Will technology solve the problems of capitalism?
Technology in the hands of corporations is slave labor.
The elite plan for themselves.
Human values must be at the core of economics.
Technology in corporate hands means unemployment.
Economic inequality poisons democracy.
Education is where the fight begins.
Education is key to democracy.
Getting millions into the streets is just the beginning.
Activism is at the heart of democracy.
The defining issue will be economic.
Will entertainment keep us docile?
The keyword is ‘disruptive’.
We need to hoop together.
War is the enemy of liberty.
Constant war has got to be addressed.
Worker-owned business is a worldwide success.
What is a democratic workplace?
Mainstream journalists stick to what elites tell them.
The press must challenge anyone who would end self-government.
Technology is being turned against us.
The promise of new technology must be realized.
Computing power is growing exponentially.
As decent jobs disappear, every charlatan will have solutions.
Are we ready for a new economy, a new politics, democracy?
Citizenless democracy is by the wealthy few for the wealthy few.
A real citizen can engage fully in governance.
Our rulers don’t believe in democracy.
Is this our last chance for a world that’s safe?
The People’s Charter connected activists through democracy.

What will our People’s Charter look like?

Sustaining life on Earth comes first.

If you’re not at the table, you’re the dish being served.

The men who wrote the US Constitution were afraid of democracy.

Privatization is a cash cow.

Privatization equals power inequality.

Weltanschauung means a shared world view.

Do we celebrate the public good or give in to self-interest?

The story of the future that is now.

The story of power inequality.

The future is controlled by fewer and fewer.

Profit-driven capitalism won’t evolve for the better.

The story of ATT & Google and fewer jobs.

The development of human responsibility and values hasn’t kept pace with tech.

The story of democracy.

The USA is not a democracy.

The story of the extraordinary ideas and movements not being covered by the media.

70% of jobs could be lost in the next three decades.

Tech can be for liberation as much as for surveillance and propaganda.

We might not need jobs to have a high standard of living.

Jobs can be less about making money and more about making contributions.

The barrier to a brighter future is capitalism.

There’s an absence of debate about the best use of radical technology.

Contemporary capitalism is a product of government policies and subsidies.

We’re heading for a few great jobs at the top, a mountain of crap jobs at the bottom, and fewer jobs in between.

People of color are being joined by working-class and middle-class whites moving down the economic ladder.

Technology is destroying more jobs than it’s creating.

Two-thirds of the jobs available between 2008 and 2018 didn’t require post-secondary education.
By 2025, one of every three global labor “transactions” will be part of the gig economy.

We’re moving to a society where 10-15% of people are very rich. The other 85-90% not so much.

The big function of the new technologies is to save labor costs.

The machine is the economic equivalent of slave labor. When you compete with slave labor you accept the economic conditions of slave labor.

MLK said that our technological genius has made the world a neighborhood, but we haven’t had the ethical commitment to make it a brotherhood.

The most common occupations in the US are salesperson, cashier, food server, and office clerk are susceptible to automation.

There will be a few million manufacturing jobs left in 2040. In 2003 there were 163 million worldwide.

New industries don’t require many people.

Technological displacement of workers is pushing toward more inequality in the future.

Capitalism as we know it is the wrong economic system for the material world that’s emerging.

Left alone, the system will not right itself.

It’s time to discuss what kind of society we should construct around a labor-light economy.

How should technology best be deployed to serve human needs?

There can be no democracy in America without informed, engaged, and active citizenry.

For the elites to prevail, it’s sufficient if citizens are simply overwhelmed by an empty and dispiriting politics that never seems to go right.

Elites tell us that, when an issue is really important, democracy and freedom are threats to be avoided.

The biggest sellout is of democracy itself.

The bigger the issue, invariably, the more “off-limits” it is.

The news media plays a crucial role in keeping democracy citizenless.

Legitimate debate on issues is defined for mainstream journalists by political and economic elites.

The US is barely on the democratic grid when it comes to representative democracy.

A constitution should maintain political institutions that foster political equality among citizens.

James Madison: Of all the enemies of true liberty, war is perhaps, the most to be dreaded.

The highest duty of the government to see that a free press actually exists so there is something of value that cannot be censored.

If the US subsidized journalism today as it did in the early 1800’s, it would spend around $35 billion annually.
Hugo Black said that the First Amendment “rests on the assumption that a free press is a condition of a free society.”

Diane Ravitch says that the purpose of public school is to teach young people the rights and responsibilities of citizens to sustain our democracy.

Franklin Roosevelt proposed enacting the right to a useful and remunerative job.

Franklin Roosevelt proposed the right to earn enough to provide adequate food, clothing and recreation.

Franklin Roosevelt proposed the right to a decent home.

Franklin Roosevelt proposed he right to adequate medical care and the right to a good education.

Franklin Roosevelt proposed the right to adequate protection from the economic fears of old age, sickness, accident and unemployment.

The 1972 Democratic Party platform called for a guaranteed job for all Americans.

The 1972 Democratic Party platform called for public spending projects to rebuild cities.

The 1972 Democratic Party platform called for the creation of mass transportation networks.

The 1972 Democratic Party platform called for building housing for the poor.

The 1972 Democratic Party platform called for tax reform and reforms to break up monopolies.

The 1972 Democratic Party platform called for examination of corporate influence and income equality.

The 1972 Democratic Party platform called for trade union rights.

The 1972 Democratic Party platform called for universal comprehensive health insurance.

The 1972 Democratic Party platform called for equal spending for schools and community policing.

The 1972 Democratic Party platform called for reduced military spending.

The 1972 Democratic Party platform called for the overhaul of campaign financing.

The 1972 Democratic Party platform called for the simplifying of voter registration.

The Lewis Powell Memorandum called for cash by business to make the media and schools more sympathetic to business.

Business has carried out an effective sales job since the 1970’s on the glories of “free enterprise.”

Business has carried out an effective sales job since the 1970’s on the evils of government.

Business has carried out an effective sales job since the 1970’s on the need to shrink the democratic infrastructure.

Business and its allies since the 1970’s have generated apathy and noninvolvement in the people.
The present rulers have spent the past forty years trying to convince everyone that becoming part of an aroused and engaged and organized citizenry is unnecessary and a waste of time.

There must be “a standard of general feeling” to generate both the political will and the political reforms necessary to bend the arc of history.

The betterment of society can’t be achieved without facing the fact that corporations, not citizens, are in charge.

We may have democracy, or we may have wealth concentrated in the hands of a few, but we can’t have both.

Elites in media and politics assume that the great masses of Americans are sufficiently entertained to remain docile.

The number of those addressing economic, social and political challenges is astronomical, but it’s not yet hooped together.

The defining and uniting issue will be economic.

The crisis of a jobless future will bring millions who are not currently engaged into the fight.

What might a People’s Charter for these times include?

Will we manage change in our own interest and in the interest of society—or will we simply let it happen to us?

The defining economic issues of the age must become the defining political issues of the age.

The extension of democracy to economic planning is imperative.

It’s impossible to imagine a decent or desirable society without a strong democratic infrastructure.

US capitalism is a dubious fit for the present technological revolution, and it’s a bad fit for democracy.

Most writers assume capitalism is the basis for democracy and freedom.

Most writers assume that the necessity of preserving current capitalism all but trumps other concerns.

When we cannot have a wide-ranging debate about economics, then concentrated economic power translates into cultural power.

Guaranteed basic income is a way for the wealthy to bribe the bulk of the population so they can keep their system and privileges.

An alternative to guaranteed income is to remove certain functions from the market altogether.

Nothing thwarts democracy like a constitution that allows judicial activists to make buying elections easy and voting hard.

Thomas Jefferson: The real friends of the Constitution should be attentive, by amendments, to make it keep pace with the advance of the age in science and experience.
To get to democracy, there has to be a democratization of communications that ensures that all are sufficiently informed to fully engage as citizens.

Every American adult should get a $200 voucher that she can use to donate government money to any nonprofit news media of her choice.

Today there’s plenty of economic planning. The problem is that it’s done by and for elites with almost no public awareness or participation.

When the reality of a jobless economy finally and fully hits, every economic and political charlatan and paid-off pundit will have a proposal.

The current goal is not simply worker ownership, but worker ownership linked to a community-building strategy.

What is terrifying is that the essential economic issues of the time are not the essential political issues of the time.

Imagine if the people were ready to demand a new constitution, a new politics, a new economy.