

Citywide Leadership Academy

A Series of Political Education & Skills Training on Regional Planning Issues

Fall/Winter 2013-2014

OVERALL IDEA: That people facing unjust conditions if supplied with the proper tools, resources, and information will organize to improve the conditions in their neighborhoods and communities. Through this series of political education and skills trainings participants will be inspired and prepared to shape their vision and push forward demands on a local and regional level that achieve economic, social, and health equity.

MAJOR CONCEPTS/THEMES TO BE EXPLORED:

1. Housing is a human right
2. Neighborhood health inequities
3. Creating local living economies/resilient neighborhoods
4. Bay Area history of inequality and struggle
5. Creating change, organizing for justice
6. Bay Area Plan and its relevance

PURPOSE:

A select group of participants from San Francisco's frontline communities, those most impacted by current Bay Area Plan efforts, will engage in a series of political education and skills trainings that bi-weekly most economically and environmentally distressed neighborhoods the Tenderloin, South of Market, Mission and Excelsior neighborhoods of will be inspired and emboldened to shape the vision and demands and develop the practical knowledge to be leaders in PUEBLOTE efforts

GOALS:

1. With a group of community leaders challenge assumptions and myths around local and regional economics, market-based housing solutions, land use policy making and city planning systems
2. Establish a shared understanding on how conservative political ideologies and corporate-backed agendas have created inequitable and unhealthy conditions in our communities
3. Develop a shared vision and plan of action on how our communities can forward equitable development demands as it relates to Plan Bay Area
4. Deepen camaraderie and have a fun time

OBJECTIVES (How it will be accomplished):

- Explore 4-5 concepts and create a curriculum guide
- Conduct 10 joint sessions which include the October Equity Conference
- Recruit 20 participants from 5 orgs
- Meet bi-monthly with extra sessions held by individual org with their members
- Five-person team to coordinate

POTENTIAL SESSIONS (brainstormed on 7/10, revised on 8/21):

- 1) Right to housing (land trust, speculation)
- 2) What is affordable housing (toolkit)
- 3) "Unnatural Causes" video spotlight on Richmond

- 4) "Blocks & Lots" (Dr. Pop)
- 5) Solidarity economy and basic definition of capitalism/wealth disparity
- 6) How did we get here? A short history of cities & suburbs
- 7) Anti-oppression framework
- 8) Plan Bay Area
- 9) Collective action & Civic engagement
- 10) Future of work

| Joint Sessions: | Org Sessions: |
|---|---|
| 1. Sept 30, 5-8pm A short history of cities & suburbs | 2. Mid-Oct Anti-oppression framework |
| 3. Oct 28, 5-8pm Plan Bay Area | |
| 4. Oct 30, 9am-4pm Equity Conference | 5. Mid-Nov recap and deeper conversations with members |
| 6. Nov 25 What is affordable housing? "Blocks & Lots" | |
| 7. Dec 19, party! | |
| 8. Jan 27 Right to housing | |
| 9. Feb 24 Solidarity economy | 10. Mid-March Future of work, other interactive and recap workshop on alt. models of economy |
| 11. Mar 31 "Unnatural Causes" video, environmental and transit justice | |
| 13. April 28 Collective action and civic engagement | 12. Mid-April action plan/mini campaign/policy recommendation conversations to prep for the next joint session |
| 14. May 26, graduation! | |

MEMO

Graduate Action Recommendations: San Francisco Citywide Leadership Academy

1. Housing

- Protect existing housing opportunities by: expanding the SF Housing Trust Fund with new revenue streams, setting aside potential sites for affordable housing with a land bank, making sure that all Bay Area cities do their fair share in meeting regional needs; protecting SRO's from conversion; building new family housing; expanding use of Community Land Trusts. Discourage speculation through progressive tax-policy. Find ways to fund affordable housing that is disconnected from market-rate development.

2. Employment and Income

- Create new living wage jobs by: Supporting cooperative development i.e. Cleveland's Evergreen model; reverse the decline in public sector employment through a municipal New Deal; require all employers who receive a market advantage through city action to hire from the low-income communities.
- Eliminate punitive public assistance laws and shift to a model that gives individuals real educational access for better employment.
- Expand "Ban-the-Box" laws where they don't yet exist, enforce and expand them where they do.
- Support raising the Minimum Wage in all counties to \$15.00/hr.
- Hire people from excluded communities in a publically-funded transportation and infrastructure projects.

3. Transportation

- Make Free MUNI for Youth permanent and expand it to other counties.
- Expand Free MUNI to Seniors and people with disabilities.