



NYC SOLIDARITY ECONOMY POLICY PLATFORMS: AN OVERVIEW



NYC Solidarity Economy Policy Platforms: An Overview

Omar Freilla
Collective Diaspora
November 2025

Table of Contents

NYC Solidarity Economy Policy Platforms: An Overview.....	1
Introduction.....	1
Compendium of Solidarity Economy Policy Platforms.....	2
A. General Solidarity Economy / Community Wealth Building.....	2
B. Cooperatives for a Feminist Economy.....	3
C. Cooperatives for Environmental Justice and a Just Transition.....	4
D. Worker Cooperatives.....	7
E. Housing Cooperatives & Community Land Trusts.....	8
F. Food Cooperatives, Food Hubs & Community Food Policy.....	9
Most Common Policy Proposals Found in NYC Solidarity Economy Policy Platforms & Reports.....	11

Introduction

This document provides an overview of major policy proposals focused on New York City's solidarity economy that have been developed over the past twenty years. This report has been created as a resource for both New York City Mayor-elect Zohran Mamdani's transition team and subcommittees, as well as solidarity economy organizers seeking to influence municipal policies. It distills key recommendations across worker cooperatives; community land trusts; housing, food, waste, and energy democracy initiatives; public banking; and other community ownership strategies.

This overview seeks to capture the intersectional nature of the solidarity economy, breaking through sector silos to highlight policy platforms that reflect the overlapping identities and challenges faced by cooperative members of marginalized communities. Together, these proposals offer a foundation for an administration committed to embedding community ownership, racial & gender equity, economic justice, and direct democracy into NYC's policy agenda.

Compendium of Solidarity Economy Policy Platforms

A. General Solidarity Economy / Community Wealth Building

- a. [The People's Plan: A Collective Vision For A City That Provides Dignity, Care, and Justice For All New Yorkers - Economy Platform](#) (100+ Advocacy & Community-Based Organizations, 2021)

The Economy Platform of the People's Plan NYC envisions a caring, cooperative, and feminist economy that ensures economic security and dignity for all New Yorkers, emphasizing equitable distribution of resources and support for historically excluded communities. It calls for robust public investments in worker cooperatives, a city-level jobs guarantee, expanded childcare, and the establishment of a public bank, while advocating for radical policy shifts away from systems that favor the wealthy towards those that build community wealth, worker ownership, and social safety nets.

- b. [Municipal Policies for Community Wealth Building](#) (NYC Office of Financial Empowerment, 2020)

This report argues that cities can reduce inequality and grow local prosperity by expanding “inclusive ownership” models—like worker co-ops, community land trusts, and member-owned banks—and grounding them in a supportive legal, financial, and technical ecosystem. It outlines five core policy principles—legal infrastructure, business support, resilience, social impact, and recognition—that together help create a sustainable, democratic ownership economy. Drawing on case studies from 15 jurisdictions around the world, the report showcases how public policy (e.g., procurement, reinvestment mandates, public banking) can help anchor wealth locally. The authors emphasize that inclusive ownership advances assets for marginalized communities, promotes economic stability, and deepens civic participation. Finally, the report makes the case that municipal governments have tools—beyond regulation—to drive community wealth building through public investment, contracting, and legal innovation.

- c. [Seeding Solidarity Map](#) (Cooperative Economics Alliance of NYC, actively updated)

The CEANYC “Seeding Solidarity” map is an interactive tool that plots over 2,000 cooperative and community-controlled projects across New York City, categorized into 10 sectors like housing, food, gardens, energy, and worker co-ops. It allows users to filter by sector, search organizations by name, and overlay political boundaries (like City Council districts or zip codes), helping visualize the density and distribution of NYC’s solidarity economy.

- d. [Cooperative Economics Alliance: Summary of Findings](#) (Cooperative Economics Alliance of NYC, 2014)

The report presents a vision for building a strong, citywide solidarity economy through a central hub organization that supports and connects diverse cooperative sectors including worker co-ops, food co-ops, community development credit unions, and housing cooperatives. It highlights the need for technical assistance, leadership development, policy advocacy, and resource sharing to strengthen New York’s cooperative economy, emphasizing collaboration across sectors to foster community wealth, economic justice, and resilience in marginalized neighborhoods.

B. Cooperatives for a Feminist Economy

- a. [The Path Forward to a Feminist Recovery: Twelve steps NYC must take to advance gender equity in the wake of the pandemic](#), (Tiffany Cabán, Shahana Hanif, Brad Lander, 2022)

This report addresses the disproportionate economic and social impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on women in New York City, especially women of color, by outlining twelve critical policy steps to advance gender equity, including expanding affordable childcare, increasing flexible scheduling, investing in elder and disability care, raising wages for human service workers, and improving access to safe and affordable housing. It also emphasizes strengthening worker ownership and cooperative development by recommending increased funding for the Worker Cooperative Business Development Initiative and flexible grants for cooperative start-up and operating costs, recognizing cooperatives as a means to provide marginalized workers with dignified, flexible jobs and greater economic control.

- b. [Gender- and Race-Based Inequalities in Democratic Worker-Owned Firms: Evidence from the First National Survey of the Sector](#) (Rutgers Institute for the Study of Employee Ownership and Profit Sharing, 2022)

This study analyzes national survey data from U.S. worker cooperatives and finds that worker cooperatives display low levels of material inequality within the individual cooperatives and do not systematically discriminate in pay by race or gender. However, broader sectoral patterns of occupational segregation cause significant gender and racial wage gaps between different cooperatives. It concludes that although women and workers of color benefit from cooperative workplaces, persistent disparities remain due to segregation in the larger society and the devaluation of work typically associated with women.

- c. [Reinvesting In Economic Justice, Equity, And Solidarity For Survivors In New York City: A Survivor-Centered Policy Platform & Recommendations for Coerced Debt, Housing, Public Benefits & Solidarity Economy](#) (NYC Anti-Violence Project, Safe Horizon, Anti-Violence Project, Center for Survivor Agency & Justice Lorena, Mixteca Organization, Urban Justice Center, CAMBA Legal Services, Violence Intervention Program, Her Justice, Center for Survivor Agency & Justice, Urban Resource Institute, 2022)

This report emphasizes recommendations to build a solidarity economy that centers survivor equity by investing in cooperative models, mutual aid, and community-based economic initiatives rooted in care, cooperation, and collective power. It calls on NYC agencies and elected officials to support survivor-led cooperatives with direct and flexible funding, expand technical assistance, remove funding restrictions to empower cooperatives' autonomy, and integrate solidarity economy practices across housing, public benefits, and economic development to create equitable and trauma-informed systems reflecting survivors' needs and values.

C. Cooperatives for Environmental Justice and a Just Transition

- a. [2024 NYC Climate Justice Agenda: Prioritizing Just Transitions](#) (NYC Environmental Justice Alliance, 2024)

This report is a research and advocacy blueprint that evaluates state and city climate action and lays out frontline community-driven priorities to

achieve a just transition in energy, land use, transportation, buildings, and community care, with a strong focus on racial and economic justice. A key thread throughout is developing “new economic and community ownership models,” including explicit recommendations to incentivize community-owned energy resources and ensure that major green-energy investments prioritize and build ownership, control, and long-term benefits that further environmental justice rather than reinforcing extractive, corporate-dominated systems.

b. [**An Assessment Of NYC Cooperative Housing’s Climate Vulnerability And Barriers To Adaptation**](#) (Cornell University, UHAB, 2024)

The report assesses how limited-equity cooperative housing in New York City is exposed to climate risks such as flooding and extreme heat, finding that a large share of affordable co-op buildings face significant hazard without correspondingly accessible adaptation funding or infrastructure. It calls on city, state, and federal policymakers to develop tailored climate resiliency programs and financing mechanisms that explicitly include the cooperative housing sector if affordability and community ownership are to be preserved.

c. [**EJNYC: A Study Of Environmental Justice Issues In New York City**](#) (NYC Mayor’s Office of Climate & Environmental Justice, 2024)

The EJNYC Report by New York City Mayor’s Office of Climate & Environmental Justice presents a comprehensive assessment of historical and current environmental justice (EJ) challenges across the city, highlighting how disadvantaged communities disproportionately bear burdens such as air and water pollution, extreme heat, flooding, waste-infrastructure, and housing defects. It maps the convergence of environmental stressors, demographic vulnerability, and gaps in environmental benefits like green-space or clean infrastructure. The report also examines how city processes—such as public engagement, permitting, siting, data transparency—often fall short of meaningfully incorporating community voices and advancing equity in decision-making. Looking forward, it sets the stage for a forthcoming comprehensive EJ plan by identifying policy opportunities for inclusive governance, targeted investment, data-driven transparency, and structural alignment across multiple agencies to center environmental justice in climate, infrastructure and housing strategy.

- d. [Cooperative Works: Equitable Business Development Strategies for the Retrofit Market](#) (NYC MWBE & Urban Design Forum, 2021)

This report presents a vision for leveraging New York City’s climate retrofit boom—and particularly Local Law 97—to drive racial economic justice by investing in minority- and women-owned businesses, worker co-ops, and employee-owned firms. Drawing on research from a cohort of Forefront Fellows working closely with the Mayor’s Office of M/WBE and the Deputy Mayor’s Office, it offers landscape analysis plus concrete proposals such as cooperative finance models, capacity building, retrofit-sector workforce development, and cross-sector innovation. The report argues that climate investments should do more than reduce carbon emissions—they should promote shared ownership, close racial wealth gaps, and anchor economic value in underserved communities.

- e. [GreenFeen OrganiX Testimony before NYC Business Integrity Commission: Hearing on Proposed Rules Governing Microhaulers](#), (Dior St. Hillaire/GreenFeen OrganiX, 2021)

GreenFeen OrganiX’s testimony argues that microhaulers—especially worker-owned cooperatives rooted in Environmental Justice communities—play a critical role in building equitable, local, circular waste systems and should therefore be supported, not burdened, by unnecessary disclosure requirements that hinder participation by previously incarcerated workers. The testimony urges the city to waive these requirements and associated fees, recognize microhaulers’ deep community ties, and prioritize investment in cooperative, neighborhood-based waste solutions that advance transparency, equity, and environmental justice.

- f. [Green Development for Environmental Justice & Healthy Communities](#) (Omar Freilla/Green Worker Cooperatives, 2005)

This report critiques mainstream approaches to green economic development as often reproducing existing power dynamics—where capital-rich actors and political influence dictate outcomes—while neglecting community ownership, equitable wealth distribution, and worker empowerment. Freilla argues for a paradigm shift toward a “community-wealth building” model in the green economy that centers democratic ownership, community asset accumulation, and local decision-making rather than simply job creation or environmental

mitigation. The analysis draws on examples and case studies to show how shared ownership models (e.g., worker cooperatives and community land trusts) can anchor economic value locally and redistribute wealth to historically marginalized communities. Freilla also identifies key structural barriers—including lack of access to capital, limited support infrastructure, and regulatory frameworks—that must be addressed for green development to be truly transformative. Ultimately, the report calls for public policy and municipal strategies that integrate ecological sustainability with economic democracy, placing the control of green economy assets into the hands of workers and communities.

D. Worker Cooperatives

- a. [Worker Cooperative Business Development Initiative \(WCBDI\) Annual Reports](#) (NYC Department of Small Business Services, 2015-2024)

Over the last decade, the WCBDI program has continued to grow the network of worker cooperatives in NYC. As a result, New York City has more worker cooperatives than any other city in the US. WCBDI funding supports 13 partner organizations and provides centralized program management through the NYC Department of Small Business Services. These reports by SBS document the services provided, cooperatives served, and outcomes generated by the initiative. See most recent reports: [FY '24](#), [FY '23](#), and a [special 3 year summary \(FY '20-'22\)](#) that outlines the obstacles that worker cooperatives encounter when competing for City contracts and policy measures to address these challenges.

- b. [NYC's Future Is Cooperative](#) (NYC Network of Worker Cooperatives, 2021)

The platform calls for sustained public investment to help worker-coops grow, especially in the areas of capital, affordable cooperative space, and business infrastructure. It also prioritizes city procurement reforms, expanded technical assistance and education for co-op businesses, and policies anchored in racial and immigrant justice.

- c. [Supporting Worker Cooperatives in Sunset Park](#) (Urban Design Forum, 2017)

Neighborhood-level policy recommendations focusing on immigrant worker co-ops, space access, zoning, and industrial retention in Sunset

Park, Brooklyn.

- d. [Worker Cooperatives for New York City](#) (Federation of Protestant Welfare Agencies, 2013)

A foundational citywide policy report arguing that worker-owned businesses can significantly reduce poverty and income inequality in NYC by offering higher wages, greater job security, and wealth-building potential for low-wage workers. It calls on public and private leaders in New York City to support cooperative development through targeted policies, including technical assistance, startup capital, and preferential procurement.

E. Housing Cooperatives & Community Land Trusts

- a. [Co-op Improvement Program: Year 3: Highlights & Impact](#) (Urban Homesteading Assistance Board, 2024)

The UHAB Co-op Improvement Program (CIP) Year 3 Report highlights steady gains in stabilizing distressed HDFC co-ops, documenting outreach to 266 buildings, strengthened governance through board elections, and expanded access to technical assistance in financial management, energy efficiency, and climate resilience. It emphasizes the need for earlier intervention and increased program capacity so that more limited-equity co-ops can address challenges before they escalate into crises.

- b. [Community Land Act](#) (NYC Community Land Initiative, 2023)

The Community Land Act is a package of New York City Council bills designed to give community land trusts (CLTs) and other nonprofits stronger tools to acquire, preserve, and develop permanently affordable, community-controlled housing and spaces. Core pieces include the Community Opportunity to Purchase Act (COPA, Intro 902), the Public Land for Public Good Act (Intro 78), and legislation to end the tax lien sale and replace it with a more equitable land bank–style system. Key bills in the package have gained strong support and are advancing, but the full set has not received a final Council vote and enactment.

- c. [CLTs Gaining Ground in NYC: Policies to Sustain and Scale the Growth of Community Land Trusts](#) (Pratt Center for Community Development, 2023)

The report documents how community land trusts (CLTs) in New York City have expanded in recent years as a strategy to remove land from speculative markets and anchor affordability for housing, small businesses, and community space, and it identifies continuing barriers such as scarce land, limited financing, and weak integration into city land-use policies. It recommends that the City commit to a long-term, city-wide plan directing publicly-owned land and mission-aligned financing to CLTs, integrate them formally into housing, economic development and land-use frameworks, and bolster organizing and capacity-building for the CLT sector.

- d. [Community Land Trust Report](#) (Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr., 2020)

This report recommends establishing CLTs in the Bronx to combat displacement, rising rents, and speculative development by enabling community stewardship of land for residential, commercial, and institutional uses. It argues that CLTs can empower long-term residents and tenants to become land-owners, preserve affordability through long-term ground leases, incubate small businesses and nonprofits, and anchor economic and social value in local communities.

F. Food Cooperatives, Food Hubs & Community Food Policy

- a. [National Black Food & Justice Alliance Farm Bill Policy Demands](#), National Black Food & Justice Alliance, 2024

These NBFJA policy demands are useful as a framework that can be adapted to municipal policy by emphasizing support for Black-led food enterprises and consumer food co-ops through simplified grant programs, technical assistance, and enabling EBT/SNAP acceptance at farmers markets. It also recommends investing in urban agriculture, regenerative land stewardship, and community land trusts, providing a blueprint for city-led initiatives to strengthen local, equitable, and self-reliant food systems.

- b. [Black-Led Food Co-ops Restore Justice, Hope and Power](#) (Food Tank, 2023)

The article highlights how cooperative grocery stores are becoming a powerful tool for racial and food justice within Black communities. It describes longtime efforts to give Black communities collective ownership

over their food systems — including the Brooklyn Movement Center’s efforts to launch the Central Brooklyn Food Co-op.

- c. [Inside the Brooklyn Packers’ Vision for a Community-Based Micro Food Hub](#) (Westchester Cooperative Network, 2022)

The Brooklyn Packers’ community-based micro food hub model centers on a worker-owned, Black-led cooperative that aggregates, sources, packs, and distributes fresh produce from Black-, Brown-, women-, queer-, and POC-owned farms directly to local consumers, nonprofits, and mutual aid groups. This hyperlocal food hub fosters food sovereignty by building strong community relationships, reducing supply chain fragmentation, and creating equitable economic opportunities while emphasizing sustainable, cooperative governance and collective decision-making, highlighting a scalable approach for NYC food policy aimed at equity, economic empowerment, and community resilience.

- d. [Food Forward NYC: A 10-Year Food Policy Plan](#) (NYC Mayor’s Office of Food Policy, 2022)

The plan frames racial and economic equity in part through community-controlled, cooperative approaches, situating these alongside urban agriculture, mutual aid, and other community-based food access efforts, and reflecting stakeholder calls for “community-driven food sovereignty initiatives” that explicitly include cooperatives and food co-ops. In practice, it treats food cooperatives as one of several community-owned, democratically controlled food infrastructure models that should receive more investment and technical support to advance equity and economic democracy, but keeps them within broad strategy areas—like supporting small food businesses and community-led infrastructure—rather than creating a stand-alone, named policy track just for food co-ops.

Most Common Policy Proposals Found in NYC Solidarity Economy Policy Platforms & Reports

Below are the 29 most frequently repeated policy proposals across past cooperative policy platforms, with rationale and supporting citations.

1. Expand and support worker cooperatives and worker centers, including co-ops of survivors, immigrants, and previously incarcerated people.
 - Rationale: Empowers workers with ownership, advances economic stability, and centers marginalized communities and survivors.
 - Sources: [The People's Plan NYC](#), [WCBDI Annual Reports](#), [NYC NOWC](#), [FPWA](#), [CEANYC](#), [Solidarity for Survivors Platform](#), [Municipal Policies for Community Wealth Building](#), [Urban Design Forum](#), [Green Development for Environmental Justice](#), [GreenFeen OrganiX](#)
2. Support and fund community land trusts (CLTs) for permanently affordable and community-controlled land.
 - Rationale: Removes land from speculative markets, preserves affordability, and provides local stewardship.
 - Sources: [NYC Community Land Initiative](#), [Pratt Center for Community Development](#), [Bronx Borough President CLT Report](#), [Solidarity for Survivors Platform](#)
3. Establish a municipal public bank to redirect public money into local cooperatives and community development initiatives
 - Rationale: Advances racial, economic, and environmental justice via public financial infrastructure.
 - Sources: [The People's Plan NYC](#), [Municipal Policies for Community Wealth Building](#), [CEANYC](#)
4. Provide universal, affordable childcare and elder care to support caregivers and workforce participation.
 - Rationale: Addresses gender and racial inequities and creates stable care sector jobs.

- Sources: [The People's Plan NYC](#), [The Path Forward to a Feminist Recovery](#), [Solidarity for Survivors Platform](#)
- 5. Use public procurement to direct contracts toward minority-, survivor-, and worker-owned businesses and firms
 - Rationale: Anchors wealth locally, advancing racial and gender equity in public contracting.
 - Sources: [The People's Plan NYC](#), [Urban Design Forum](#), [NYC NOWC](#), [Solidarity for Survivors Platform](#)
- 6. Expand technical assistance, education, and capacity building for cooperatives, CLTs, and survivor-led economic initiatives
 - Rationale: Provides essential supports for governance, legal compliance, and sustainable operations.
 - Sources: [WCBDI Annual Reports](#), [Pratt Center for Community Development](#), [CEANYC](#), [Solidarity for Survivors Platform](#)
- 7. Implement a citywide jobs guarantee with an emphasis on survivors and marginalized communities.
 - Rationale: Creates living-wage, dignified employment opportunities connected to community wealth building.
 - Sources: [The People's Plan NYC](#), [Solidarity for Survivors Platform](#)
- 8. Strengthen and stabilize limited-equity housing cooperatives to preserve affordable cooperative housing.
 - Rationale: Supports resident control, affordability, and long-term housing security.
 - Sources: [UHAB Co-op Improvement Program](#), [Housing Co-op Climate Vulnerability Report](#), [Solidarity for Survivors Platform](#)
- 9. Invest in urban agriculture and community food cooperatives, centering Black-, POC-, and survivor-led projects, including community-based micro food hubs
 - Rationale: Advances food sovereignty and equitable economies.
 - Sources: [National Black Food & Justice Alliance](#), [CEANYC](#), [NYC Mayor's Office of Food Policy](#), [Brooklyn Packers Micro Food Hub](#), [Solidarity for Survivors Platform](#)
- 10. Integrate solidarity economy and community wealth metrics into city procurement and subsidy programs to measure equitable outcomes.

- Rationale: Reorients government spending towards democratic economic control and local community benefit.
 - Sources: [Municipal Policies for Community Wealth Building](#), [The People's Plan NYC](#), [Solidarity for Survivors Platform](#)
11. Raise progressive wealth taxes to generate public revenue for community wealth building and solidarity economy investments.
- Rationale: Secures sustainable funding for justice-oriented economic development.
 - Sources: [The People's Plan NYC](#), [Solidarity for Survivors Platform](#)
12. Include cooperatives and CLTs in climate resilience, adaptation, and infrastructure funding strategies.
- Rationale: Ensures community-controlled assets can access resources to withstand climate risks.
 - Sources: [Housing Co-op Climate Vulnerability Report](#), [Solidarity for Survivors Platform](#), [Green Development for Environmental Justice](#), [GreenFeen OrganiX](#)
13. Scale day labor centers and strengthen labor protections for precarious, immigrant, and survivor workers.
- Rationale: Provides safe, dignified jobs with fair labor conditions.
 - Sources: [WCBDI Annual Reports](#), [NYC NOWC](#), [Solidarity for Survivors Platform](#)
14. Prevent carceral approaches in economic development, workforce programs, and housing initiatives to avoid harm in marginalized communities, especially for survivors.
- Rationale: Focuses on healing, opportunity, and equity rather than surveillance and criminalization.
 - Sources: [The People's Plan NYC](#), [Solidarity for Survivors Platform](#)
15. Expand public investments in climate justice and just transition jobs emphasizing frontline and environmental justice communities.
- Rationale: Ensures green economy benefits are equitably shared and community-led.
 - Sources: [NYC Environmental Justice Alliance](#), [Urban Design Forum](#), [Green Development for Environmental Justice](#), [GreenFeen OrganiX](#)

16. Create a dedicated City Office for Cooperative and Inclusive Business Development.
 - Rationale: Institutionalizes coordinated support and policy capacity for cooperative economy expansion.
 - Sources: [The People's Plan NYC](#), [CEANYC](#), [Solidarity for Survivors Platform](#)
17. End predatory tax lien sales; establish community land banks linked to CLTs and nonprofits.
 - Protects community land from speculation and displacement.
 - Sources: [NYC Community Land Initiative](#), [Pratt Center for Community Development](#), [Solidarity for Survivors Platform](#)
18. Reform zoning and land use policies to facilitate cooperative, limited-equity, and nonprofit land ownership and development.
 - Rationale: Removes structural barriers and advances permanent affordability.
 - Sources: [Urban Design Forum](#), [Pratt Center for Community Development](#), [Solidarity for Survivors Platform](#).
19. Expand mutual aid and community-led care infrastructure as essential components of social safety nets.
 - Rationale: Strengthens community resilience and solidarity.
 - Sources: [The People's Plan NYC](#), [CEANYC](#), [Solidarity for Survivors Platform](#)
20. Charter and financially support community financial institutions, including credit unions, to improve affordable credit and banking access.
 - Rationale: Advances economic democracy and financial inclusion for marginalized communities.
 - Sources: [Municipal Policies for Community Wealth Building](#), [CEANYC](#), [Solidarity for Survivors Platform](#)
21. Monitor and dismantle racial, gender, and survivor inequities within worker cooperatives and democratic enterprises.
 - Rationale: Ensures fair pay, governance, and ownership equity.
 - Sources: [Rutgers Institute](#), [The People's Plan NYC](#), [Solidarity for Survivors Platform](#)

22. Increase transparency and accountability via public reporting on solidarity economy investment outcomes.
 - Rationale: Builds trust and informs more effective community wealth building.
 - Sources: [Municipal Policies for Community Wealth Building](#), [CEANYC](#), [Solidarity for Survivors Platform](#)
23. Support the ongoing growth and crisis stabilization of limited-equity housing cooperatives.
 - Rationale: Directs resources to pre-empt and resolve financial and governance challenges.
 - Sources: [UHAB Co-op Improvement Program](#), [Housing Co-op Climate Vulnerability Report](#), [Solidarity for Survivors Platform](#)
24. Pilot participatory budgeting and decision-making for solidarity economy funds with community and survivor involvement.
 - Rationale: Deepens democratic control and accountability.
 - Sources: [Municipal Policies for Community Wealth Building](#), [CEANYC](#), [Solidarity for Survivors Platform](#)
25. Expand investments in cooperative business infrastructure, including affordable cooperative workspaces and commercial loan programs.
 - Rationale: Addresses critical capital and space gaps for solidarity economy enterprises.
 - Sources: [NYC NOWC](#), [Solidarity for Survivors Platform](#), [CEANYC](#)
26. Enact policies to allow flexible use of cooperative funding to empower organizational autonomy and responsiveness to community needs.
 - Rationale: Enables survivor-led and cooperative groups to adapt resources effectively.
 - Sources: [Solidarity for Survivors Platform](#)
27. Advance living wages, benefits, and fair labor standards within cooperative and solidarity economy jobs.
 - Rationale: Promotes dignified livelihoods and worker well-being.
 - Sources: [The People's Plan NYC](#), [WCBDI Annual Reports](#), [Solidarity for Survivors Platform](#)
28. Increase oversight and support to prevent exclusion or discrimination in cooperative enterprises and community wealth initiatives.

- Rationale: Ensures inclusive participation and equal access to benefits.
- Sources: [Rutgers Institute](#), [Solidarity for Survivors Platform](#), [GreenFeen OrganiX](#)

29. Connect legal aid, business supports, and incubator resources directly to community and survivor-led economic initiatives.

- Rationale: Bridges formal institutional support and grassroots efforts for equitable capacity building.
- Sources: [Solidarity for Survivors Platform](#), [UHAB Co-op Improvement Program](#), [Housing Co-op Climate Vulnerability Report](#)

Cover photo: Yes! Magazine / Members of Cooperative Home Care Associates in the Bronx