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To: Jenna Kay; Amy Koski; sylvia@mosaicresolutions.com; Dana Hellman; Harrison Husting; Nicole Metildi; tlunsford@parametrix.com; Ben Duncan
Subject: The Case for a Job Guarantee Pavlina R. Tcherneva

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The Case for a Job Guarantee
Pavlina R. Tcherneva

<https://pavlina-tcherneva.net/the-case-for-a-job-guarantee/>

Take-aways from the book on a chapter by chapter basis.

1. A Public Option for Good Jobs:

We can restore our communities by putting people to work on public projects and in support of non-profit organizations.

2. A Steep Price for a Broken Status Quo:

Unemployment depresses economic growth and stability. Being unemployed makes it less likely you will be hired. Unemployed people have less cash to use in the free market causing economic slowdown. Unemployed people tend to be sicker and die sooner. Unemployment increases crime and makes people more likely to be imprisoned.

3. The Job Guarantee, A New Social Contract and Macroeconomic Model:

Low unemployment does not cause inflation. Strong regulations with a Job Guarantee will control inflation and stabilize the economy which creates resistance to inflation. A Job Guarantee will produce improved education, health, and overall social fabric. This only works if the minimum wage is a Livable Wage.

4. But How Will You Pay for It?

We can afford it, we just choose not to pay for it. The money we already spend on economic recovery efforts would be more efficiently put to use if we use it to employ people at a living wage rather than on tax cuts, unemployment benefits, and other subsidies that prop up the economy. When we put people to work, we reduce costs of incarceration. People can work to build housing rather than languish unhoused despite countless aid programs for the homeless. A Job Guarantee must be counter-cyclical, meaning that as the free market declines and begins to have lay-offs, government investment ramps up to hire those people. As the free market rebounds, workers will move out of the Jobs Guarantee program back into the private sector. Programs in the US and around the world have data demonstrating the economic impacts of a Job Guarantee. Budgetary impact is estimated to be 1.5% of GDP to effectively lift 60-80% of kids out of poverty.

5. What, Where and How: Jobs, Design & Implementation:

These would be public service jobs, not private sector. We will create jobs that match workers existing skills, and train workers new skills. We will tailor the jobs to targeted populations such as veterans, youth, disabled, etc. The jobs will be Care Jobs: caring for people and caring for our environment. Technology is a tool, but cannot replace child care, elder care, etc. It's a federal program managed by the DOL, but administered at the local level so that each community can prioritize the work they specifically need. This does not replace large scale infrastructure projects and public works. This will disrupt businesses who rely on poverty wages to be profitable. Politicians choose to prioritize private businesses over human beings.

6. The Job Guarantee, the Green New Deal, and Beyond:

People want this, across the political spectrum. It does not matter if we stop climate change if our work does not ease human suffering. Employment is a tool to stop climate change. Employ people to eradicate invasive species, do habitat restoration, produce food locally, etc. Retrain fossil fuel workers in new sectors or guarantee financial security with retirement.

Overarching Policy for the Growth Management Act

Purpose:

The Growth Management Act (GMA) aims to ensure sustainable growth and development within communities while preserving natural resources, enhancing quality of life, and promoting economic stability. This policy outlines a comprehensive framework to manage growth effectively, addressing housing, transportation, economic development, and environmental stewardship.

Key Principles:

1. **Sustainable Development:**

- Promote land use planning that balances economic growth with environmental protection.
- Encourage mixed-use developments that reduce sprawl and enhance community connectivity.

2. **Community Engagement:**

- Foster inclusivity by involving community members in the planning process.
- Establish forums for public input and collaboration to ensure diverse perspectives are considered.

3. **Equitable Access:**

- Ensure that all communities have access to affordable housing, transportation options, and essential services.
- Prioritize development projects that address the needs of marginalized populations.

4. **Economic Resilience:**

- Support local economies by investing in job creation, workforce development, and business support programs.
- Collaborate with private and non-profit sectors to leverage resources for sustainable economic growth.

5. **Environmental Stewardship:**

- Implement policies that protect natural resources and promote green infrastructure.
- Encourage sustainable practices in development, such as energy efficiency and waste reduction.

6. **Data-Driven Decision Making:**

- Utilize data and research to inform planning and policy decisions.
- Monitor growth patterns and assess the impact of policies on communities and the environment.

Takeaways from "The Case for a Job Guarantee" by Pavlina R. Tcherneva

1. **A Public Option for Good Jobs:**

- Implementing a job guarantee can revitalize communities through public projects and support for non-profits.

2. **A Steep Price for a Broken Status Quo:**

- Unemployment negatively impacts economic growth, individual health, and increases crime rates. Addressing unemployment is crucial for societal stability.

3. **The Job Guarantee, A New Social Contract and Macroeconomic Model:**

- A job guarantee can stabilize the economy without inducing inflation, provided it aligns with a livable wage framework. This approach can enhance education, health, and social cohesion.

4. **But How Will You Pay for It?**

- Transitioning funds from ineffective economic recovery efforts to a job guarantee can yield better outcomes. This counter-cyclical approach will adapt to economic fluctuations, reducing poverty and incarceration costs.

5. **What, Where and How: Jobs, Design & Implementation:**

- Focus on public service jobs tailored to local community needs, emphasizing care jobs that technology cannot replace. This program should be federally managed but locally administered to meet specific demands.

6. **The Job Guarantee, the Green New Deal, and Beyond:**

- A job guarantee can contribute to climate change mitigation by employing individuals in environmental restoration efforts. It's essential to combine employment initiatives with environmental goals to enhance human welfare.

Conclusion:

The integration of a job guarantee within the framework of the Growth Management Act can provide a pathway for sustainable economic growth, social equity, and environmental stewardship. By addressing unemployment as a core issue, communities can foster resilience and adaptability in the face of economic and environmental challenges.