

## Contra Costa Harnessing Change: Refinery Transition Partnership (CCRTP)

An Initiative of the California Workforce Development Board

Contra Costa County (CCC) communities, particularly low-income communities of color, bear major health burdens inflicted by the refineries and their toxic emissions. Additionally, the Bay Area refineries emit significant amounts of climate warming greenhouse gasses, posing one of the state’s most significant challenges to climate resilience. As California works to establish a carbon neutral economy, the oil refining sector will unavoidably undergo a massive transition. This transition is already taking place in CCC, where two of the four refineries are transitioning to biofuels, resulting in a significant workforce reduction—most notably at the Marathon Martinez Refinery, which laid off approximately 700 workers in 2020.

The Contra Costa Refinery Transition Partnership (CCRTP) is the first effort to bring together frontline workers and community organizations to plan for refinery transition. CCRTP brings together CCC oil refinery workers, the refinery community, allies, and high-road industry stakeholders to develop shared strategies to prepare for this significant economic shift, including leading research and developing policy recommendations to support refinery communities and workers, as well as the development of a regional high-road economic development vision to advance CCC’s economic resilience as the state transitions to a low-carbon economy.

This project addresses the critical need to plan for economic transition in one of California’s most oil-industry dependent counties, through deep engagement and shared visioning led by impacted workers and community members themselves, in partnership with the broader community of stakeholders.

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### PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

- Strengthen the CCRTP for the long-term, as a coalition of frontline workers, community organizations and allies.
- Complete and publish a detailed report and recommendations on planning for refinery transition in the Bay Area.
- Complete and publish a Contra Costa High Road Economic Development Vision.

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### KEY PARTNERS

- BlueGreen Alliance Foundation
- United Steelworkers District 12
- United Steelworkers Local 5
- UA Plumbers & Steamfitters Local 342
- Contra Costa Central Labor Council
- Asian Pacific Environmental Network
- California Labor Federation, Workforce & Economic Development (WED)
- UC Berkeley Labor Center

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