

Advancing Racial Equity in Our Communities: Fair Housing and Land Use

Speaker Biographies

Yonah Freemark is senior research associate in the Metropolitan Housing and Communities Policy Center at the Urban Institute. He is the research director of the Land Use Lab at Urban. His research focuses on the intersection of land use, affordable housing, transportation, and governance. He has published peer-reviewed scholarship in numerous journals, including *Urban Affairs Review*, *Politics & Society*, *Housing Policy Debate*, and the *Journal of the American Planning Association*. Previously, Freemark worked for Chicago's Metropolitan Planning Council and has written for the *New York Times*, *Next City*, and *CityLab*, among other publications. He holds master's degrees in both city planning and in transportation, as well as a PhD in urban studies from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He lives along the U Street Corridor in Washington, DC, and serves as an appointed member of the ANC 2B Land Use Committee.

Monique King-Viehland is the director of state and local housing policy at the Urban Institute. She leads efforts to catalyze Urban's vast housing policy expertise into actionable strategies for, and with, state and local housing leaders. Her portfolio extends across Urban, encompassing housing policy areas from homelessness and affordable housing to zoning reform, homeownership, and housing finance. King-Viehland previously served as executive director of the Los Angeles County Development Authority (LACDA), where she oversaw 580 employees and a \$600 million budget. The first woman and African American to take the helm of the 40-year-old agency, King-Viehland led the agency through significant transformation, including the merger of the Community Development Commission and housing authority into one unified agency. She enhanced LACDA's efforts to fight the homelessness and affordability crises, including helping secure a 10-fold increase in the number of funded affordable and supportive units and increasing project-based rental voucher commitments by more than 100 percent while providing housing and housing assistance to hundreds of thousands annually. In 2019, she was recognized as an LA power woman by *Bisnow*. King-Viehland has 20 years of experience in housing, community, and economic development. She is a member of the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority Ad Hoc Committee on Black People Experiencing Homelessness and a member of the policy advisory committee for the California Roadmap HOME 2030 initiative. She graduated with honors from Smith College and has a master's degree in public policy from Carnegie Mellon University.

Emily Liu has been serving as Director of the Louisville Metro Planning & Design Services since 2013. Her office maintains and monitors compliance with the Comprehensive Plan, the Land Development Code, and manages 18 Boards, Commissions and Committees. Major functions of her office include current planning, transportation review, zoning enforcement, urban design & historic preservation. Liu has been a professional planner for more than 25 years. Prior to the current position, she has worked for urban and suburban communities across 3 states focusing on long-range planning, transportation, zoning, and public engagement.

Eleanor Noble is a research analyst in the Metropolitan Housing and Communities Policy Center at the Urban Institute. Her research interests include housing affordability, evictions, and zoning and land use. Her past projects have examined the landscape of landlords in North Minneapolis and public transit use and perception by transgender and gender nonconforming riders. Noble graduated from Macalester College with a BA in geography, a minor in data science, and a concentration in urban studies.

Terry Taplin is a poet and Berkeley City Councilmember representing District 2, West and Southwest Berkeley. A mobility and environmental justice activist, Taplin has led on housing, green transportation, and fights for a climate resilient future. As a West Berkeley native, Taplin envisions a future where West Berkeley is at the center of an economically vibrant, innovative, and sustainable East Bay."