Equitable Development, Environmental Justice and Smart Growth @ New Partners

Smart-growth approaches to development create healthy, vibrant places that give people more economic opportunities and choices. Learn how smart growth supports equitable development, environmental justice and economic vitality and empowers communities of color, tribes and disadvantaged groups. New Partners 2017 will explore these critical issues and showcase strategies for greater collaboration among equitable-development, smart-growth and environmental-justice advocates.
Equitable Development 101: Social Equity by Design

- THURSDAY, 1:30-2:45 pm

Social responsibility versus economic imperative is a false choice. As jurisdictions across the nation take steps to advance sustainable community initiatives, they have an opportunity to demonstrate that the objectives of economic development, environmental protection and meeting the needs of underserved populations are not mutually exclusive. This discussion will elevate the impressive narrative of champions who are building great communities through the framework of equitable development.

Communities as Coaches: Devising Game Plans for Equity and Resilience

- THURSDAY, 3:15-5:15 pm

This workshop will help communities to unravel the knot of inequality by getting to the root causes and learning field-tested strategies for addressing disparities from communities that have employed these techniques in groundbreaking fair housing and equity assessments. Local leaders from rural and urban communities will share the techniques they used to dismantle barriers to fair housing, combat segregation and concentrations of poverty, evaluate public policies with an equity lens, and expand employment opportunities.

Walking the Inclusionary-Zoning Tightrope

- THURSDAY, 3:15-5:15 pm

Come discuss how to design an effective inclusionary-zoning policy with four experts who spend their days thinking about the tightrope of delivering market-rate and affordable housing simultaneously. Policymakers are considering inclusionary-zoning policies as a means of creating new affordable housing in desirable neighborhoods. Speakers from strong tech-driven regions to recovering Rust-Belt metros will share inclusionary-zoning policy strategies that they’ve encountered to foster affordable housing provision while nurturing smart-growth development patterns.

Intended and Unintended Consequences of Growth in Cities: Displacement and Neighborhood Change Research and Practice

- THURSDAY, 3:15-5:15 pm

As cities jumpstart strategies to restore sustainable, vibrant urban cores, solutions affect both millennial dwellers and residents that have inhabited urban neighborhoods through turbulent disinvestment. Planners, local officials and community leaders confront strategic crossroads for how to restore economies while ensuring inclusive, equitable growth. Join this workshop for an in-depth look at evolving patterns of displacement since the Great Recession and how data can drive local interventions that restore communities.

Appealing Places to Live: Public-Private Partnerships to Develop Attainable Housing

- FRIDAY, 1:30-2:45 pm

A new NAHB publication details creative and appealing examples of how the public and private sectors can work together to build mixed-income/workforce/affordable neighborhoods. Explore how several projects, which benefited from robust local/state policy commitment to affordable housing, revitalized neighborhoods, embraced green building principles, and made quality housing more attainable for every American.

Citizen Ingenuity and Impact Assessment

- FRIDAY, 3:15-5:15 pm

Sustainable solutions are environmentally friendly, economically profitable and socially responsible. Treating social impacts as consequential may fail to alleviate vulnerability and hinders outcomes that are fully sustainable. Impact assessments framed in the context of slowing down development are a necessary tool which can encourage thoughtful discussion about subtle issues and potentially injurious actions that could easily be overlooked or at times may be difficult to describe or express.

Equitable Climate Policy: From Community Engagement to Large-Scale Investments

- FRIDAY, 3:15-5:15 pm

Two of the biggest challenges facing the U.S. are social inequalities and climate change. Public officials are increasingly expressing interest in ensuring climate adaptation and mitigation actions don’t reinforce current injustices, but instead enhance job opportunities, social cohesion, access to safe housing and other services. This session explores examples of ways professionals are putting social justice and equity at the heart of climate policies, and how those policies are implemented.

The Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving Model

- SATURDAY, 11:00 am-3:00 pm

This training session for a multi-disciplinary audience will provide an introduction to the Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving Model. This model has developed into an effective approach for working with various stakeholders to address environmental issues, including improving the built environment, and is equally about strong community involvement. An EPA team will introduce participants to methods which support making informed decisions based on putting community members at the center of the placemaking process.

Show Me the Money: Policies and Programs in Action

- SATURDAY, 1:45-3:00 pm

In California, community leaders across the San Joaquin Valley are leading advocacy efforts to address environmental justice, disproportionate social and economic impact, and historic disinvestment in their communities. Residents have successfully designed, advocated for and secured strong policies and programs that respond to community needs. This session will analyze community-led budget advocacy campaigns focused on increasing access to safe drinking water, affordable housing, parks and open space and eliminating multiple sources of pollution.
Other Sessions of Interest

Beyond the Equitable Development track, the entire conference program is infused with many sessions that include a focus on equity and environmental justice, including:

- Silo-Busters: Promise Initiatives for Community Health and Economic Vitality
- Getting the Deal Done: Creating and Preserving Affordable Housing in Your Community
- Growing Grassroots “Good Growth” Group
- City Youth Use Research, Films to Address St. Louis Segregation
- Financial Innovations for Homeownership in Distressed Communities
- Strategies for Designing without Displacement
- Leveraging Social Capital to Increase Social Equity, Sustainability and Resiliency
- Planning and Regulating Housing Options for Changing Demographics
- Improving Food Equity in Three Innovative Communities in the U.S.
- Promoting Entrepreneurship in Underserved and Immigrant Communities...
- Rebounding Neighborhoods in St. Louis: Practical Strategies for Redevelopment
- Dellwood: The Untold Story
- Affordable Rural Rental Homes: Housing Your Workforce and Your Grandma
- Integrating Fair and Affordable Housing into TODs: Partnerships, Design, Access

Optional Local Tours

You may also be interested in taking one of the conference’s optional tours, including these with equitable development themes. Visit the conference website for tour times, fees and more details.

- Shifting the Dialogue: Transportation Equity and Community-Driven Planning (FRI 2/3)
  For decades, segregation, residential filtering and economic decline have increased concentrations of lower-income minority households across North County. The result is a mismatch between jobs and workers across the region, and between households and transportation infrastructure. This tour will introduce the history and current state of residential segregation across the region and explore ways transit service can help solve, or exacerbate, disparate access to opportunity within the region.

- From EnergyStar to EcoDistricts: Evolution of Sustainable Affordable Housing (FRI 2/3)
  Since 2006, several sustainable communities have been planned and/or developed in St. Louis’ impoverished North Side. This tour will explore three living examples of the evolution of approaches to sustainable affordable housing. The successes and pitfalls experienced by each community and how lessons learned were integrated into the plans for subsequent communities will be discussed.

- Achieving Equitable Revitalization (SUN 2/5)
  St. Louis is steadily working to regenerate its north side, an area that has suffered from 60 years of disinvestment resulting from depopulation. Committed to balancing economic growth with social and environmental justice, the City will leverage a catalytic federal investment (National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency facility) to energize and strengthen surrounding neighborhoods through an action plan that will guide future investment in streets, transit, stormwater infrastructure, bicycle facilities, public space, social services and amenities for neighborhoods near the 99-acre site.