; and environmental community benefit projects.<sup>35</sup>

#### Public Health

Reduces public health risks for populations living near the oil field, including respiratory illness and cancer resulting from exposure to criteria and hazardous air pollutants from oil production, as well as adverse birth outcomes.<sup>36</sup> In particular, a recent assessment of the health impacts of the Inglewood Oil Field found that Black and Latinx residents within 1.5 miles of the oil field had higher preterm birth rates.<sup>37</sup>

#### Climate

Decreases greenhouse gas emissions from ceasing oil production and sealing wells, including likely reduction in a methane hot spot that has been measured above the oil field.<sup>38</sup>

### THREATS

The owner of Inglewood Oil Field, Sentinel Peak, filed a lawsuit in November 2024 seeking to invalidate the Act.<sup>39</sup> The case is pending.

## ← IMPACT →

Ending oil and gas drilling at the Inglewood Oil Field by 2030 can be expected to result in improved health outcomes, reduced greenhouse gas emissions, and increased well-being for the one million residents who live within five miles of the largest urban oil field in California.

# Oil and Gas: Operations: Restrictions: Local Authority (AB 3233)<sup>40</sup> California

Signed into law in September 2024, this legislation increases local control over oil and gas operations. Cities and counties in California will now have the authority to prevent new oil and gas projects in their communities. In recent years, Monterey, Los Angeles City and County, and San Benito County have taken action to restrict oil and gas production in their communities, but these actions were blocked through litigation. AB 3233 establishes local control and fosters community self-determination.<sup>41</sup>

## MONEY UNLOCKED

N/A

## BENEFICIARIES

- Over 9.9 million residents of Monterey, Los Angeles County, and San Benito County, 75% of whom are BIPOC, will be the immediate beneficiaries of the legislation after previous efforts were blocked in court.<sup>42</sup>
- Approximately 92% of Californians who live in one of the 37 counties with exploited oil and gas deposits.<sup>43</sup>

## OUTCOMES

### Community

- Fosters community self-determination.
- Improves quality of life.

### Public Health

- Avoids or reduces exposure to the health risks associated with active oil wells, including air and groundwater pollution.<sup>44</sup>
- Expected reduction in public health impacts such as respiratory illness, cancers, and poor birth outcomes associated with environmental exposures among residents living in close proximity to oil wells.<sup>45</sup>

### Climate

Results in unquantified reductions in greenhouse gas-emitting oil wells in California as the number of drilling permits issued dwindles<sup>46</sup> and, with the passage of AB 3233, local communities gain control over siting.

## ← IMPACT →

This legislation will expedite the decline in new oil and gas drilling activity in California while giving local communities an active voice in the siting of such activity in their communities.



# Climate Change Superfund Act (SO 2129)<sup>47</sup>

## New York



New York became the second state in the country to pass legislation in 2024—modeled on tobacco company litigation—that holds fossil fuel companies accountable for climate-related costs borne by the public. Governor Kathy Hochul signed the law in December 2024.<sup>48</sup> The Act establishes the Climate Change Adaptation Cost Recovery Program and the Climate Change Adaptation Fund, requiring that fossil fuel companies responsible for extraction and refining-related pollution between 2000 and 2024 contribute to the \$150 billion of climate adaptation investments needed through 2050. The legislation will recover \$75 billion over 25 years, or \$3 billion per year. At least 35-40% of funds will be directed for disadvantaged communities to meet infrastructure needs, address climate-related public health issues, and recover from climate disasters.<sup>49</sup> Similar legislation has been introduced in Congress and in California, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, and Oregon.<sup>50</sup>

### MONEY UNLOCKED

\$3 billion per year.

### BENEFICIARIES

19.9 million New York residents, with at least 35% of benefits to be directed to disadvantaged communities.<sup>51</sup>

### OUTCOMES

#### Community

Saves taxpayer costs for responding to climate disasters (estimated at \$300 per household in 2023 alone).<sup>52</sup>

#### Public Health

Improves climate adaptive capacity and community resilience related to climate change and climate disasters.

#### Climate

Some funded projects will likely reduce greenhouse gas emissions; amounts to be determined.

### THREATS

A lawsuit has been filed by 22 states against New York's Climate Superfund Act.<sup>53</sup> However, the U.S. Supreme Court in January 2025 denied a request from several major oil and gas companies to review a Hawai'i State Supreme Court decision in actions brought against a Honolulu "polluter pay" lawsuit, moving the case closer to action<sup>54</sup> and potentially increasing the prospect for a favorable outcome in the Climate Superfund Act litigation.

An Executive Order issued on April 8, 2025 entitled "Protecting American Energy from State Overreach" further targets the Climate Superfund Act, referring to the legislation as an "extortion law."<sup>55</sup> Litigation can be expected to ensue.

### ← IMPACT →

The Climate Superfund Act advances a model that promises to hold polluters accountable while recovering funds that can be invested in climate adaptive infrastructure, reducing costs for households and saving lives.

# Final Rule Limiting Pollution from Chemical Plants, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

## National

In April 2024, the EPA issued a Final Rule<sup>56</sup> to reduce cancer-causing air pollutants, including ethylene oxide and chloroprene, discharged from chemical plants. The rule affects 218 facilities in 27 states. About 9 million residents live in proximity to these facilities, with some communities facing disproportionate impacts. For example nearly one in five facilities are located in nine parishes in Louisiana's "Cancer Alley."<sup>57</sup> The rule requires that one company, Denka Performance Elastomer, comply within 90 days for significantly exceeding public safety recommendations.<sup>58</sup> Denka, a Japanese company operating next to an elementary school where a majority of students are Black, announced in May 2025 that it will suspend operations indefinitely.<sup>59</sup>

### ← IMPACT →

The rule as finalized holds the promise of significant health benefits for frontline community members living in close proximity to affected chemical plants, particularly in Louisiana and Texas where there is a high concentration of such plants.

### MONEY UNLOCKED

N/A

### BENEFICIARIES

- Nearly 9 million residents living in affected cities across the country.
- Nine parishes in Louisiana's "Cancer Alley" are home to nearly 332,000 people (57% BIPOC) and nearly 20% of affected chemical plants.<sup>60</sup>

### OUTCOMES

#### Community

- Improves quality of life.
- Reduces stress resulting from improved health and safety.

#### Public Health

- Reduces ethylene oxide and chloroprene emissions, known and likely carcinogens respectively, by 80%.<sup>61</sup>
- Reduces cancer risk for community members who live near affected chemical plants by an estimated 96%.<sup>62</sup>
- Prevents over 6,200 tons of toxic air pollution annually.<sup>63</sup>

#### Climate

- Reduces methane emissions by 22,951 tons per year.
- Increases CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, 63% of which are associated with upgrades to control flaring of methane.<sup>64</sup>

### THREATS

In March 2025, the U.S. Department of Justice dropped a lawsuit brought against Denka Performance Elastomer by the Biden Administration in 2023 related to the increased cancer risk faced by Black residents in Louisiana living in proximity to Denka.<sup>65</sup>

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced in March 2025 that it is reconsidering National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants, including those regulating synthetic organic chemical manufacturing.<sup>66</sup>



# Farmworker Protection Final Rule, U.S. Department of Labor National



A Department of Labor rule strengthening protections for temporary agricultural workers subject to H-2A program regulations (a Visa program for temporary workers) was finalized by the Biden Administration in June 2024. The final rule extends collective bargaining rights to H-2A workers for the first time in order to strengthen the ability of workers to organize and advocate for improved working conditions and protect them from retaliation.<sup>67</sup>

## MONEY UNLOCKED

N/A

## BENEFICIARIES

Estimated 370,000 workers (2022 data).<sup>68</sup>

## OUTCOMES

### Community

Improves ability to organize and advocate for improved working conditions, including those associated with climate change (e.g., extreme heat).

### Public Health

- Facilitates reduced exposure to extreme heat, which various studies have estimated poses a 20<sup>69</sup> or even 35<sup>70</sup> times greater mortality risk to farmworkers than other workers.
- Facilitates reduced exposure to wildfire smoke.

## THREATS

Lawsuits brought by states against the final rule have resulted in preliminary injunctions, revised guidance issued by the U.S. Department of Labor by the Biden Administration, and issuance of a national stay on implementation in November 2024.<sup>71</sup>

Deportation threats and intimidation of farmworkers are ongoing, jeopardizing these important gains for temporary farmworkers.<sup>72</sup>

## ← IMPACT →

This final rule sets the precedent of extending collective bargaining rights to H-2A farmworkers, creating new opportunities for improved health and safety protections for workers who grow food for all Americans.

# Serious Needs Assistance Program, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)<sup>73</sup> National

An interim final rule issued by FEMA for the Individual Assistance Program took effect in March 2024. With a stated goal of increasing equity, the rule included the creation of the Serious Needs Assistance Program. The new program provides \$770 in immediate, direct payments to eligible disaster survivors for the purchase of items such as water, food, first aid supplies, personal hygiene items, or fuel. Applicants must be U.S. citizens, non-citizen nationals, or qualified non-citizens who have lived in their home most of the year and had a home damaged in a declared disaster area. Funding for the program comes from FEMA's Disaster Relief Fund. Serious Needs Assistance Program disbursements count towards the maximum amount of Other Needs Assistance households can receive.<sup>74</sup>

## MONEY UNLOCKED

Approximately \$781 million (March-October 2024).<sup>75</sup>

## BENEFICIARIES

Over 1 million households (March-October 2024 data).<sup>76</sup>

## OUTCOMES

### Community

Increases access to immediate assistance for emergent needs in declared disasters.

### Public Health

Reduces stress in times of crisis.

### Climate

Improves climate adaptive capacity and community resilience related to climate change and climate disaster.

## THREATS

To date, the primary barrier to effective and timely relief through the Serious Needs Assistance Program is disinformation. In the aftermath of Hurricanes Milton and Helene, disinformation included that available payments were a loan to be repaid; that if recipients took the initial payment, that would be all that they would receive; and that funds were being distributed based on demographic data.<sup>77</sup> Available assistance is also dependent upon FEMA funding levels — and the continued existence of FEMA, the elimination of which is an expressed aim of the current Federal Administration.<sup>78</sup>

## ← IMPACT →

The Serious Needs Assistance Program provides much-needed, immediate assistance to help communities respond to and recover from climate disasters, thereby increasing the effectiveness of FEMA relief efforts.

# Conclusion

The policy achievements showcased above are the result of years of organizing and advocacy work by frontline, environmental justice, and justice-centered organizations, including key leadership from TSP grantee partners. The accomplishments highlighted for 2024 demonstrate the ingenuity, perseverance, and resilience of those working in the environmental justice and climate justice movements. TSP grantees and their allies have identified new ways of generating funding to facilitate a Just Transition, to extend the reach of their efforts in new ways and within new communities, and to advance democratic governance. Several of the accomplishments highlighted set important precedent in strategy and approach.

As demonstrated by the successes highlighted here, frontline communities have the lived experience, the knowledge, the expertise, and the resourcefulness to bring about meaningful, systemic change in a way that moves everyone towards a better climate future. We can expedite solutions if we invest to increase the capacity of groups on the ground to develop solutions, to do the work necessary to analyze, replicate, and scale these solutions, and to create a climate that fosters public policy innovations at all levels. To address both the opportunities and challenges of this moment, environmental justice and climate justice leaders continue to need long-term and transformational levels of support and resources to build and sustain movement-wide policy capacity and power.





## LOCAL INITIATIVES

<sup>2</sup> City of Richmond, Resolution No. 98-24, "Resolution of the City Council of the City of Richmond, California, Approving a Settlement Agreement with Chevron."

<sup>3</sup> City of Richmond, Special Meeting of the Richmond City Council, August 14, 2024; Reuters, "Chevron to pay \$550 million settlement to Richmond, California," August 15, 2024; Tony Hicks, "Chevron settles with Richmond for \$550M, tax measure removed from ballot," *Bay City News*, August 15, 2024.

<sup>4</sup> Tony Hicks, "Chevron settles with Richmond for \$550M, tax measure removed from ballot," *Bay City News*, August 15, 2024.

<sup>5</sup> U.S. Census Bureau (2023). *Selected demographic characteristics, 2019-2023 American Community Survey 5-year estimates*, accessed April 18, 2025.

<sup>6</sup> Laura Klivens, "Richmond Oil Refining Tax on Chevron, a Major Polluter, Moves Closer to Ballot," *KQED*, May 22, 2024.

<sup>7</sup> Metropolitan Transit Authority, "Congestion Relief is unlocking a better New York," accessed March 28, 2025; Metropolitan Transit Authority, "Metrics: Central Business District Tolling Program," accessed March 28, 2025; Sarah Goode, "Congestion

pricing stays as MTA battles Trump administration in court," *New Jersey News 12*, March 19, 2025; Regional Plan Association, "Congestion Pricing in NYC," accessed March 28, 2025; Federal Register, "Notice of Final Federal Agency Actions on the Central Business District Tolling Program," New York, New York, June 28, 2023; New York State Senate, Article 44-C, Central Business District Tolling Program, April 19, 2019; Stefanos Chen and Winnie Hu, "Congestion Pricing Reduced Traffic. Now It's Hitting Revenue Goals," *New York Times*, February 24, 2025; Ana Ley and Winnie Hu, "Hochul Brings Back Congestion Pricing Plan After Months of Suspense," *New York Times*, November 14, 2024.

<sup>8</sup> Sarah Goode, "Congestion pricing stays as MTA battles Trump administration in court," *New Jersey News 12*, March 19, 2025; Stefanos Chen and Winnie Hu, "Congestion Pricing Reduced Traffic. Now It's Hitting Revenue Goals," *New York Times*, February 24, 2025.

<sup>9</sup> Metropolitan Transit Authority, "Central Business District Tolling Program Environmental Assessment," Chapter 17: Environmental Justice, April 2023.

<sup>10</sup> Michelle Kaske, "New York City's Transit System Plans \$65.4 Billion

of Upgrades for Grand Central, Subways," *Bloomberg*, September 18, 2024.

<sup>11</sup> Metropolitan Transit Authority, "Central Business District Tolling Program Environmental Assessment," Chapter 17: Environmental Justice, April 2023.

<sup>12</sup> Metropolitan Transit Authority, "Central Business District Tolling Program Environmental Assessment," Chapter 10: Air Quality, August 2022.

<sup>13</sup> Modeling studies suggest that the Central Business District Tolling Program has the potential to increase air pollution in some communities throughout the metropolitan region, depending upon possible changes in traffic patterns to avoid tolls. The program states its commitment to studying and mitigating any adverse effects, including the creation of a \$5 million mitigation fund. (Metropolitan Transit Authority, "Central Business District Tolling Program Environmental Assessment," Chapter 10: Air Quality, August 2022.)

<sup>14</sup> Metropolitan Transit Authority, "Central Business District Tolling Program Environmental Assessment," Chapter 17: Environmental Justice, April 2023.

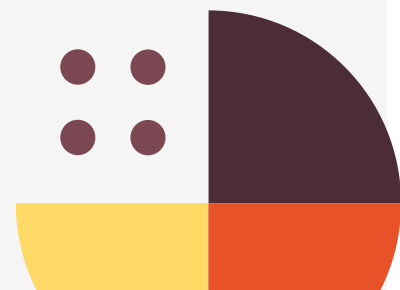
<sup>15</sup> Metropolitan Transit Authority, "Central Business District Tolling

Program Environmental Assessment," Chapter 10: Air Quality, August 2022.

<sup>16</sup> Compared to the same period in 2024. (Governor Kathy Hochul, "Traffic Down, Business Up: Governor Hochul Highlights Progress Made Under New York's Congestion Pricing Program," March 21, 2025.)

<sup>17</sup> New York Metropolitan Transit Authority, "Climate and the MTA," accessed May 5, 2025.

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