

Equity

NEWSLETTER

A Publication of the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission



Equity means that all people, regardless of where they live, have access to the resources and opportunities that improve their quality of life.

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In This Issue

Welcome to the October issue of our Equity Newsletter. In this edition, we are sharing the exciting news about our newly launched Institute for Livable and Equitable Communities. Also, we are featuring information and resources on the topic of housing equity.

AGENCY ACTIVITY



MVRPC delegates and staff attended the 42nd Annual Friendship Dinner, hosted by the National Conference for Community and Justice (NCCJ).

Left to Right: Martin Kim, Woody Stroud, Mary Tyler (NCCJ Executive Director), Chris Mucher, and Stacy Schweikhart

Institute for Livable and Equitable Communities

MVRPC's Institute for Livable & Equitable Communities was launched on October 1, 2019. The purpose of the Institute is to convene private and public partners and be the central point of coordination for a long-term, multi-faceted effort to address nine domains proven to enhance livability and equity in communities:

- The Built Environment, Outdoor Spaces & Buildings
- Transportation
- Housing
- Social Participation
- Respect and Social Inclusion
- Civic Participation
- Communication
- Community Support and Health Services
- Education

The Institute will coordinate research and assemble data; lead a community engagement process to facilitate a strategic plan which identifies needs, resources, and potential actions for each domain; secure grants and alternative funding; leverage resources for collective impact; and create the opportunities for communities and organizations to implement a range of demonstration projects to advance livable & equitable communities throughout the Region.

Supporting Equity-Focused Organizations

MVRPC continued to support many organizations whose missions are to address existing inequity in our Region. Examples of such support include sponsoring the Annual Coretta Scott King Center Legacy Luncheon, NAACP Annual Freedom Fund Banquet Dinner, and NCCJ Annual Friendship Dinner.



Rent Control in California

Governor Gavin Newsom recently signed a law limiting rent increases on housing in California. The law contains two key requirements: rent increases are limited to 5% plus inflation each year and landlords are prohibited from pursuing no-cause evictions.

This law is intended to address California's growing concerns over homelessness and burdensome housing costs. For example, homelessness in Oakland has grown 43% over two years and more than half of California renters spend more than a third of their income on rent.

While many states have pursued rent control measures, only two—California and Oregon—have introduced laws prescribing allowed rent increase percentages.

RESOURCES

The Challenging Race as Risk: Implicit Bias in Housing report from The Kirwan Institute explores how the impacts of housing segregation still exist. kirwaninstitute.osu.edu/my-product/challenging-race-as-risk-implicit-bias-in-housing/



Collaborating for Housing Equity

In Grove Park—a neighborhood west of downtown Atlanta, GA—residents and community organizations have been concerned about rising rent costs, property taxes, and gentrification. In response, the Grove Park Foundation has facilitated cross-sector collaboration to promote neighborhood revitalization while also keeping residents in their homes.

The Foundation has utilized grants from corporate sponsors as well as state low-income housing tax credits to complete historic preservation projects and build affordable housing. Additionally, funding has gone to legal aid organizations to help residents fight evictions.

Promoting collaboration among multiple public and private entities, the Foundation argues, is necessary for eliminating structural barriers to housing equity.

The Inclusionary Housing Guide explains how governments can promote inclusionary housing in their jurisdictions.

groundedsolutions.org/strengthening-neighborhoods/inclusionary-housing

The Equity Newsletter is a biannual publication of Miami Valley Equity Initiative from the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission (MVRPC). Through partnership, Miami Valley Equity Initiative promotes Equity and addresses existing inequity in the Miami Valley Region.