

~~Community Engagement~~ Community Organizing X Transit Development

Equity In Community Development

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Regional Affairs | **cura**

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**The Twin Cities love to
show up on the “best
of” and “worst of” list**

LOCAL

Already-low homeownership rates of Twin Cities minorities fall further

The gap is another reflection of disparities between white and nonwhite incomes in Minnesota.

By Jim Buchta Star Tribune | AUGUST 19, 2017 — 10:52PM



RICHARD TSONG-TAATARIH - RICHARD TSONG-TAATARIH

Realtors Lasha Raddatz and Julia Israel hope to help close the gap.

Like many first-time home buyers, Akisha Everett of Minneapolis spent months shopping for a house and being outbid by others. "I am holding my breath until I get the keys in my hand," Everett said in the middle of the hunt.

TEXT SIZE

Hennepin County report finds stark racial disparities in traffic stops

The report also made several specific policy recommendations, including discouraging stopping vehicles for an equipment violation unless there is an immediate threat to public safety.

By Libor Jany Star Tribune | OCTOBER 5, 2018 — 9:46PM



STAR TRIBUNE FILE PHOTOS

Those reacting to the report on traffic stops included, from left, Chief Public Defender Mary Moriarty, Police Chief Medaria Arradondo and Minneapolis police union President Bob Kroll.

Black drivers in a section of north Minneapolis are disproportionately pulled over for minor infractions and therefore are far more likely than whites to be patted down or have their vehicles searched, according to a new citywide study by the Hennepin County Public Defender's Office.

TEXT SIZE

EDUCATION

Minnesota schools struggle with widening racial gap between students and teachers

Number of teachers of color is stuck at 5 percent as state's diversity explodes.

Story by Faiza Mahamud and MaryJo Webster • Star Tribune



Across Minnesota, as the student population becomes more racially diverse, the number of teachers of color is not keeping pace.

Since the 2006-07 school year — when this year's high school graduating class was in first grade — the number of K-12 students of color has exploded, while that of teachers of color has barely budged, a Star Tribune analysis of state education data reveals. The disparity is even more pronounced in some rural and suburban school districts.

Education researchers predict Minnesota's student-teacher racial mismatch likely won't change for several decades — meaning today's first-graders will face the same struggle for their entire school careers, too.

Having more teachers of color in classrooms has a positive impact on student learning overall, mounting research shows. A diverse teaching

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TwinCities.com Black, Hispanic incomes rebounded in 2017, but...

NEWS

Black, Hispanic incomes rebounded in 2017, but not enough to close gaps



By CHRISTOPHER MAGAN | cmagan@pioneerpress.com | Pioneer Press
PUBLISHED: September 13, 2018 at 12:01 am | UPDATED: September 13, 2018 at 6:55 am

New data from the U.S. Census Bureau contain good news for Minnesota workers, especially those in black and Hispanic households.

Median earnings for black households rose for the third consecutive year in 2017, beginning to remedy one of the state's most troubling racial disparities. The median income for black households was \$38,147 last year, the census bureau reported, up from \$27,985 in 2014, when inflation is taken into account.

"I'm happy we are moving in the right direction," said Kirinda Anderson, a St. Paul resident who works as an organizer with the faith group ISAIAH. "Let's be honest, that's not fast enough."

Anderson noted that black families continue to earn significantly less and have less wealth compared with their white neighbors, despite often working multiple jobs.

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Twin Cities suburban poor outnumber those in urban core

Jon Collins • Jul 17, 2015

Business

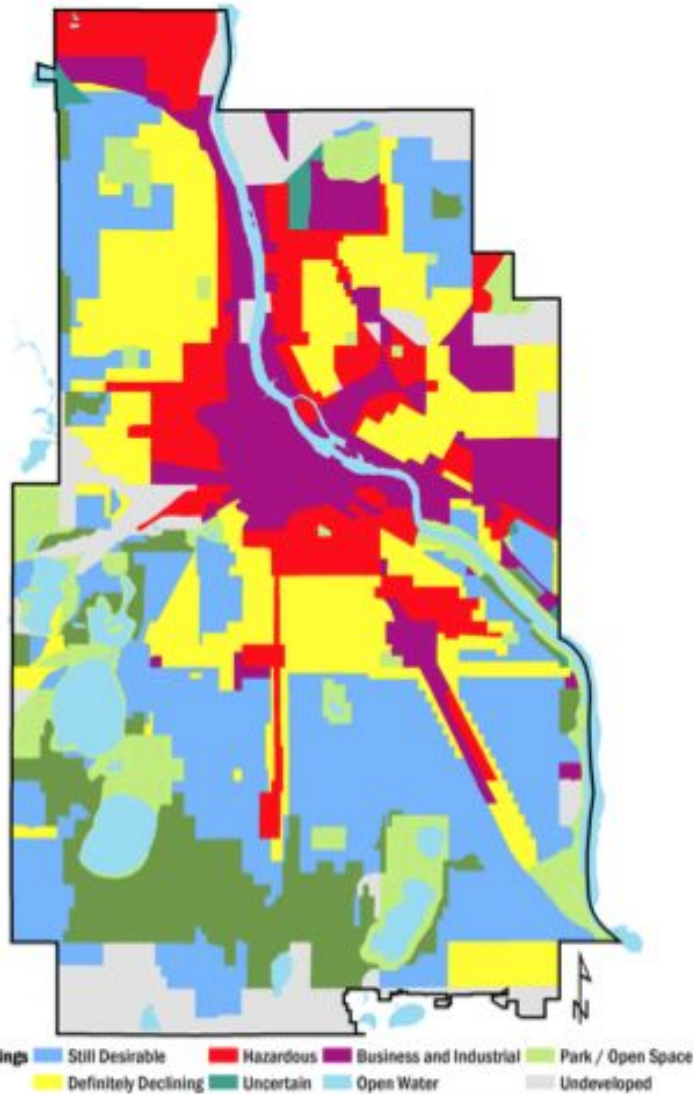


Signs in English and Spanish at the Prince of Peace church's Mission Outpost food shelf direct clients to fresh produce in Burnsville. Laura Yuen | MPR News file

LISTEN Story audio

Guests

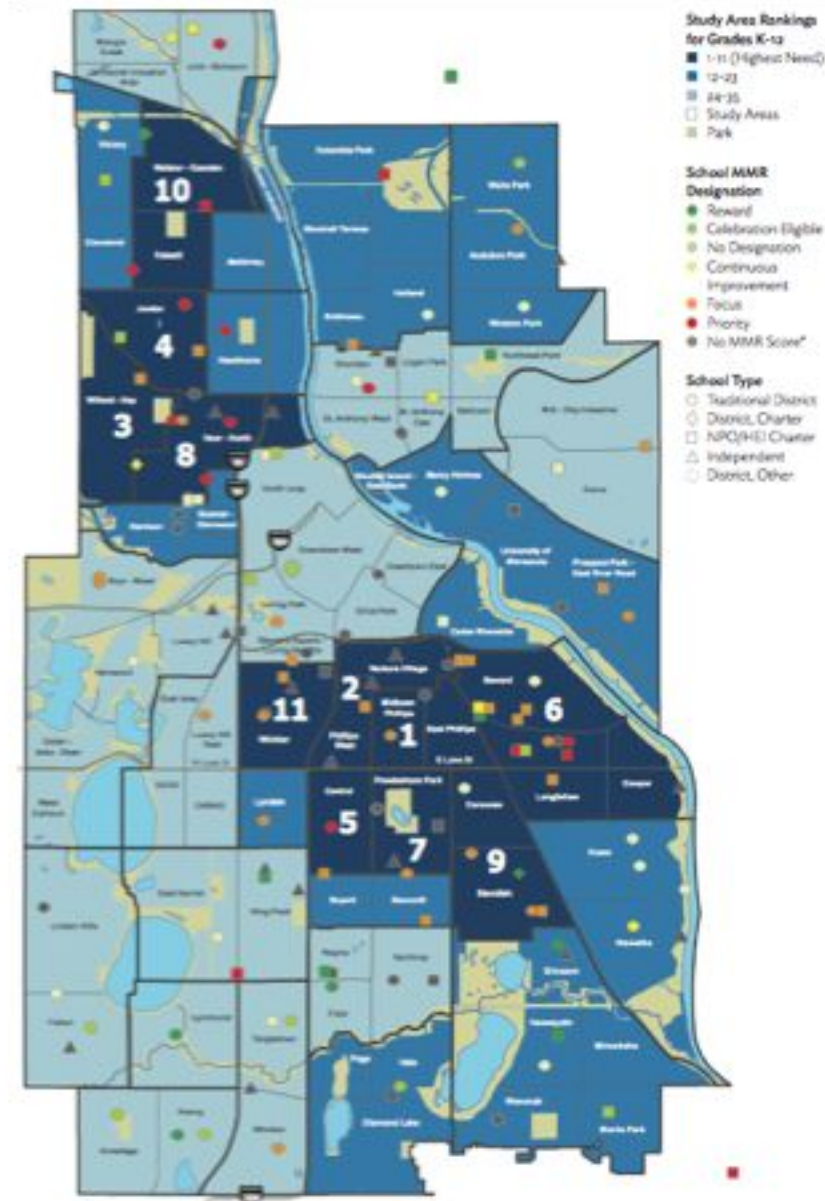
1934 HOLC Redlining Map



Map 1

Minneapolis Top 11 Highest-Need Areas

Rank based on 2013-14 Service Gaps



LOSS OF AFFORDABILITY IS EXCLUSIONARY DISPLACEMENT

Source: Author calculations, 2000 Census, 2010-2014 ACS, 2000 IPUMS, 2010-2014 IPUMS

All bolded values adjusted to 2014 dollars

Incomes for households

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very affordable



The typical renting household can afford to rent 50% or more of the units in the neighborhood

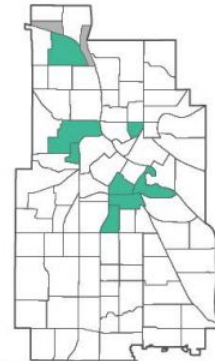


Neighborhood with no housing

2000

Median Rent: **\$809**
(\$575 in 2000 dollars)

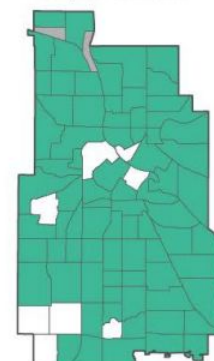
Black or African American



Median Renter Income:
Affordable threshold:

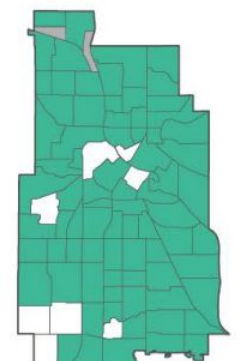
\$26,729 (\$19,000 in 2000 dollars)
\$688 (\$475 in 2000 dollars)

Hispanic or Latino



\$40,234 (\$28,600 in 2000 dollars)
\$1,006 (\$715 in 2000 dollars)

White Not Hispanic or Latino



\$39,390 (\$28,000 in 2000 dollars)
\$985 (\$700 in 2000 dollars)

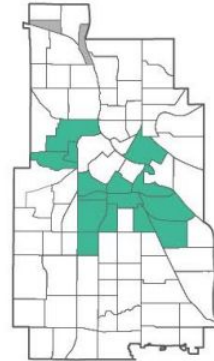
2014

Median Rent: **\$854**

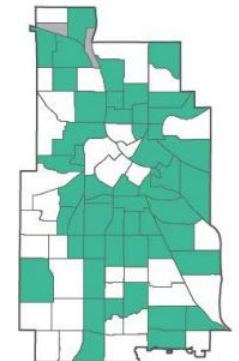


Median Renter Income:
Affordable threshold:

\$14,951
\$374



\$30,491
\$762

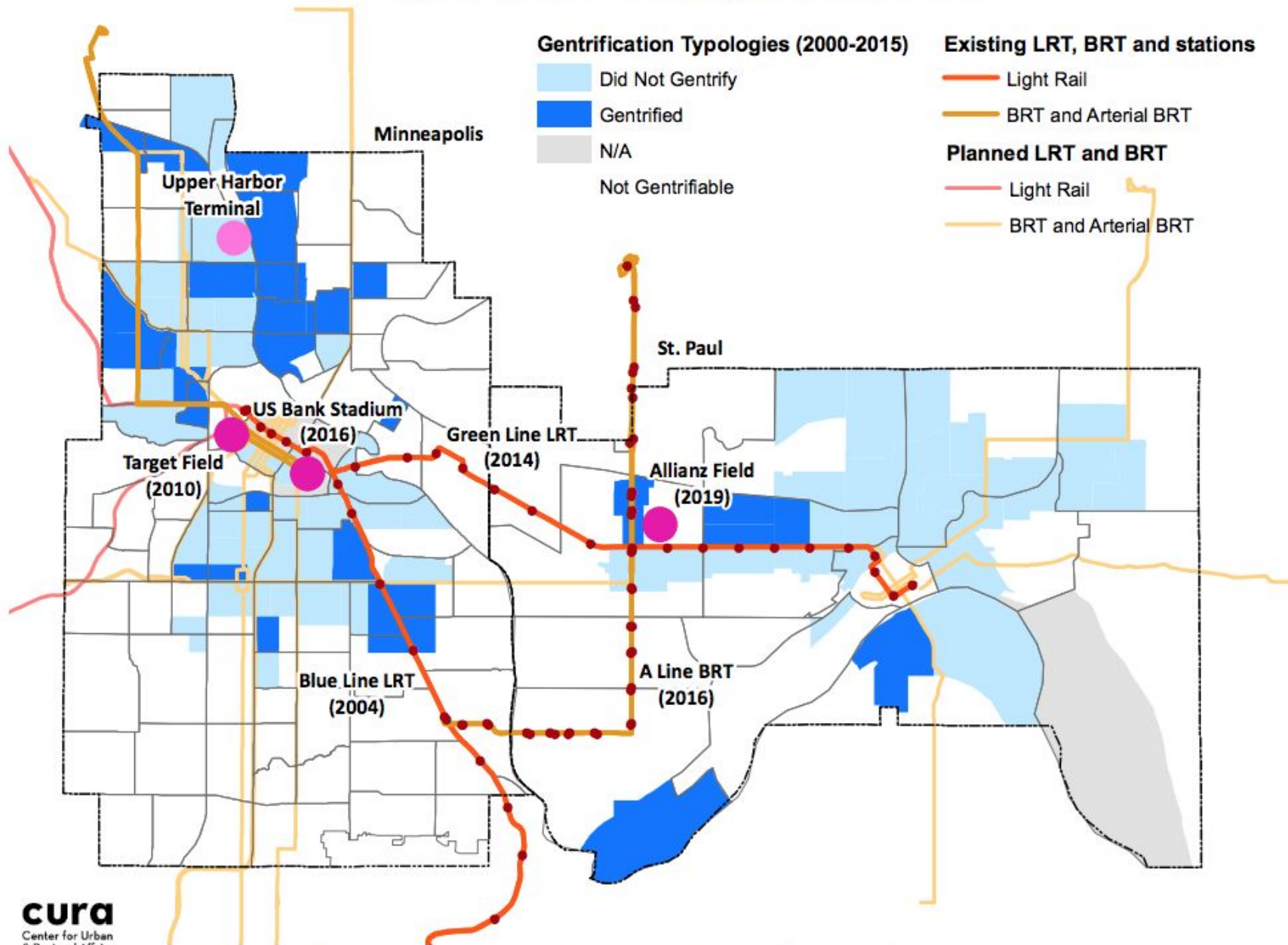


\$39,525
\$988

“.... these conditions and actions reflect a prevailing belief that the vulnerable are unworthy of investment, protection, or even the most fundamental provisions of the social contract. **As a result, they can be erased and abandoned and left to die.**”

– Marc Lamont Hill, Nobody

Minneapolis-St Paul: Transitways and Gentrification



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Data Sources: Rail routes and stations - MetCouncil June 2016, updated 2019, Gentrification Typologies - CURA Research 2017

Corridors of Opportunity

Connecting People, Places and Prosperity

BETTER  BUS STOPS



Key Points and Learnings from MET Council Work

- Creation of Equity In Place
- A need to shift narrative around public policy
 - Concentrated poverty versus concentrated wealth
- Acknowledging Met Councils responsibility in pervading inequity with BBS
- Role of transit investment in gentrification/displacement

RACIAL EQUITY FRAMEWORK



**Investing in
engagement should be
in the context of
building the capacity
of the organizing
community**

Key Concepts for Community Organizing:

Community organizing is about building power in communities that have been robbed of it

Marginalized people have been primarily denied their agency to be creators of their own context

Equity is a project of personal healing in tandem with societal material redistribution

We need to retrain our ears to listen to voices we are conditioned to ignore and/or discount

**TRANSITWAY
DEVELOPMENT POWER
ANALYSIS ON DECISION
MAKING**

**HENNEPIN
COUNTY**

**SERV DEV
DIRECTOR**

**PUBLIC
RELATIONS**

MINNEAPOLIS

**GENERAL
MANAGER**

BIPOC COMMUNITY

**PROJECT
MANAGER**

**BUS OPS
DIRECTOR**

ME

CONSULTANT

**NON-BIPOC
COMMUNITY**



“Leaders who do not act dialogically, but insist on imposing their decisions, do not organize the people--they manipulate them. They do not liberate, nor are they liberated: they **oppress**.”

Paulo Freire, Pedagogy of the Oppressed



EQUITABLE POWER IN
DECISION MAKING

**BIPOC
COMMUNITY**

TANGIBLE ACTIONS FOR EQUITABLE DECISION MAKING

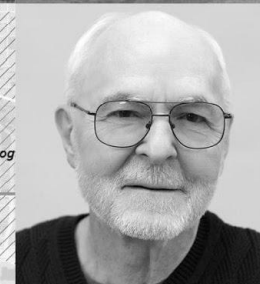
1. Build community capacity to understand transportation more complexly
2. Resource community organizations/groups to do organizing work for projects **and beyond projects**
3. If you give yourself months to understand and develop a project, don't give community hours to understand and comment
4. When concerns/ideas go beyond the scope of the project, then expand the scope of project

Key Resources

- Paulo Freire's "Pedagogy of the Oppressed"
- Marc Lamont Hill's "Nobody"
- Ta-Nehisi Coates' "The Case for Reparations"
- Rap music
 - Kendrick Lamar's *Good Kid, MAAD City*
 - Mobb Deep's *The Infamous*
- Engage the philosophies just as much as you engage the technicalities of your work
 - Critical race theory, corrective racial justice, reparations, agency

“Won't reparations divide us? Not any more than we are already divided. The wealth gap merely puts a number on something we feel but cannot say – that American prosperity was ill-gotten and selective in its distribution. What is needed is an airing of family secrets, a settling with old ghosts. What is needed is a healing of the American psyche and the banishment of white guilt.”

— Ta-Nehisi Coates, The Case for Reparations



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