AFT 2121 support for September days of Climate Action

WHEREAS, the climate crisis poses an immediate and long-term threat to all working people, our communities and our economic security; and

WHEREAS, the climate crisis already disproportionately impacts vulnerable and marginalized frontline communities, especially those of color and low income; and

WHEREAS, the climate crisis is already harming working families through extreme hurricanes, wildfire, drought and flooding, increased stress on the agricultural sector, record-breaking heat waves, health impacts like heat stroke and the spread of infectious diseases; and

WHEREAS, without taking concrete action now to address the climate crisis, the well-being and economic welfare of our youth and future generations throughout the world will be severely and irreversibly jeopardized; and

WHEREAS, AFT 2121 is committed to joining with the larger movement for economic, racial and environmental justice to demand a just transition for workers and frontline communities to a new clean, sustainable energy economy: and

WHEREAS, what started as a one-person protest by Swedish teen activist Greta Thunberg has grown to a movement of millions in over 160 countries in at least 2000 locations as a new generation of climate activists take to the streets around the world demanding urgent action to meet the climate challenge; and

WHEREAS, youth, environmental and other social justice organizations, including those in the Bay Area, have called for a "Global Climate Strike" - a week of actions from September 20-27 to highlight the climate crisis, declare a climate emergency and demand urgent immediate action at all levels of government and society to prevent a climate catastrophe; and

WHEREAS, many labor organizations, including the SF Labor Council and the Alameda Labor Council, and community allies have passed resolutions and/or supported bold policies, like the Green New Deal, to address the climate emergency and other pressing environmental issues;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that AFT 2121 supports youth, scientists and many other groups in the fight for our future by supporting and publicizing the September 20-27th week of actions; and be it further

RESOLVED, that AFT 2121 stands in unity with our youth and other environmental activists by encouraging participation in upcoming actions and other appropriate forms of solidarity; and be it finally

RESOLVED, that AFT 2121 will work with our allies to understand the impact of climate change on our environment, health, security and the future of our children and encourage their

participation in the movement to effectively confront the climate emergency meet the climate challenge by creating a rapid and just transition to an equitable and sustainable energy society. Demands of the September Climate Actions:

- 1. We demand a safe, healthy, and just planet.
- 2. We demand justice and asylum for people displaced by climate change.
- 3. We demand policy based on science.
- 4. We demand that people, not corporations, influence politics.
- 5. We demand equal rights for all.
- 6. We demand that humans protect the rights of nature.
- 7. We demand a just transition

Transition is inevitable. Justice is not. A just transition is the process of getting from where we are to where we need to be by transforming the systems of economy and governance. A just transition requires moving from a globalized capitalist industrial economy to linked local living participatory economies that provide well-being for all.