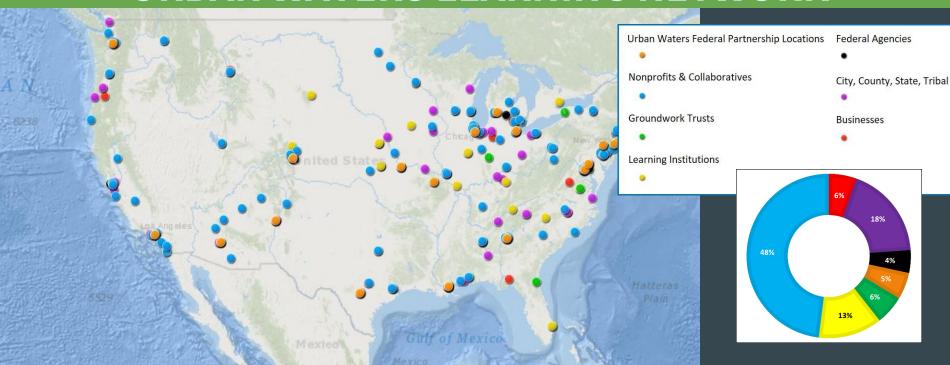
Building Community Leadership as an Anti-Displacement Strategy

•••

Hosted by the UWLN Equitable Development Collaborative



URBAN WATERS LEARNING NETWORK











Equitable Development Collaborative



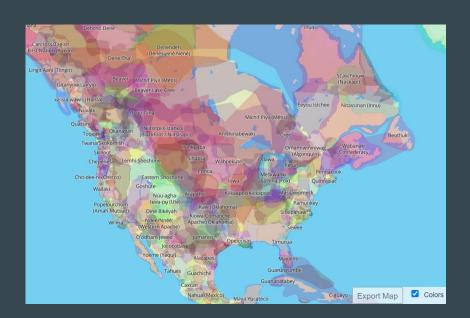








Acknowledgements and Agreements



https://native-land.ca/

Agreements and Practices

- Listen with attention, curiosity, compassion and without judgement
- Speak with intention
- Ask for what you need and offer what you can
- Practice the pause
- Contribute to the well-being of the group
- Consider your impact (oops, ouch, redo)

Poll Question

To what extent is your community experiencing displacement pressures due to gentrification?

- Not at all not seeing gentrification OR displacement
- It's in the horizon we anticipate increasing displacement pressures in 2-5 years
- A small number of residents and local businesses are getting pushed out
- Significant number of residents and local businesses have already left

Our Moderators



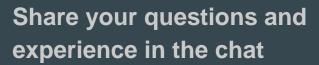
Arthur Johnson
Lower Ninth Ward CSED
Executive Director



Elizabeth Balladares Lower Passaic River UWFP Ambassador

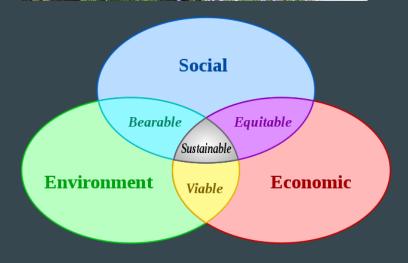
What is Equitable Developmen

What's the role of community education and leadership in advocating for equitable development?



- What would you like to get out of this call?
- What are specific ways that you are already working on this?

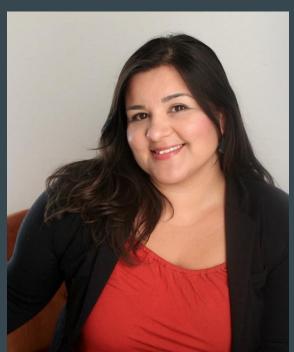




Speakers



Daniel Joseph Wiley Ironbound Community Corp



Iris Gonzalez
Coalition for Environment,
Equity, and Resilience



Kate Derickson
University of Minnesota
CREATE Initiative

HEALTHY HOUSING

THE IRONBOUND

POPULATION

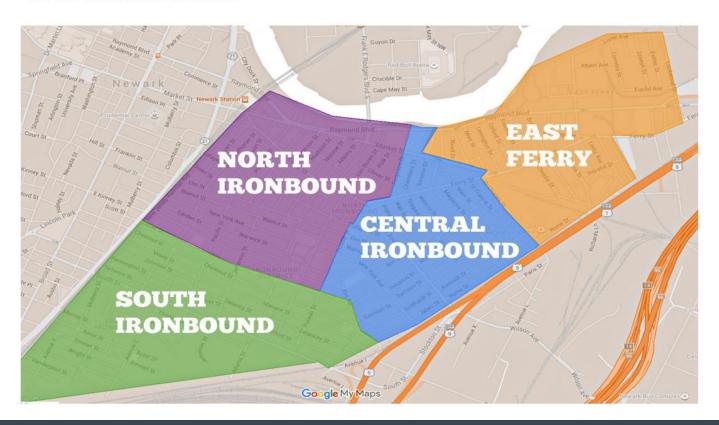
50,000 (Newark - 285k)

AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD INCOME

51,330 (Newark median - 34K)

75 PERCENT of Residents are RENTERS

THE IRONBOUND



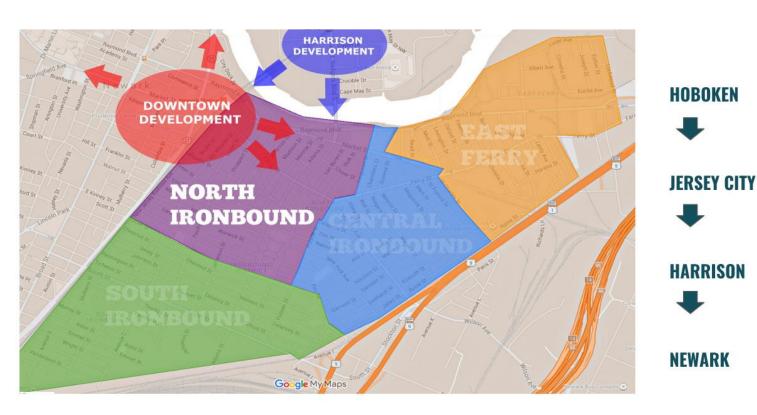
NORTH IRONBOUND

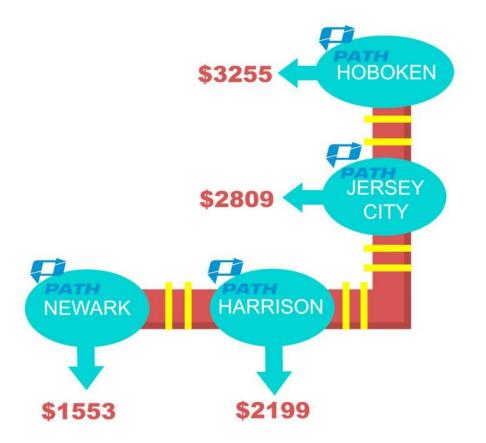
CENTRAL IRONBOUND

 SOUTH IRONBOUND

EAST FERRY

DEVELOPMENT PATH





DEVELOPMENT PATH

HOBOKEN

Average Rent - \$3255 with five-year increase of \$715 at \$143 per year

JERSEY CITY

Average Rent - \$2809 with five-year increase of \$986 at \$197 per year

HARRISON

Average Rent - \$2199 with five-year increase of \$441 at \$88 per year

NEWARK

Average Rent - \$1553 with five-year increase of \$434 at \$86 per year

IRONBOUND DEVELOPMENT DIRECTION



IRONBOUND | **NEW DEVELOPMENT**

Recent Approval / 620 Total

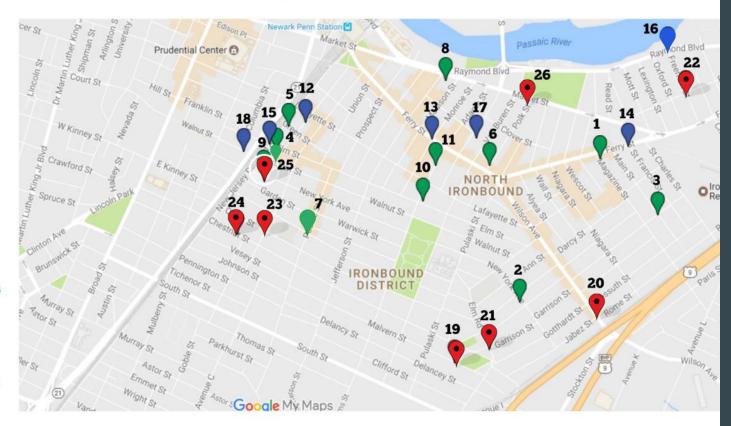
- 1) 323 Ferry Street / 89 Units
- 2) 360 New York Ave / 35 Units
- 3) 96 Main Street / 60 Units
- 4) 60 Elm Street / 30 units
- 5) 118 Green Street / 64 Units
- 6) 94 Polk Street / 48 Units
- 7) E. Kinney Street / 92 Units
- 8) 474 Market Street / 20 Units
- 9) 15 New York Ave. / 66 Units
- 10) 245 Elm Street / 18 Units
- 11) 122 Adams St. / 28 Units
- 12) 18 New York Avenue / 70 Units

Previously Approved / 287 Total

- 13) 78 Bruen Street / 30 Units
- 14) Monroe Lofts / 51 Units
- 15) St. Francis & Ferry / 60 Units
- 16) Elm & R.R. Ave. / 72 Units
- 17) Raymond & Freeman / 50 Units
- 18) 84 Jackson Street / 8 Units
- 19) 92 Walnut Street / 16 Units

Coming Soon or Completed / 433

- 20) Malvern Street / 8 Units (c)
- 21) Wilson Avenue / 8 Units (c)
- 22) Elm Rd & Garrison / 5 Units (c)
- 23) Fleming & Freeman / 159 units
- 24) Murphy Varnish / 50 Units
- 25) 115 Chestnut Street / 70 Units
- 26) 22 New York Avenue / 73 Units
- 27) 570 Market Street / 60 Units



TOTAL UNITS 1,340

DEVELOPMENT PRESSURES & HEALTH

- RENT INCREASES
- INADEQUATE INFRASTRUCTURE
- PUBLIC SAFETY
- LANDLORD PRESSURES
- FORECLOSURES
- ZONING CHANGES
- PUBLIC HOUSING THREATS
- PUBLIC SAFETY
- "THIS ISN'T FOR ME."
- SOLUTIONS "TOOLS IN THE TOOLBOX"

Coalition for Environment, Equity, and Resilience



CEER

is a collaboration that raises awareness of the connection between pollution, place, and the public's health.

Coalition for Environment, Equity, and Resilience









PARTNERSHIP















































Values that guide our work

- Community residents are experts
- Lived experience is data
- Innovation requires diversity of thought
- People over profits: all communities deserve flood protection and nature-based solutions
- We must examine history to understand our present before we can imagine our future

Systems set up to leave BIPOC neighborhoods behind

1 FLOODING - COUNTY FUNDING NEEDS Funding Need by Watershed- Countywide: 27% 3 watersheds currently more than 50% unfunded 6 watersheds 20-50% funded * 8 watersheds less than 20% funded . 6 watersheds fully funded Legend Harris County Total Funding Need by Watershed (in %)

HOUSTON CHRONICLE

Study finds Houston leads most cities in racial, economic and

poverty disparities

R.A. Schuetz | Sep. 19, 2020



OPINION // OUTLOOK

Opinion: Harris County buyout may have our houses - but not our dignity.

Dolores Mendoza and Gabrielle Luebano

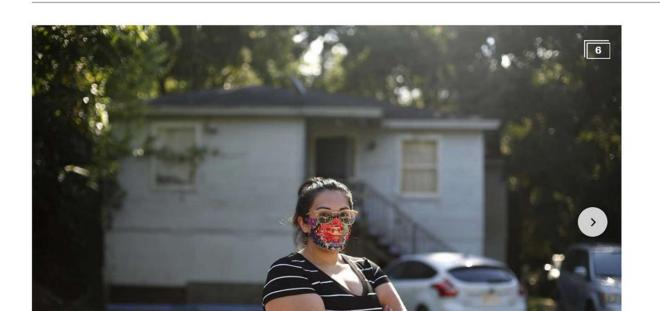
Aug. 29, 2020 | Updated: Aug. 29, 2020 2:57 p.m.











Home

Members

Background

Contact



- 17 Member Task Force
- Multi-disciplinary
- Equity Body
- Accountability Body
- Innovation, unlearning & re-learning



Co-developing Research and Engaged Approaches to Transform Environments







IYEKIYAPIWIN
DARLENE ST.
CLAIR
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR,
ST. CLOUD STATE
UNIVERSITY



SAM GRANT
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
MN350
Bio



NA'TAKI OSBORNE JELKS ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, SPELMAN COLLEGE; BOARD CHAIR, WEST ATLANTA WATERSHED



GLENDA SIMMONS JENKINS REPRESENTATIVE, GULLAH/GEECHEE NATION



SHANNON SMITH JONES EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, HOPE COMMUNITY INC



ADAIR MOSLEY
PRESIDENT & CEO,
PILLSBURY UNITED
COMMUNITIES



YOMI NOIBI
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
ECO-ACTION



QUEEN QUET
CHIEFTESS,
GULLAH/GEECHEE NATION



JAMES TRICE
FOUNDER AND CEO,
PUBLIC POLICY PROJECT

CREATE's Policy Think Tank



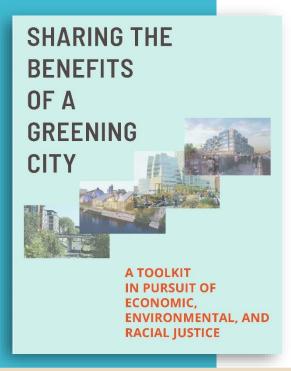
"How to we get out of the RUTS, and chart a new path forward?"

■Lyekiyapiwin Darlene St. Claire



University of Mi

School of Nurs



Review and synthesize	Review and synthesize research and best practices
Establish	Establish shared language and understanding of core concepts
Highlight	Highlight existing policy tools relevant to gentrification and displacement
Promote	Promote collaboration across environmental and housing sectors



Concepts & Context

- 1. Gentrification
- 2. Green Gentrification
- 3. Environmental Justice
- 4. Affordable Housing
- 5. Urban Planning
- 6. Real Estate Speculation
- 7. Transit-Oriented Development





REAL ESTATE SPECULATION



Real estate speculation is the practice under which housing is primarily treated as a market investment - one to be bought, sold, and flipped in order to maximize profits. Through dergulation, corporate consolidation, and technological innovation, the practice of real estate speculation has a growing stake in the housing market. These tactics impact everything from housing costs and building management to eviction and vacancy rates, encouraging predatory landlord practices and amplifying displacement pressures. Understanding real estate speculation is a key lever to drawing the connections between local housing issues and global financial markets; it illuminates where jurisdictional housing policies must target not only physical infrastructure, but financial systems as well.

SPECULATION VS. INVESTMENT

Purchasing property is commonly understood to be an investment. A land holder can reasonably expect that property values will appreciate over time. Real estate speculation is an approach to property acquisition where the return on investment is based on anticipated changes in local market conditions rather than physical property improvements or renting to tenants. This makes property speculation a high risk, high reward endeavor. In addition, while property is usually purchased as a long-term investment, speculative purchases have much shorter time horizons. While a home purchase can be both a financial investment and an investment in the community, when it comes to speculative purchases, the purpose is just about leveraging property as a financial asset to grow profits.

At its extreme, real estate speculation may not even provide homes for anyone at all. For example, a real estate investor may buy a residential property with no plan to rent in the near term. Rather, they will hold onto it until the neighborhood housing market heats up and then they will sell or demolish the property to turn a profit. Thus, there is a tight connection between real estate speculation and residential vacancy.

Municipal Policies for Combating Real Estate Speculation

- Residential Vacancy Tax: a tax on residential property owners designed to open up supply in the housing market. It is applied when a home is not the owner's primary residence and is left empty for a certain amount of time
- Anti-Speculation Tax: a transfer tax levied on a property when it is sold within a certain time period after purchase to discourage property flipping.
- Foreign Property Purchase Tax: a tax on vacant properties held by foreign investors who don't contribute taxes to the local economy.
- Targeted Property Surtax: a model that applies taxes on buildings that attract speculators.
- Capital Gains Tax: a tax on the appreciated value of property when sold.
- Public Lease Registry: a centralized hub for sharing and disclosing rental rates in a jurisdiction.



FINANCIALIZATION AND THE GREAT RECESSION

The groundwork for the current real estate economy was laid in the 1980s, when deregulation and the growth of the financial service industry boistered the power of real estate ventures. Together with urban renewal programs and deindustrialization, property became a primary assets for investors. The 2008 financial crash accelerated this process.

The foreclosure crisis - a crisis which disproportionately impacted Black households - opened a new opportunity to deepen real estate financialization. Eyeing foreclosed properties and extremely discounted homes, institutional investors poured money and quickly amassed gigantic portfolios.

That these homes are a financial commodity is no exaggeration. Starting in 2013 the financial industry began selling bonds based on future rent checks, also known as **single family rent-backed securitization**. This is the same premise as mortgage-backed securitization, the infamous financialization process in the mortgage industry that played a big role in setting off the housing market collapse in the first place.

In addition to securitization, some institutional real estate investment firms are themselves publicly traded companies, further entrenching rental homes as an investment venture. By incentivizing maximum returns on investment, publicly traded real estate companies invite the same type of predatory behavior that typifies predatory mortgage lending. These corporate landlords have financial incentive to maximize

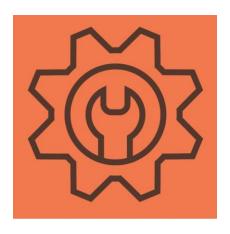
Spotlight on: Blackstone Financial Group

After a merger with Starwood Waypoint Homes in 2017, the Blackstone Financial Group - a hedge fund based in New York City - became the largest landlord for single family rentals in the country. Institutional investors including Blackstone now own one quarter of all single family rentals in the country. Not only do these real estate practices outcompete small-time local landlords, but they increasingly bind rental property to Wall Street finance. The tightening of real estate and Wall Street bonds can be described as the financialization of the housing market.

SPECULATION AND GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

Real estate speculation primarily applies to areas of the housing market where significant changes in value are anticipated. Green infrastructure investments, particularly at a large scale, are one such driver of large value changes. High impact green development projects, such as new park or greenway construction, invite real estate speculation. Investors may buy up surrounding properties years before a project is realized, driving up property values, displacing residents, and contributing to the consolidation of property ownership. In doing so, speculative practices restrict who is able to access and enjoy the fruits of these investments.





Policy Tools

- 1. Community Capacity
- 2. Public Subsidy
- 3. Cooperative Ownership
- 4. Regulatory
- 5. Market-Based



Community Capacity	Public Subsidy	Cooperative Ownership	Regulatory	Market-Based
Tenants' Unions	Public Housing	Limited-Equity Cooperatives	Renter's Bill of Rights	Community Benefits Agreements
Job Training	Land Banks	Community Land Trusts	Rent Control	Inclusionary Zoning
Cultural Corridors	Affordable Housing Financing	Co-Housing		
Equity Scorecards				





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Community land trusts are a powerful tool - and they can become even more effective in partnership with other tools and organizations.

- Limited equity cooperatives can put their buildings into a land trust, pairing cooperative land ownership and cooperative property ownership.
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Spotlight on: NeighborSpace (Chicago)

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Community Land Trusts and Green Infrastructure

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CONSIDERATIONS

Acquisition

Buying property is an expensive endeavor, particularly for a non-profit with limited financia resources. This means that community land trusts are limited by access to capital.

Location vs. Quantity

Land trusts have to make tough decisions over where they purchase (or build) housing: should they buy a single home in a more rapidly gentrifying central neighborhood or should they buy more homes for the same price at the city edge?

Institutionalization

As community land trusts become at once both further entrenched in city policy and increasingly beholden to philanthropic organizations to finance their nonprofit efforts, many have moved away from their radical roots. This is particularly noticeable in watered down communal decision making and community participation, two practices which combat the disenfranchising impacts of gentrification.

Securing Loans









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CONSIDERATIONS

Acquisition

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Land trusts have to make tough decisions over where they purchase (or build) housing: should they buy a single home in a more rapidly gentrifying central neighborhood or should they buy more homes for the same price at the city edge?

Institutionalization

As community land trusts become at once both further entrenched in city policy and increasingly beholden to philanthropic organizations to finance their nonprofit efforts, many have moved away from their radical roots. This is particularly noticeable in watered down communal decision making and community participation, two practices which combat the disenfranchising impacts of gentrification.

Securing Loans

Banks usually provide loans based on speculative value; because land trusts remove land from the speculative market and set caps on resales, financial institutions are often hesitant to provide loans, either denying loan applications all together or stipulating less favorable conditions. This can increase building costs and set a barrier for prospective home buyers, particularly low-income individuals who already have trouble qualifying for loans.







TENANTS' UNIONS



Tenants' unions are renter-led organizations that advocate for tenant rights, build renter power, and push for renter-friendly policy change. These unions may choose to affiliate based on living in the same building, renting from a particular landlord, or experiencing similar negative living conditions. Tenants' unions provide infrastructure to organize into bigger networks beyond municipal boundaries. Advocates for affordable housing and anti-displacement policy note that tenants' unions play an essential role in building a political base necessary for realizing anti-displacement policy and enforcing tenant protections.

Renters can start the process of forming a tenfellow renters to gauge interest. Unions can ings in a neighborhood, or even across an entire city or state.

Anyone who lives in the area of the tenants' union can be a member, but not everyone must be an active member for the tenants'

When a union first forms, members set up a structure for how it will operate. For example, a tenants' union may choose a few spokespeople to represent them and liaise with landlords. In addition, a tenants' union may decide to desigtains, secretary, or treasurer.

A well-organized tenants' union can have the cies, or even calling for a rent strike.

Becoming a member of a tenants' union may In some states and jurisdictions, tenants' unions have a legal right to organize.

- tion between unions and landlords can help tense circumstances.
- Code enforcement and inspection is a enforce legal living conditions and pressure
- Unions are stronger when representatives are familiar with legal resources (both with legal advisors.
- · Tracking all documentation from negotiaand mediations can help renters better
- · Tenants' unions have strength in numbers.



Tenants have been organizing themselves for mediated by changes in governmental housing

organizations. In the face of these changes, Some jurisdictions have passed legislation renter mobilization was incorporated into local which recognizes that renters have the right to the institutional focus on affordable housing Depending on the strength and enforcement development. Under these conditions, of tenant protections in a given jurisdiction, nizing has recently witnessed a resurgence,

Organizing for Green Infrastructure

Dependent on Tenant Energy and Labor

Tenants' unions aren't a one time policy fix: they require constant work to maintain their may not have the time or energy to dedicate

Landlord Retaliation

Tenants who organize with a union may face

Mediating Informal Structure and Interpersonal Conflict

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TENANTS' UNIONS



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HOW A TENANTS' UNION WORKS CONDITIONS FO

Renters can start the process of forming a tenants' union by canvassing their neighbors and fellow renters to gauge interest. Unions can form in a single building, across multiple buildings in a neighborhood, or even across an entire city or state.

Anyone who lives in the area of the tenants' union can be a member, but not everyone must be an active member for the tenants' union to exist. Higher and more active membership increases the union's power.

When a union first forms, members set up a structure for how it will operate. For example, a tenants' union may choose a few spokespeople to represent them and liaise with landlords. In addition, a tenants' union may decide to designate several other positions such floor captains, secretary, or treasurer.

A well-organized tenants' union can have the power to self-advocate regarding a variety of grievances. Organizing tactics can include forcing direct negotiations with building managers, filing collective complaints to city or state agencies, or even calling for a rent strike.

Becoming a member of a tenants' union may involve paying dues, often on a sliding-scale, depending on the union's institutional capacity. In some states and jurisdictions, tenants' unions have a legal right to organize.

- Third party dispute resolution and mediation between unions and landlords can help tenants' unions meet their needs under
- Code enforcement and inspection is a municipal tool that tenants can use to enforce legal living conditions and pressure unresponsive landlords.
- Unions are stronger when representatives are familiar with legal resources (both public and nonprofit) and have relationships with legal advisors.
- Tracking all documentation from negotiations with landlords, building inspections, and mediations can help renters better understand and assert their rights.
- Tenants' unions have strength in numbers.
 Authentic interpersonal relationships, opportunities for leadership, accessibility and other factors impact recruitment and sustained participation.



Organizing for Green Infrastructure

Tenants' unions are a powerful way for renters to advocate for green amenities. By presenting a united front, renters can promote access to green space, composting programs, and other green building features. It is important to note that green amenities are deeply tied to quality-of-life conditions that tenants' unions already fiercely organize around: healthy buildings, safe infrastructure, and good air quality. Organizing for green infrastructure is not always confrontational confrontational; when it comes to energy-efficient features, landlords may find mutually-beneficial financial incentives to participate.



PROJECT-BASED EVALUATION: ANTI-DISPLACEMENT MATRIX



This matrix is a tool for evaluating green gentrification pressures for a particular green infrastructure project or investment plan. It is geared towards city planners, public officials, and private or non-profit developers. The goal of this matrix is to highlight to what extent a project is prepared to support and implement anti-displacement measures.

Step 1: Complete the matrix on the back side of this sheet.

- There are seven project categories to consider: funding, land ownership, planning process, construction, operation and maintenance, housing joint-development, and environmental justice evaluation.
- For each item, you will evaluate based on four Implementation metrics: financial support, planning, capacity, and pre-existing infrastructure.

Step 2: After you fill out the matrix, tally up your points according to the table below.

- Each action in the seven project categories corresponds to one out of four types of anti-displacement measures: participatory access and power, community wealth-building, cooperative ownership, and growth/preservation of affordable housing stocks.
- For each action, ascribe your point total between 0 and 2 to the corresponding type of anti-displacement measure.
- This process will help you evaluate the strengths and weaknesses in your project approach.

	1. Participatory Access	2. Community Wealth-Building	3. Cooperative Ownership	4. Affordable Housing Stocks
Total points	/ 24	/ 24	/8	/8
Percentage of total				
Catagory Ranking 1-4				



	None = 0, Partial = 1, Full = 2 Financial Implementation Infrastructure Total Category							
	Financial Support	Implemen- tation Plan	tion	Infrastruc- ture	Total	Catego		
Funding		1		110000				
Anti-displacement plan mandate						4		
Public investment accountability plan						1		
Community input in grant/ contract						1		
allocation process Funding allocation prioritizes BIPOC								
leadership/contractors						2		
Grant writing support systems						1		
Land Ownership								
Public ownership						3		
Cooperative ownership						3		
Ownership reflects local community						2		
Indigenous land reparations						2		
Planning Process								
Uses anti-racist framework						1		
Provides tenant protection technical						1		
assistance Provides afordable homeownership								
technical assistance						1		
Feedback plan						1		
In partnertship wtih community organizers						1		
Participatory design process						1		
Construction								
Meets local hire standards						2		
Includes job training program						2		
Union labor						2		
Living wage labor						2		
Employee owned labor						3		
Operation and Maintenance								
Meets local hire standards						2		
Includes job training and/or education program						2		
Union labor						2		
Living wage labor						2		
Employee owned labor						3		
Housing Joint-Development	-							
Pays into housing trust fund or joint development fund						4		
Holds or sets aside land for future housing development						4		
Builds affordable housing on site						4		
Environmental Justice Evaluat	tion	1	-			-		
Environmental burden assessment						1		
Displacement risk assessment						1		
Evaluates historical contexts						1		
Accessible by public transit						2		



COMMUNITY LAND TRUSTS



Community land trusts are a cooperative land ownership model to ensure permanently affordable housing. Originally born from land reform movements, land trusts provide a path to home ownership outside of the private real estate market by holding land collectively and limiting home resale prices. In doing so, CLTs challenge the commodification of property and its role in wealth accumulation under capitalism. Originally utilized to collectively organize agricultural land, CLTs have emerged as a popular mechanism to grow access to affordable housing in urban areas.

HOW COMMUNITY LAND TRUSTS WORK

Community land trusts are non-profit entities that maintain land holdings "in trust" on behalf of the community in perpetuity. Even though the land is held collectively, property on the land is owned individually, effectively separating land ownership from property ownership.

Land trusts sell housing at below-market rates under a long-term ground-lease; buyers purchase a home but lease the land underneath it. Buyers are restricted by income limitations so as to benefit those who may not otherwise be able to afford home ownership. The sale process also involves wrap-around financial services.

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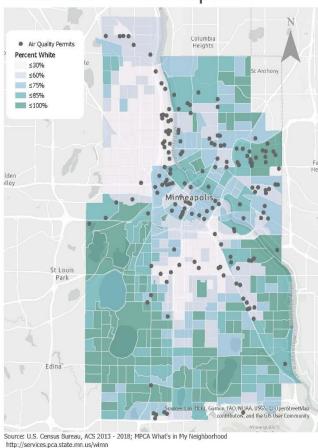
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Active Air Quality Permit Locations in Minneapolis



- 4. That no building shall be left with paper exposure or with the exterior incomplete.
- 5. The said land or buildings thereon shall never be rented, leased or sortansferred or conveyed to, nor shall same be occupied exclusively by person or persons other than of the Caucasian Race.
- 6. The forgoing covenant and restriction shall run with the land and shall bind the grantee here. The heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns of the grantee until the first day of January A.D. Nineteen hundred and Forty.

Mapping prejudice

Mr. Walton is the man that passes on the goodness of the lots and no money will be turned over to the owner until the customer is satisfied that the lot bought is \$100 or more cheaper than any lot in that block.

LAKE OF THE ISLES BARGAIN

LAGOON.

LAGOON

A fellow cannot interest the dollar without using dollar instincts, and this lot is purposely slashed in price to attract the dollar. The map shows you where it is and what it looks at. The lot has curb and gutter, stone sidewalk, city water, gas and electricity. It is a beautiful lot, high and commanding, with a frontage of 75 feet and a depth of 140 feet. Mr. Stifft lives next door, at 2815 Benton boulevard.

Old price \$4,000. Today's discount \$1,250. New price \$2,750. Terms, \$750 down, balance on or before 3 years; 6% interest.

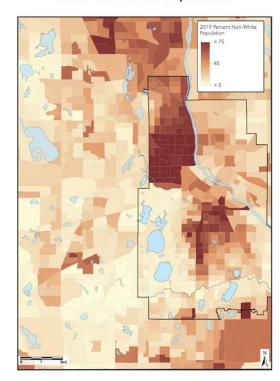
I appeal and instructs of those about to many an't this the

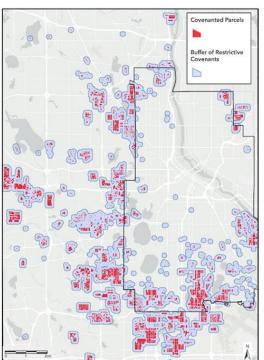
The party of the second part hereby agrees that the premises hereby conveyed shall not at any time be conveyed, mortagged or leased to any person or persons of Chinese, Japanese, Moorish, Turkish, Negro, Mongolian, Semetic or African blood or descent. Said restrictions and covenants shall run with the land and any breach of any or either thereof shall work a forfeiture of title, which may be enforced by re-entry.

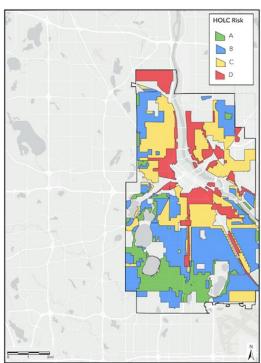
2019 Non-White Population

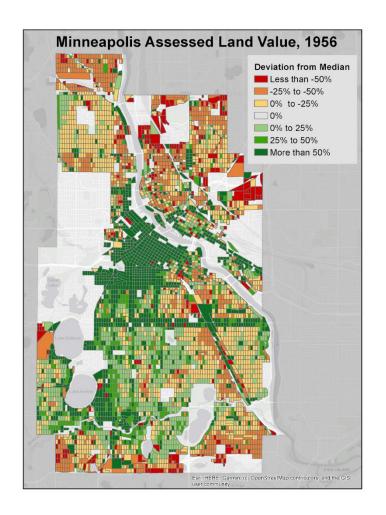
Racial Covenants, 1910-1948

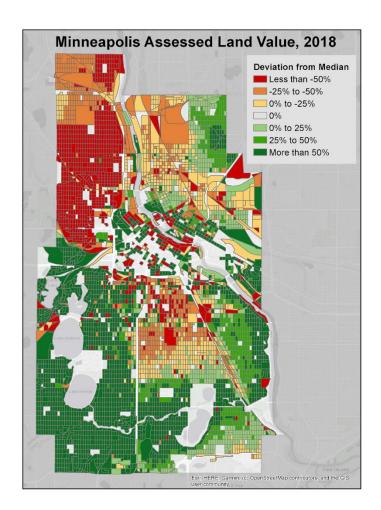
HOLC "Redlining" Map, 1934



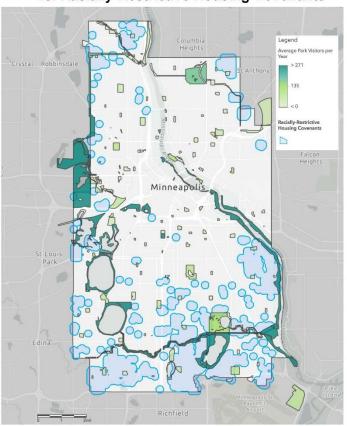




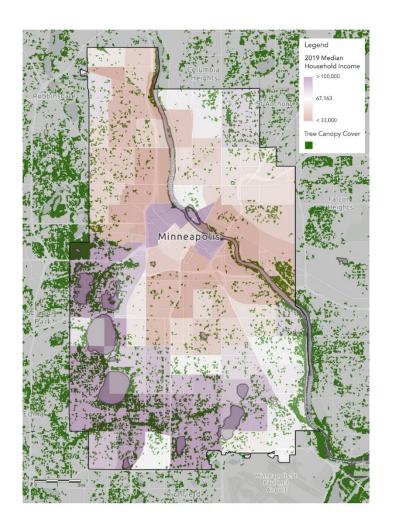


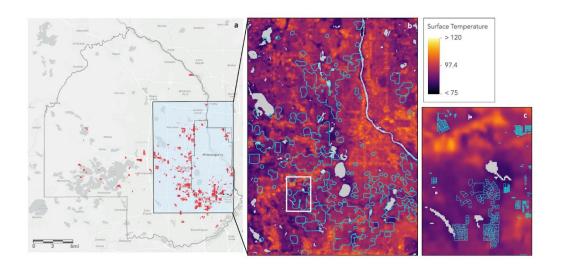


Average Visitors per Year in Minneapolis Parks vs. Racially-Restrictive Housing Covenants



Tree Canopy and Neighborhood Median Income





Covenants and heat islands

Whether or not your property was covenanted is a significant predictor of the temperature today (R² = 0.203, p << 0.0005)

Having a covenant makes your property 1.87°F cooler on average

Source: Rebecca Walker, in preparation

Education and training for climate justice



Discussion

More Opportunities for Engagement

- Community Wealth-Building as an Anti-Displacement
 Strategy Peer Call April 2, 2021 (link in chat)
- Equitable Development Mobilize Group (drop your email address in the chat if you want to be added directly to the group)
- Evaluation (link in chat)











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