



Sustainable Community Development Group: Equitable Development Technical Assistance Webinar

www.sustainablecommunitydevelopmentgroup.org

October 14, 2015 | 2:00pm-3:00pm EDT

Equitable Development: The Role of Brownfields Renewal, Community Land Trusts and Employee Owned Businesses in Neighborhood Stability

Equitable development seeks to comprehensively address deeply entrenched issues such as poverty, economic development, and environmental quality within our communities. Economic opportunity is a cornerstone of equitable development, particularly within communities facing the additional challenges associated with brownfields sites. Where there are opportunities to clean up and sustainably reuse brownfields sites, the timing is ripe to integrate and invest in equitable development. Equitable development involves residents, property owners, workers, local businesses, planners, government officials and developers cooperatively engaging in decisions and investments which address past inequities, while creating a new vision for a sustainable future.

The foundation for creating strong, economically resilient and liveable communities is increasingly built upon a spectrum of place-based activities that develop improved tools and strategies. Practitioners at the cutting edge of these practices are already implementing approaches that engage communities and connect them with the advantages, opportunities and benefits of inclusive and sustainable economic development, all towards the larger goal of lifting people out of poverty.

The October 14th webinar focuses on two highly successful equitable development models of community ownership and wealth-building. They are the Evergreen Cooperatives in Cleveland, OH, three employee-owned green businesses that create jobs which deliver living wages and career pathways for local low income residents; and the Dudley Street Neighborhood Initiative's Community Land Trust in Roxbury, MA, which was created to take ownership of more than 30 acres of land and realize a vision of development without displacement.

This is a hands-on opportunity to learn from local leaders. Gain an insider's view of these pioneering community building strategies, practical tools and know-how. Participants will learn about Evergreen Worker Cooperatives, flourishing for-profit green businesses, and the ways that the companies are building equity and wealth and retaining financial resources in the community. Participants will also learn about Dudley Street Neighborhood Initiative's Community Land Trust, Dudley Neighbors Incorporated, and the challenges of creating a thriving urban village with permanent affordable housing, a community greenhouse and farm, and other amenities. Significant webinar time is set aside for participant interaction and discussion with speakers.

Featured Webinar Speakers

Dudley Street Neighborhood Initiative, Roxbury, MA
Tony Hernandez, Director, Operations and Stewardship, Dudley Neighbors Incorporated

Evergreen Cooperatives, Cleveland, OH
Ted Howard, Executive Director, Democracy Collaborative

Sustainable Community Development Group, Washington, DC
Deeohn Ferris, JD, President

More details about the workshop, registration and the workshop agenda will be posted on EPA's website soon. The webinar is sponsored by U.S. EPA's Office of Brownfields and Land Revitalization and organized by the Sustainable Community Development Group.



"Equitable development provides opportunities for all residents – regardless of income, race or ethnicity – to produce and share in the beneficial outcomes of living in healthy, viable and prosperous communities."