

## EXPLANATION OF RATIFICATION - EDA ELECTION 2025

Below are the proposed amendments to the Charter, followed by an explanation of the change. Amendment #1 aims to change the current definitions for Active and Supporting members.

Amendment #2 affects the Charter wording in “Declaration of Purpose: EDA’s Mission and Vision”. We propose adding a new statement reflecting our Core Values, and amending the wording on our Mission and Vision statements.

On the ballot, please vote **YES** or **NO** to these changes.

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### AMENDMENT # 1: CHANGES TO MEMBERSHIP STATUS

#### QUESTION 1:

**Shall EDA suspend the requirement that Active Members be penalized for missing two consecutive elections or referenda?**

*This amendment seeks to clarify voting participation requirements. Currently, Active members who fail to vote in two consecutive elections or referenda are penalized and reclassified to Supporting Members.*

#### QUESTION 2:

**Shall EDA suspend supporting members status until we have a new membership model and elevate current Supporting Members to Active Membership?**

*We propose eliminating the non-voting penalty, but want to affirm that Active Membership reflects ongoing engagement and participation with EDA’s initiatives, mission and vision.*

## **AMENDMENT # 2: DECLARATION OF PURPOSE**

### **ADD THREE NEW CORE VALUES**

- **Protect what keeps us alive**

*This is basic needs (represented by water, food, energy). It includes learning about, teaching, understanding and caring for our environments so that what we need to live continues to be viable now and into the future. "Economic" in EDA's name is about resources.*

- **Share fairly**

*Everyone must be able to access what keeps us alive. We all need to be part of that inflow and outflow. We must do "democracy" so it is inclusive.*

- **Create sustaining networks**

*Keeping the first two values healthy requires building, growing, and maintaining networks of all sizes, little to big, internal and external.*

*This is where local, grassroots "Advocates" will plant themselves, grow, and spread worldwide.*

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### **AMEND MISSION STATEMENT**

#### **We create cooperative solutions to support common needs.**

- *Supporting needs that are common means we all have them, we experience the suffering their lack can bring, and the satisfaction that comes when we discover ways to fulfill them.*
- *The word "we" acknowledges our presence within and responsibility for needs that we all have: water, air, food, energy, a place to live, education, and so on. "We" also leads to a sensible management of resources – choosing to cooperate and support one another as we move through privation as well as create plans for needs that will arise in the future.*

### **AMEND VISION STATEMENT**

#### **To be a leader in economic democracy, spreading grassroots advocacy that creates life-sustaining, resilient communities.**

- *"Grassroots democracy" is a foundational phrase for the practice of living with others. It says that the seemingly insignificant, the unimportant, the grassroots are intrinsic to what makes democracy work. The grassroots have local understandings that are necessary to consider when decisions are made. Therefore, the grassroots needs to understand how to communicate its concerns to decision-makers = advocacy. Very often, advocacy skills must be learned. That is a service EDA can provide.*
- *Life-sustaining, resilient communities are where we want to live and raise families.*