LOCALPROGRESS STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

We are the Local Progress Texas Chapter (LPTX) and we are a network of current and former elected officials across Texas building power with communities to reshape what is possible. We are united by a shared vision of an economy where working people have dignity and organized power, a quality education system at all levels that is accessible and fully funded, thriving communities where everyone has access to safety and care, neighborhoods that provide affordable and stable housing for generations to come, and an inclusive democracy.

Achieving this vision requires an engaged citizenry, strong public institutions, and united elected leaders who are willing to reimagine what is possible, undo systems and structures that are rooted in white supremacy, and build power in local government. We commit ourselves to this work, in partnership with workers, the neighborhoods we represent, and the local organizers, unions, and grassroots organizations on the ground. Through collaborative governance we will build the power to manifest this vision into policy and structural changes within the institution of government. In order to achieve this vision, we will fight for the following priorities:

A commitment to eliminating the effects of institutional and systemic racism

in all aspects of life, including a fair and accountable criminal legal and public safety system, a real pathway for the formerly incarcerated to employment and decent housing, protections for undocumented and immigrant communities, voting laws and election maps that do not disproportionately and negatively impact communities of color, ending discriminatory zoning, predatory lending, and redlining practices, and economic development and infrastructure projects that preserve and protect our environment and do not displace communities.

An equitable economy in which everyone has the freedom to thrive.

In an equitable economy, we all have access to livable wages and honest pay for honest work, safe and discrimination-free working conditions, paid leave, and the ability to organize on the job.

We build our communities

in a way that allows everyone access to safe and affordable housing with access to public transportation, health care, healthy food, schools, parks, and work.

Universal access to comprehensive health

Care that provides full reproductive care including abortion, preventative care, gender affirming care, mental health, harm reduction support, and gun violence and domestic violence prevention. We are dedicated to providing systems of care that service our people, not corporations.

A public school system that is adequately

funded and provides education for early childhood, K-12, and higher education regardless of socioeconomic status, race, sex, gender identity or expression, disability, status as an English language learner, or zip code. Our public schools will provide supportive and safe learning environments where teachers and staff have the resources they need to provide for their own development and wellbeing. This must also include options for students after high school, including adult learners, such as union apprenticeship programs and affordable community college and university programs. We stand against the attacks on public education and all attempts to undermine our educators, including attempts to end tenure, privatize our school systems, and ban books, DEI, and CRT.

Responsible governments that respect their

diverse constituents, understand their needs, and believe in their promise. Responsible governments are led by elected officials and employees that reflect the communities they represent in demographic representation, economic status, and in their policy priorities. We believe local leaders are closest to their communities and understand their needs best, and together we will work with our people to build a participatory democracy and collaborative governance. We will fight to protect our local authority and stand against state interference designed to harm working people and communities of color.

And a commitment to stand in solidarity

with the members and organizers in this network that fight for this vision.