

An Initiative of the California Workforce Development Board

Building off its energy efficiency, renewable energy, utility equity, and climate resiliency work since 2011, Los Angeles Alliance for a New Economy (LAANE) and Strategic Concepts in Organizing Education (SCOPE) is augmenting the existing Utility Pre-Craft Trainee (UPCT) program in close partnership with IBEW Local 18 with efforts focused on decarbonization. Decarbonization—and its power to create pipelines to more quality career track jobs—is the primary focus of the expansion and scaling of the High Road project.

LAANE’s decarbonization program will start with new construction, presenting an opportunity for training workers from disadvantaged and low-income backgrounds in the construction trades. The project’s primary goal is to create a collaborative strategy to support and create quality jobs accessible to workers from low-income neighborhoods and workers with barriers to employment in the implementation of carbon-free new and existing construction policies and programs in the City of Los Angeles.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

- The Utility Pre-Craft Trainee (UPCT) program will expand by increasing the number of classes to four per year and serving 175 new participants.
- Placement of 80% of the first class of UPCTs supported by this grant into permanent utility jobs at Los Angeles Department of Water and Power or utilities in other incorporated cities in LA County by 2026
- Recommendations by community and labor organizations included in City of Los Angeles’ decarbonization policies proposed and adopted by LA City Council by late 2024.
- High Road requirements will be incorporated into comprehensive sets of policies to decarbonize all new buildings by 2030 and all existing buildings by 2050.

KEY PARTNERS

- IBEW Local 18
 - Los Angeles and Orange Counties Building Trades Council
 - Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
 - LA Trade Tech College
 - Strategic Action for a Just Economy (SAJE)
 - Strategic Concepts in Organizing and Education (SCOPE)
 - Pacoima Beautiful
 - Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)
 - Communities for a Better Environment (CBE)
 - Workforce Connections/Cerritos College
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