



←350

TACOMA



2020



WHO WE ARE

ABOUT

350 Tacoma is a local independent group of 350.org, an international grassroots movement working in collaboration with others to solve the climate crisis. Our group launched publicly in August 2017 and, still powered entirely by volunteers, works to bring the climate crisis to the forefront of public consciousness and decision making. We are a 501(c)(3) non-profit.

MISSION STATEMENT

We work collaboratively with others to grow an effective local movement for climate justice by mobilizing ordinary people through creative action and advocacy. We recognize that climate justice is racial justice and seek to center the voices of those most impacted by the climate crisis. Aiming to embody the values we seek in a transformed world, we work for a sustainable future for all living beings.

➔ **MANIFESTO AND PRINCIPLES** - <https://bit.ly/350TMP>

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We acknowledge that all our organizing takes place on the traditional lands of the Puyallup and Coast Salish peoples. We name this because it is the culture of the people whose lands we occupy, and so we show them this respect. We also acknowledge this because naming the reality of our occupation on Indigenous lands helps to unwind unconscious assumptions of white supremacy.

COMMUNITY SPACE

Knowing that we have precious little time to address the climate crisis, our little group took a leap of faith in May of 2019 by signing a lease on a storefront near downtown Tacoma, at 311 Puyallup Ave. It has brought our activity to another level, enabling meetings, art builds, coalition gatherings and more. And it has all been made possible by the generous support of our community.

MISSION



A fast and just transition to 100% renewable energy for all

Accelerate the transition to a new, just clean energy economy by supporting community-led energy solutions

No new fossil fuel projects anywhere

Stop and ban all oil, coal and gas projects from being built through local resolutions and community resistance.



Not a penny more for dirty energy

Cut off the social license and financing for fossil fuel companies — divest, desponsor and defund.

STRATEGY

In the United States, 350 fights for a just and equitable world by stopping the fossil fuel industry from continuing to destroy our climate. We do this by building a powerful multiracial movement to confront and isolate the fossil fuel industry, opening up the political space for transformative climate action.



Build a multiracial organization to organize and mobilize a multiracial base



Build and deepen the grassroots climate justice movement



Build political opposition to the fossil fuel industry and support for a just transition



Build widespread public blame of climate impacts and project impacts on fossil fuel industry



311 PUYALLUP AVE

Our space at 311 Puyallup Avenue opened up so many avenues for our little group and was the hub of our activities. And then COVID-19 hit in March.

As the pandemic stretched on we began to question if it was a good use of resources to continue paying rent for a space we could hardly use. With that in mind, we sought input from our community via social media, email and a series of three community conversations on Zoom.

We heard loud and clear the message that this space is an integral part of how we provide support to other local grassroots organizations and provides a vital home for our allies. In light of this, we made the decision to keep our space at 311 Puyallup Ave.

In keeping our space, we are committed to using it as a tool for organizing climate-and-justice-focused art, supporting our allies, and continuing to build a strong, diverse, broad-based local justice movement.

We have a COVID-19 policy in place, that is based on state mandated policies, for using the space safely. We will continue to evaluate whether the space aligns with our missions, values, strategies and the needs of our community.

Thanks to everyone who contributed to this decision and please let us know if you have any questions, thoughts or recommendations.

With gratitude and love for this community,

The 350 Tacoma Leadership Circle

Bradley, Dan, Grace, Janeen, Nancy, Sarah and Tracy

BLACK LIVES MATTER

At 350 Tacoma we understand that climate justice is racial justice. We are grateful for the clear leadership and guidance from Black leadership at 350.org and our national coalition partners, the Movement 4 Black Lives, directing all white and non-Black climate and environmental organizers how and why to act now in defense of Black lives at the local, regional, and national levels.

We know there is no just recovery for climate without addressing the systemic extraction, harm and violence towards Black communities. That is why we dedicated a general meeting to the topic, amplified the movement on social media, and supported local actions in defense of Black lives.



➞ Watch "Listen" featuring local poet Nakanee – <https://bit.ly/Listen253>

FOSSIL FUELS

As always, we continued our fight against fossil fuels in Tacoma by supporting SAMI high school students Adriel and Gemma in their march against the Puget Sound Energy fracked gas project, WA Youth for Climate Justice in holding a Climate Strike at City Hall and Wright Park, rallying people to testify for stronger interim regulations at City Council meetings, mobilizing against both SeaPort Sound Terminal expansion permits, and supporting our neighbors in Kalama fighting the same methanol monster that Tacoma vanquished.



ARTFUL ACTIVISM

Retired art professor Beverly Naidus recruited local artists Saiyare Refaei, Speakthunder Berry, Gerardo Peña, and Elle Grey to create seven beautiful paintings to be displayed at the 350 Tacoma space focusing on "what seeds for repair might be germinated by this time of fires, and what kind of positive visions might emerge from the smoke."



Beverly continued her "Extreme Makeover" art workshops, which invite people to imagine the port of Tacoma free of fossil fuels, and when COVID-19 hit was able to bring the events online for even wider participation.

ENGAGEMENT

We were able to utilize our space at 311 Puyallup Ave for the first two General Meetings this year then moved to Zoom at the onset of the pandemic. We utilize these meetings to build our community, keep people informed, and plug people in to our various projects.

In June we dedicated the meeting to Black Lives Matter and how we can support the movement. Starting in August we had a series of three "Community Conversations" about 350 Tacoma and if we should keep renting our space.

In February and then October we held long-range planning retreats to gain clarity, sharpen our goals, improve our effectiveness, grow our activist community, and respond to the new organizing climate posed by the pandemic.



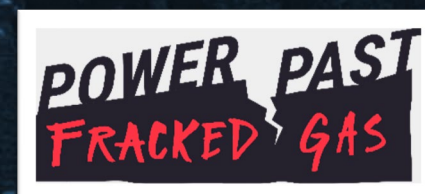
Many of our usual outreach events, such as at the Sustainability Expo, were of course not possible this year. Even work at our adopted salt marsh, q^wi q^w ə lut, was affected yet we managed four work parties nonetheless.

GRATITUDE

A huge thank you to our donors, our volunteers, our funders, and all of those who contributed in so many ways over the past year. Our power is in collective action, and each one of you has been an indispensable part of that People Power. Together we are strong. Onward!



Aside from generous donations from our community, we also received sizeable grants from two coalitions of which we are a part: Stand Up to Oil and Power Past Fracked Gas. Despite the pandemic they still had our backs and for that we are thankful.



➞ Donate to support our work! – [Via Paypal](#)

TRANSFORMING HATE

350 Tacoma hosted a special workshop and public reading in collaboration with Creative Colloquy and the Arts Bridging Communities Initiative.

"Racism may indeed carry out the doom of the Western world, and, for that matter, of the whole of human civilization."

—Hannah Arendt

In January, through the sponsorship of the Arts Bridging Communities Initiative, an unusual pilot workshop was hosted at 350 Tacoma, titled Transforming Hate – A Perspective Leap: Exploring the Infrastructure of Forgiveness Through Creative Writing. It was led by Nikita Nelin.

Inspired by the work of the political theorist Hannah Arendt and utilizing the elements of creative writing, the workshop sought to reclaim the "public sphere" as a sharable space for conversation amid difference, and get at the roots of hate in America.

Some of the participants of the workshop shared their written work, and their experience of participating in this workshop, at a well-attended public reading.



CLIMATE SOLIDARITY

On December 10, nearly two dozen justice groups came together, took over Market Street, deployed 17 banners and over 650 pairs of shoes and told the Tacoma City Council "PEOPLE OVER PROFIT"! We called it the Tacoma Climate Solidarity Event.

That day marked a year since the city passed a Climate Emergency Resolution yet nothing has actually been done to STOP fossil fuels. So we came together to hold our city leaders' feet to the fire and demand real climate action now.

➞ Sign on to support our climate demands - <https://bit.ly/TCSDemands>



The groups: Sunrise Tacoma, The Mayor's Youth Commission, New Generation 2.0, Black and Done, Black Panther Party, Extinction Rebellion Tacoma, The Conversation, South Sound Antiracist Project, Tacoma Democratic Socialists of America, Veterans for Peace Chapter 134 Tacoma, Tacoma Raging Grannies, Subversive Arts 253, Citizens Climate Lobby, Citizens for a Health Bay, Lawyers Against Systemic Racism, Indivisible Tacoma, Tacoma Mutual Aid Collective, Advocates for a Cleaner Tacoma, Washington Youth for Climate Justice, La Resistencia, Sierra Club, 350 Seattle, Extinction Rebellion Seattle, Mother Earth Project, 350 Tacoma

