DETROIT ECONOMIC EQUITY INNOVATION SERIES FUTURE CITY TOOLKIT

GROWING AND RETAINING DETROIT'S BLACK MIDDLE CLASS

What is it?

Middle-class neighborhoods are defined as census tracts where more than half of households are middle or upper middle class. Middle and upper middle-class households range in income from 80% to 300% of the national median income, which is \$52,500 to \$197,000.

Why is it important for economic equity?

Middle-class neighborhoods are amenity-rich places that can provide residents with a high quality of life. For residents, middle-class neighborhoods are places with the potential to build wealth for those living within them, not only from appreciation of home values, but by providing a range of assets, including high quality schools. Middle-class neighborhoods can continue to be the backbone of the city's revitalization, by retaining existing residents, and attracting new ones.



In Detroit only 5% of residents reside in middle-class neighborhoods. Currently, there are only 11 census tracks that met that definition, down from 22 in 2010.



Detroit is missing **middle-class** neighborhoods





Detroit is missing **near middle-class** neighborhoods

133 in 2010

By 2019



Became middle-class

Geographic equity

QUICK FACTS

As poverty has continued to concentrate in the city, the number of middle-class residents and share of residents residing in these neighborhoods has declined. Currently, in Detroit, only 5% of residents reside in a middle-class neighborhood. By comparison, 59% of residents of the region live in middle-class neighborhoods.

Racial / ethnic equity

2019

Across the region, African-American and Hispanic residents are much less likely to reside in middle-class neighborhoods, with only 23% of African-American and 43% of Hispanic residents currently doing so. This compares to 72% for white residents. Closing the gap across the region must include building strong middle-class neighborhoods in the city.

Share of residents living in middle-class neighborhoods by race/ethnicity



Source: American Community Survey, 5-year estimates, 2019

QUICK FACTS

Detroit Future City's Report: Growing and Retaining Detroit's African American Middle Class

https://detroitfuturecity.com/middleclassreport/ documents/DFC_Growing-Detroit%E2%80%99s-African-American-Middle-Class.pdf

Middle Neighborhoods Initiative

https://middleneighborhoods.org/

LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR SPEAKERS' WORK



Sherita Smith

Vice President, Community Development, Cinnaire Ea quo adipiscing temporibus, et euismod contentiones nec. Eu vis civibus invidunt.



Nedra Sims Fears

Executive Director, Greater Chatham Initiative Ea quo adipiscing temporibus, et euismod contentiones nec. Eu vis civibus invidunt.



Christopher Johnson

President, Bagley Community Council Ea quo adipiscing temporibus, et euismod contentiones nec. Eu vis civibus invidunt.



Annie Millie

Executive Diector, Live Baltimore Ea quo adipiscing temporibus, et euismod contentiones nec. Eu vis civibus invidunt.











