

Subject: Addition of summaries for GPCA Platform Pillars to the platform, the website platform preamble and pillar webpages.

Sponsor: Platform Committee

Presenter/Contact: Peggy Koteen and Nassim Nouri

Background/Purpose

The goal of this proposal is to ensure the description of the five pillars of the GPCA platform are clearly articulated with current and accurate language and are consistent with the approved GPCA Platform preamble and our 10 key values. The GPCA website's language currently describing the five pillars have never been approved by the GPCA General Assembly and there are no records as to its origin. Therefore it is not considered part of the platform (see references below for links to all five pages). In the past few years GPCA Clearinghouse Committee has received many complaints and concerns about the offensive language citing a slave-owner as the inspiration of GPCA model of ownership. *"As an alternative to an economy owned by either government or gigantic corporations, a Jeffersonian model with ownership and control spread as widely as possible among Californians."*

These concerns along with requests for updating the landing webpages had been passed on to the Platform Committee but due to bandwidth the language has not been replaced yet.

The Platform and Clearinghouse Committees have worked together to draft brief summaries for the pillars to reflect these pillars' visions as described in the 10 key values.

Committee Decision:

Discussions about drafting summaries for the GPCA platform pillars were suggested by Nassim Nouri and posted on the Platform list serve on April 28th. Discussion and suggestions by the committee were followed up by Peggy and Nassim on May 8th and 9th. Posting the final drafts on Platform listserv. The Committee decision to submit for GA was made by the Platform voting members on May 24.

Proposal: For GPCA to adopt the following language to describe each of the five pillars of our platform:

Social Justice and Livable Communities

We work to confront the barriers of all forms of capitalist, class-based oppression such as inequity, white supremacy, racism, imperialism, colonialism, ableism, heteropatriarchy, that separate us from working together to build a society that honors diversity and supports self-definition and self-determination of all people.

We are building a society with an intimate connection and balance between our rights as individuals and our responsibilities to our neighbors, our communities and the Earth. Honoring this connection promotes participation BY everyone in decisions that affect our well-being, economic security, and all our policies. The role of our government is to enable and flourish institutions that address human and planetary needs and solve the common challenges we face.

Community-Based Economy

The Green Party is focused on creating a new economy where economic vitality, social wellbeing, and ecological wisdom are compatible, complementary, and necessary for our survival in California, in the nation, and in the world. Our economic platform is founded on community-based economics, worker ownership and control, and need-based production, with public ownership of financial institutions, participatory planning and budgeting, and economic democracy.

The corporate parties legislate to maintain the status quo and to serve the special interests that control them. Greens reject an economy owned by an unaccountable government, private corporations, or the so-called free market. As long as the focus of our economy is on profit and corporate growth, we will not be able to protect ourselves and our resources.

Ecology and Earth Stewardship

As Greens we understand that humans are but one part of the ecosystem with a unique responsibility for both societal and environmental stewardship. Our most marginalized and underrepresented communities have been the most victimized by climate injustice. However, in a closed system like our planet we will *all* eventually live downstream of the toxic consequences of over production and over consumption.

We must live within our ecological means and end unsustainable, capitalist, extractive practices and policies that have led us to the edge of climate crisis.

Peace and Non-violence

Peace is not just the absence of violence, it is a willingness to resolve conflict in constructive, collaborative, respectful ways that honor diverse points of view. As a nation, and a people, we must prepare for peace in order to achieve it. We advocate for effective alternatives to society's current patterns of violence, including individual acts of personal violence, institutionalized acts of racist and economic violence, and our violent foreign policies that lead our government to incite and fund armed conflicts around the world to the benefit of a bloated war industry.

Democracy and Electoral Reform

To build a democratic political system, we aim to create a direct participatory grassroots democracy centered at local, bioregional, national and international levels. Grassroots democracy, one of the Green Party's 10 Key Values, allows us as individuals and communities to create our own futures, design our own lives, and determine our own priorities.

We advocate for electoral reforms such as proportional representation and ranked choice voting to mobilize large numbers of voters, offer more choices, remove hurdles of participation, and break up the two-party monopoly that has not served our people or upheld our democracy.

Implementation/Timelines:

Upon adoption:

- The pillar summary language will be added to the GPCA Platform Preamble, as the opening pages to the full GPCA platform document by Platform Committee.
- The language of the GPCA website's landing webpages for these five pillars will be replaced with the new summaries, by the IT Committee.

References:

<https://www.cagreens.org/platform/social-justice>

<https://www.cagreens.org/platform/economics>

<https://www.cagreens.org/platform/ecology>

<https://www.cagreens.org/platform/peace-non-violence>

<https://www.cagreens.org/platform/democracy>

