

# Preamble

As a local chapter of the Democratic Socialists of America (DSA), Twin Cities DSA's mission is to unite workers into a powerful political movement to win the battle for democracy and change the world. The United States political system is rigged against working people. Billionaires buy elections. Massive power is invested in an unelected, unaccountable Supreme Court. The Senate and the Electoral College devalue the votes of many Americans. Gridlock reigns supreme, with the political class uniting only to fund more wars and give more handouts to billionaires. The slaveholding founding fathers intentionally designed our government this way, adopting an anti-democratic constitution to prevent popular movements from threatening their power.

Under this system, millions in America live in precarity, faced daily with the struggle to put food on the table, and a roof over their head. For many of us, our days are spent laboring under the compulsion of poverty, laboring for bosses and owners who daily buy our bodies, minds and time. For many of us, this work happens in unsafe conditions, or for unliveable wages, but the necessity of paying the banks and landlords for the privilege of housing keeps us chained to working for the profit of the few. These few, the capitalist oligarchy live lives of security and comfort, while the rest of us contend with exploitation, increasing government repression, and the long drawn fear of climate chaos.

The two party system is an extension of the capitalist oligarchy. The Democratic Party is unable to effectively counter the increasingly nationalist and xenophobic Republicans, as the capitalist donor class that controls it is more interested in preventing working class and progressive movements from gaining a foothold in the party. DSA is building a new political alternative, democratically run by working people and united around our Workers Deserve More program. This program declares that "Our goal is to put workers in charge of the government through a new democratic constitution that establishes civil, political, and democratic rights for all, is based on proportional representation in a single federal legislature, and ends the role of money in politics.

"With a government by, for, and of the working class and with powerful labor unions and social movements organizing in every city and town, we hope to build a socialist society where people come before profit, basic needs are guaranteed, the largest corporations are put under public ownership and democratic control, peace around the world is secured, and workers around the world join together in common struggle to construct socialism worldwide."

The Twin Cities Democratic Socialists of America works towards this goal by building working class organization here in the Twin Cities to fight for cities that work for the workers, not landlords, developers, and corporate interests.

# What We Fight For:

## Housing for All

- ★ Protect and expand the right for all tenants to organize tenant unions and collectively bargain
- ★ Enact rent stabilization
- ★ Pass a strong Tenant Opportunity to Purchase Act to give all tenants the right to buy their homes before another landlord does
- ★ Build, expropriate, and convert quality social housing to all residents of the Cities
- ★ Treat our unhoused neighbors with dignity - no more encampment sweeps!

## An Economy for the Working Class

- ★ Protect and expand the right for all workers to organize labor unions, collectively bargain, and strike
- ★ Set a legal limit of a 32-hour workweek, with compensation for lost overtime and no reduction in overall pay.
- ★ Mandate a living wage for all workers regardless of age, employment, or status, regularly adjusted to account for changes in purchasing power. No discrimination in pay based on race, gender, or nationality. Elimination of separate tipped wages.
- ★ Enact reparations to formerly oppressed peoples through targeted investment in public infrastructure and commons, and unconditional cash transfers in underdeveloped communities.
- ★ Fund co-enforcement to protect workers from abuses
- ★ Municipalize all utilities in the Cities without compensation

## Public Safety

- ★ Disarm all beat officers to prevent unnecessary use of lethal force
- ★ Replace the functions of police with unarmed mediators and other trained first responders
- ★ Municipalize and expand the local hospital, clinic, and related healthcare systems
- ★ Build and expand neighborhood medical and social clinics

## Environmental Justice

- ★ Shut down the HERC
- ★ Reject the findings of the MNDOT and rebuild I94 into a road that serves the Cities, not the whims of downtown corporate interests
- ★ Rebuild and expand the public transit system to function as a useful method of transportation and not a system of last resort
- ★ Commit the Cities to carbon NEGATIVE by 2030

## Political

- ★ Publicly fund elections
- ★ Abolish the Park Board and fold its functions into the city government
- ★ Abolish the Metro Council
- ★ Election of all local judges
- ★ Cities wide access to reproductive and trans healthcare
- ★ Reform the state legislature into a proportionally elected unicameral body