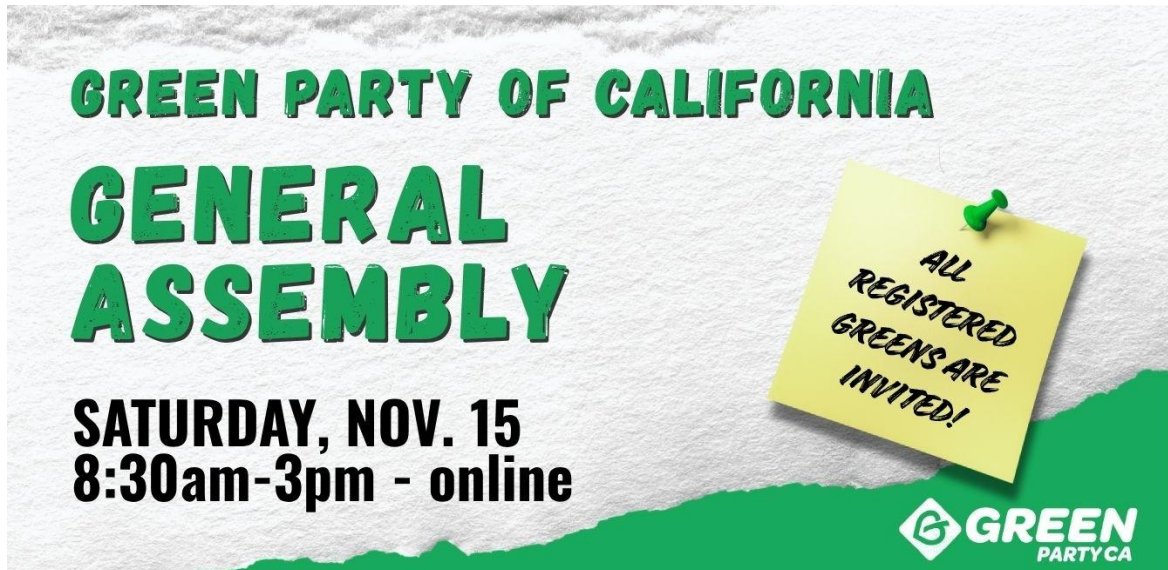


MINUTES OF THE GREEN PARTY OF CALIFORNIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY,
NOV. 15, 2025



GPCA Notetaker for the November 2025 General Assembly: Mimi Newton, Marin County
Approved by the Standing General Assembly the June 2026

8:30 - 9:00 am **Registration/check-in.**

Facilitator: Nassim Nouri, Santa Clara Green Party

9:00 - 9:10 am **Opening Session:** welcome - Agreements - other info
Nassim led the opening session and welcomed the Attendees.

9:10 - 9:15 am **Quorum Count** - for starting GA and approving agenda (Laura Wells)

A quorum is achieved at 9:10 am with 13 active counties present out of a total of 20 active counties. (A quorum is a simple majority of at least 11 counties present.)

See "**Appendix I**" hereto for the list of delegates and attendees for the GA for the purposes of Quorum.

9:15 - 9:20 am **Agenda Approval / Minutes from Previous GA**

The CC (through Mimi Newton, Marin County) requested an amendment to the agenda to allow for the approval of the GA Minutes from June 14, 2025 an updated version of which, to include Appendices A, B, C and D, was included in the current link to the agenda.

The proposed amendment to the agenda – to allow for approval of the previous GA's minutes immediately after the approval of the agenda – was approved by consensus.

The Agenda was approved by consensus.

The Minutes of the June 14, 2025 GA were approved by consensus. See [June 2025 Approved Minutes](#).

9:20 - 10:20 am **Decision: Approval of the 2026 [Budget](#) and [2026 Strategic Plan](#) (Calendar).** (Coordinating Committee and Finance)

The GPCA Treasurer, Justin Richardson, reviewed the changes that had been made in an update to the proposed budget. The majority of the changes to the previous version were based on a gradual increase in our annual expenses to income ratios since 2023. The reasons for these increases were discussed and a number of questions were raised about NationBuilder and an emphasis was placed on the need to step up our fundraising efforts in 2026.

The proposed budget was approved by consensus.

The proposed 2026-2027 Strategic Plan was discussed. The Policy and Platform Committee requested an amendment to add dates so that Committees and Counties would be less likely to miss upcoming deadlines to submit items to the GA Agenda Planning Team.

The suggested amendments to the proposed 2026-2027 Strategic Plan were agreed to by the Coordinating Committee and the Plan was approved by consensus with the following dates to be added by the Coordinating Committee to the online version of the Strategic Plan:

Reminder to submit agenda items for the upcoming General Assembly: March 31, 2026; August 31, 2026, March 31, 2027 and August 31, 2027.

10:20 - 10:30 am **Break**

10:30 am - noon **Decision: Platform amendments** (Policy and Platform Committee)

A quorum was confirmed at 10:30 am by Laura Wells.

The proposed [Human Rights and Civil Liberties](#) Platform Plank was reviewed by Policy and Platform Committee (PPC) Coordinator, Shane Que Hee. A lively discussion ensued regarding polishing the language in the proposal. An agreement on language was achieved and the proposal, as amended, was approved by consensus. See “**Appendix II**,” hereto, for the plank, as approved.

The proposed [Social Safety Net](#) plank was reviewed by PPC Coordinator, Shane Que Hee. After a robust discussion, adjustments were suggested for the language in the proposal. An agreement on language was achieved and the proposal, as amended, was approved by consensus. See “**Appendix III**,” hereto, for the plank, as approved.

It was determined that there was insufficient time to review either the [Livelihood](#) or the [Affirmative Action](#) Planks. Shane Que Hee and Eric Brooks of the PPC invited folks who were interested to continue the discussion regarding these planks during half of the lunch hour.

Noon - 1:00 pm Lunch Break
Facilitator(s): Laura Wells, Alameda County and Tarik Kanaana, Sonoma County

1:00 - 2:30 pm

Decision: [Endorsement of 7 statewide candidates](#)
(Candidates Committee)

Left Unity Slate candidates who are not registered Greens, and the Chair of the California Peace & Freedom Party were admitted to the General Assembly for the purpose of making statements prior to the endorsement decision. After a brief introduction by Greg Jan, Alameda County, the following candidates each introduced themselves to the General Assembly:

- “Lalo” Eduardo Vargas is a teacher running for California Insurance Commissioner and is a member of the Peace and Freedom Party.
- Rosa Astra spoke for Meghann Adams; Meghann is President of the SF School Bus Driver’s Union and is running for California Controller. She is registered with the Peace and Freedom Party.
- Frank Lara is a teacher running for State Superintendent of Public Instruction, and is registered with the Peace and Freedom Party.
- Alice Stek is an OB GYN running for Lieutenant Governor, and is also registered with the Peace and Freedom Party.
- Marjorie Mikels is an attorney, registered with the Green Party, and is running for Attorney General.
- Glenn Turner is an entrepreneur running for Treasurer as a Member of the Green Party.
- Gary Blenner is a social studies teacher, running for Secretary of State with the Green Party.

Laura Wells thanked everyone, especially Kevin Akin, Chair of CA Peace & Freedom Party, and Greg Jan, who worked so hard on putting together the Left Unity Slate.

After the candidates and Mr. Akin left the virtual meeting room, a discussion regarding the proposal ensued. The Candidates Committee recommended the endorsement of all seven of the candidates. There are no Greens running against any of the Peace and Freedom candidates.

One delegate from San Luis Obispo, Peggy Koteen, had a concern about the endorsement and felt that, for the Lieutenant Governor’s race, Oliver Ma is the better candidate despite being registered as a Democrat. Peggy’s concern is that, if there is an even better candidate than a Left Unity Slate Candidate, who is not taking corporate donations, such as Oliver Ma, that we should consider him even if he is not running as a Green. Oliver is running as a Socialist Democrat. Peggy acknowledged that the GPCA does not endorse candidates from the Democrats or the Republicans. Peggy stated that she was willing to stand aside and her concern is memorialized here in the minutes.

Thereafter, the Left Unity Slate of seven candidates was approved by consensus.

2:30 - 2:45 pm

Announcements - a general announcement about GPCA

Standing Committees was made, encouraging volunteers to get involved by attending meetings to see what opportunities might best suit each person's skills,

2:45 - 3:00 pm Next General Assembly Meeting Date and Place

A number of possible dates were discussed in May and June 2026. Potential conflicting events, such as Pride Parades, Father's Day and Juneteenth weekend were identified. No specific dates were agreed upon. It was left to the Agenda Planning Team and the CC to decide on the best date for next General Assembly.

3:05 pm The General Assembly adjourned.

APPENDICES TO THE DRAFT NOV. 15, 2025 GENERAL ASSEMBLY MINUTES

Appendix I

List of Delegates and General Assembly Attendees:

There were 53 registered attendees and 6 guests. Quorum was achieved with more than a majority of active Green counties present, 15 out of 21. There were 6 additional guests who were Peace and Freedom Party organizers and candidates with the Left Unity Slate. The 6 guests were Peace and Freedom Party organizer Kevin Akin; PFP candidates Eduardo "Lalo" Vargas, Meghann Adams, Frank Lara, and Alice Stek; and Green candidate Gary Blenner

GENERAL ASSEMBLY 11-15-25 First Name	Last Name	County	REGISTRANTS Delegate or Alternate or Other(x)	Delegates & Other A.M. counted	County Quorum count A.M.
Torger	Johnson	Alameda	Alternate	Present	Present
James	McFadden	Alameda	Alternate	Present	
Justin	Richardson	Alameda	Alternate	Present	
Greg	Jan	Alameda	Delegate	Present	
Orlando	Johnson	Alameda	Delegate	Present	
Pam	Spevack	Alameda	Delegate	Present	
Laura	Wells	Alameda	Delegate	Present	
Marjorie	Mikels	Alameda	x	Present	
Glenn	Turner	Alameda	x	Present	
Bill	Balderston	Alameda	x (tho SGA)	Present	
Mike	Kerr	Contra Costa	x		
Richard	Gomez	Fresno	Delegate	Present	Present
Thomas	Cassidy	Fresno	x		
Genevieve	Ameduri	Humboldt	x	Present	
Matt	SC	Humboldt	x	Present	
Jesse	Bevan	Lake	x	Present	
Shannel	Pittman	Los Angeles	Delegate	Present	Present
Shane	Que Hee	Los Angeles	Delegate	Present	
Ivan	DeISol	Los Angeles	x	Present	
Elisabeth	Green	Los Angeles	x	Present	
Jordan	King	Los Angeles	x	Present	
James	Lauderdale	Los Angeles	x		
Christopher	Jewell	Marin	Delegate	Present	Present
Mimi	Newton	Marin	Delegate	Present	
Paul	da Silva	Marin	x	Present	
Jacob	Honeyhume	Monterey	Delegate	Present	Present
Dominique	Wade	Monterey	x	Present	
Conor	Brodie	Orange	x	Present	
Christopher	Flores	Sacramento	Delegate	Present	Present
Sarah	Alzanoon	Sacramento	x	Present	
Randy	Hicks	Sacramento	x		
Sharyn	Obrigewitsch	Sacramento	x	Present	
Jamie	Swanton	Sacramento	x	PM only	
David	Clifford	San Diego	Delegate	Present	Present
Rick	Greenblatt	San Diego	Delegate	Present	
Campbell	Lopuch	San Diego	x		
Emily	Osborn	San Diego	x	Present	

Eric	Brooks	San Francisco	Delegate	Present	Present
Valielza	Huynh-O'Keefe	San Francisco	Delegate	Present	
Rich	Stone	San Francisco	Delegate	Present	
Peggy	Koteen	San Luis Obispo	Delegate	Present	Present
Leo	Raabe	Santa Barbara	Delegate	Present	Present
Keith	Joho	Santa Clara	Alternate	Present	Present
Diane	Harrison	Santa Clara	Delegate	Present	
George	Koerner	Santa Clara	Delegate	Present	
Nassim	Nouri	Santa Clara	Delegate	Present	
Nadia	Nouri	Santa Clara	Delegate	Present	
Ali (Arzhang)	Kalbali	Santa Clara	x	Present	
Frank	Nilsen	Santa Clara	x	Present	
Sean	Dougherty	Santa Cruz	Delegate	Present	Present
Ashley	Brown	Santa Cruz	x	Present	
Woody	Hastings	Sonoma	Delegate	Present	Present
Tarik	Kanaana	Sonoma	Delegate	Present	
Susan	Lamont	Sonoma	Delegate	Present	
June	Brashares	Sonoma	x	Present	
John	Schmit	Stanislaus	Delegate	Present	Present
Merrily	Davies	Tulare	Delegate		
Don	Manro	Tulare	Delegate	Present	Present
Ilma'Shallah	Moinuddin	Yolo	x	Present	
TOTALS				53	15

Appendix II

PLATFORM PLANK

Human Rights and Civil Liberties

Recognition of inherent dignity, equal and inalienable rights, and liberties of all members of the human family without regard to their race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, ethnicity or disability is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world.

Human rights are established to ensure the pursuit of happiness and fulfillment and to protect from and address prejudices and inequities in society, for example the genocide of and displacement/separation based on ethnicity of indigenous people and Nations, and the barbaric institution of slavery (these built upon the beliefs in patriarchal white supremacy) and the discrimination against people who are disabled. Under the systemic racism which arose from colonization and slavery's aftermath, people of color have generationally borne a particularly harsh brunt of violence and discrimination.

Civil liberties are established to ensure personal freedom and to prevent and address abuses by government or its proxies - for example, individuals wrongfully or politically jailed, fined, and/or silenced, or who have been abused or detained under past unethical laws that have been repealed. Even small abuses can collect into a slow erosion of liberties.

The Green Party shall strive to secure universal and effective recognition and upholding of the following:

- The principles and spirit expressed in the United Nations' Universal Declaration of Human Rights - an international standard that all nations must meet, especially our own.
- The right to liberty and security of person and freedom from arbitrary arrest, detention, slavery or involuntary servitude.
- No one subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or capital punishment.
- The right to just and favorable remuneration for work supplemented if necessary by other means of social protection i.e. a living wage and/or basic income to ensure an existence worthy of human dignity. [Also see the GPCA Social Safety Net plank]
- The right to equal pay for equal work for everyone – without discrimination.
- A standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of every family member.
- Equal opportunity to participate in the decision-making processes that affect their lives.
- Equal opportunity in housing, employment, education, health care and to child custody and adoption. [Also see the GPCA Universal Health Care platform plank <https://www.cagreens.org/platform/social-justice/universal-health-care>].
- The right to free expression and assembly.
- The right of individuals to leave their country and to return.
- The state of human rights in all other nations as a criterion in policies regarding social, economic, diplomatic and strategic interaction with them.
- The fundamental separation of church and state to the betterment of both.
- The right to an official or public apology followed by the appropriate Reparations for any individual or group wronged or harmed in the past or present. [Also see Reparations for Black American Freedmen plank <https://www.cagreens.org/reparations-black-american-freedmen>].

The Green Party shall strive through education of individuals and communities to persuade all individuals to take responsibility for respecting fundamental human rights and civil liberties in all their social, economic and political activities.

Appendix III

PLATFORM PLANK

Social Safety Net

The purpose of the social safety net is to provide a floor below which a citizen in America should not suffer economic deprivation. Our social safety net provides assistance to persons who are elderly; disabled; economically poor; and in families with very young, sick or special-need children.

Both current and past US governments and Presidential administrations (both Democrat and Republican) have, over time, weakened and cut these support systems. Millions of disadvantaged and disabled people as well as single and divorced parents who have depended upon this support system have seen crucial benefits reduced and sometimes completely cut. To qualify for what welfare remains, recipients are often forced into "workfare" laboring for government programs at minimum wages or less without health, safety and union protections, displacing current workers and pushing down wages for everyone. Single parents forced into taking jobs without provisions for childcare must often choose between economic destitution or neglecting their children and/or losing them to foster care.

The premise of so-called "welfare reform" is that there are enough jobs that pay a living wage, when indeed there are not. In actuality, so-called "welfare dependency" is caused by a lack of affordable childcare, higher education, housing and medical care.

The Green Party calls for a reliable social safety net with benefits sufficient to meet basic necessities:

Elderly People

- Recognize Social Security as a human right as stated in the U.N. Universal Declaration of Human Rights - everyone has the right to a secure retirement.
- Separate Social Security from the federal budget. Social Security funds must be handled independently and for the benefit of the people they are meant to help.
- Stop cuts in social security. Benefits should be tied to actual increases in the cost of living, which should be determined by committees of consumers. This would
- avoid the danger of the consumer price index being manipulated to justify decreasing benefits.
- Retain the safety net for senior citizens who rely upon it to cover medical benefits in addition to subsistence benefits. They should not be forced to liquidate their assets for long-term health care.

Disabled People

- Provide adequate levels of security for those less fortunate who find themselves dependent, temporarily or permanently, upon the social services of the state for their survival. There are some people among the developmentally disabled, physically handicapped, and severely emotionally disturbed who may require support most of their life. It is incumbent upon society to provide for them.
- Fully fund rehabilitation to permit the disabled to achieve their maximum potential. Treatment programs for addictive diseases, including narcotics and alcohol, must be available as needed. Until full self-sufficiency is attained, earnings should be supplemented at adequate levels.

Families with Children

- Do not require workfare outside the home for single parents of small children. Running households and caring for children is work, even though women have often performed such work without pay.
- Provide paid parental leave for one parent of very young, ill, or special needs children.
- Make quality childcare available to all parents who are engaged in paid employment, higher education, or job training.

Economically Disadvantaged People

- Provide support, without time limits, for those who are economically disadvantaged.
- Keep benefit levels up with inflation and keep them sufficient to meet basic needs.
- Do not exclude immigrants from the benefits of the safety net. Everyone who lives here contributes to the economy through work, paying taxes (including sales taxes), and purchasing goods and services.
- Pay a living wage or the prevailing wage in industry, whichever is greater, for all people in compulsory work-placements (so-called "workfare"), whether the work is performed in the private sector, community service or otherwise.
- Provide union recognition and full health and safety protections for workfare workers.
- Allow exemptions from work requirements for welfare recipients pursuing higher education, homeless people looking for housing, or for victims of domestic violence who need additional time to find safety and independence.

All Residents - Social Security For All

- Expand Social Security to all adult residents regardless of age and work income, in the amount of at least \$1,000 per month in 2025 U.S. dollars (adjusted for inflation afterward). This expansion must be above regular age-based Social Security and other social welfare programs; must not be used to replace any other social welfare programs; and must allow all recipients (including people over 62 years of age) to work for added income if they desire to do so.

##END##