



DETROIT FUTURE CITY

Detroit Future City: 2030

Our Vision and Goals

Detroit Future City (DFC) was founded as an independent nonprofit organization in 2016, three years after the release of the Detroit Strategic Framework, a 50-year vision for an equitable and sustainable city developed with the engagement of over 100,000 Detroiters.

Detroit has seen many significant improvements since the Framework was first published in 2013, including new commercial investments and developments, rebounds in housing values and mortgage lending, riverfront and neighborhood greenway enhancements, and new green infrastructure and community-developed open-space projects.

Despite these positive developments, however, many deep-rooted inequities remain.

- Economic and racial disparities in jobs, income, housing, and opportunity persist within Detroit and between Detroit and the region.
- There is a lack of middle-wage jobs for Detroiters, persistent concentrated poverty, and a loss of middle-class neighborhoods.
- The danger of global warming and climate change has intensified, negatively impacting Detroit neighborhoods and residents.

DFC's new strategic plan is designed to address these inequities to promote a more inclusive, equitable, and resilient city between now and 2030. The plan is built around two broad goals, growing Detroit's Black middle class and improving the quality of life in Detroit neighborhoods. Detroit must have high-quality neighborhoods that can attract middle-class households and retain Detroit households as their incomes rise. A strong middle class, which represents economic security and access to opportunity, is also important for the city's financial well-being.

Unfortunately, many Detroiters have been locked out of the middle class. Households of color make up over 90 percent of the city's population and have been subjected to historic and ongoing patterns of racism that limit their economic

opportunities. About 75 percent of these Detroit households earn less than \$50,000 per year. DFC's commitment to racial and economic equity requires that economic growth must address historic disparities and avoid the displacement of one population by another.

Our Strategic Focus

We will continue to serve as an influential leader in the areas of economic and racial equity, environmental sustainability, and stakeholder engagement, which is informed and grounded by our research. Our leadership will focus on initiatives that:

- Grow the number of resilient, thriving neighborhoods that attract and retain residents of diverse incomes and backgrounds.
- Disrupt systemic racism, poverty, and other inequities to grow household income and wealth for Black Detroiters and other Detroiters of color.

We are enhancing our work with a strong focus on policy and advocacy, leading cross-sector collaborations, and fostering equitable, inclusive, and sustainable economic growth in Detroit.



Measuring Our Progress

DFC's goals align with the benchmarks established in *The State of Economic Equity in Detroit* report and our online dashboard. We will also establish new benchmarks for sustainable and resilient neighborhoods and measure our progress on the following indicators:

Income and Wealth Building

- Increased percentage of Black Detroiters and other Detroiters of color with middle-wage (or better) jobs
- Increased homeownership for households of Black Detroiters and other Detroiters of color

Business and Entrepreneurship

- Increased number and size of businesses owned by Black Detroiters and other Detroiters of color

Neighborhoods and Housing

- Increased number of asset-rich, economically accessible, and diverse neighborhoods
- Increased number of Black middle-class neighborhoods
- Increased number and scale of land-use projects that contribute to health, well-being, and climate resilience at the neighborhood and citywide scales



Who We Are Today

DFC's 17-member team, with expertise in data analysis, policy formation, community and economic development, land use, and environmental sustainability, is led by president and CEO Anika Goss. DFC's Center for Equity, Engagement, and Research is a widely respected source of community-informed, substantiated, and accessible research. To date, DFC has developed a portfolio of over 30 reports and publications as well as robust programs and user-friendly toolkits.

DFC is supported by an 18-member board of directors, representing Detroit's community, nonprofit, philanthropic, corporate, and government sectors, with over 50 percent of members who are Detroit residents and 70 percent who identify as people of color.

