



## SOCIAL EQUITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, April 14, 2010

8:30 a.m. -10:00 a.m.

Anna Cablik Room, Loudermilk Center

**Attendees:** C.J. Bland, Minority Professionals Network and ARC board, Dorothy Herzberg, Clayton County Resource Center, Joyce Brown, MARTA, Millie Irizarry, Latin American Association, Nathaniel Smith, Equity Atlanta and Emory University Office of University-Community Partnerships, Virginia Martin, Northwest GA Chapter, National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc., Marilu Montalvo, Rockdale County Board of Commissioners/Aging Services, Laurel Paget-Seekins, Georgia Tech Graduate Student, Robert Smith, MARTA/Elderly and Disabled Access Advisory Committee, Judy Dovers, ARC, Regan Hammond, ARC, Kyung -Hwa Kim, ARC, Carolyn White, ARC

### Meeting Summary

The Social Equity Advisory Committee met on Wednesday, April 14, 2010, 8:30am – 10:00 am in the Anna Cablik Room at the Loudermilk Center for the Regional Community. The group made self introductions. Committee Chair C.J. Bland described the purpose of the meeting as the beginning of a process for input on potential policies and implementation strategies addressing equity in PLAN 2040.

#### **Policy Discussion: Goals, Objectives, Policies – Regan Hammond, ARC**

Regan Hammond briefly described Plan 2040's schedule, scope, major findings and reactions, vision statement, goals, objectives and draft equity policies from the perspectives of participation, assessment, implementation and impact. She noted that draft recommendations would be presented to the ARC board at the end of this year and the board must approve the plan by the end of 2011.

#### PLAN 2040 Goals, Objectives, Policies Observations and Discussion by Participants

- Identifying Needs -How is ARC identifying what needs to improve?  
*The process has begun and will include a number of strategies including comparisons with peer regions.(ARC)*
- Addressing education -What are we doing to retain students?



*ARC is looking at ways to have an impact; we do not have a direct responsibility in this area. (ARC)*

- Dependency on driving – Conflicting messages are being sent in the region via legislators support for Senate Bill 67 which would require all license examinations administered in English language. ARC’s board should put pressure on legislators regarding this bill because of its potential impact on the region’s health and vitality.*ARC is currently not addressing Senate Bill 67 as part of its legislative package.(ARC)*

- Beltline project - What impact is the Beltline having on PLAN 2040?  
*ARC is supportive and the project is included in the current plan; all projects will be evaluated during the current process. (ARC)*

- Expanding Access to Community Resources – This goal does not speak to getting resources to people, wherever they are. The goal should also reflect expanding ways to leverage and create opportunities where people are (places)

Equity Policies: Observations and Discussion

Regional Assessment: Social equity should involve an across the board assessment and not restricted to low-income and/or minority communities; it is all about connectivity in and between communities and wherever needed; Superior Growth Model is Equitable growth is the Superior Growth Model. Related comments:

- Focus: people, place and opportunity
- Concentrated poverty is a racial phenomenon; connection between income, race and how it is connected for the region is a real concern
- Economics is a big divide and maybe the biggest.

**PLAN 2040 Outreach Update – Judith Dovers, ARC**

Dovers provided information on outreach opportunities throughout the development of PLAN 2040. The ongoing involvement of this committee and its importance to the process was noted. She referenced a series of conversations around the community with groups such as Georgia Stand-Up, The Coalition for the People’s Agenda, Asian-Pacific Islander Coalition, as well as Community Conversations sponsored by the Civic League. Planning also taking place to schedule discussions with transit advisory committees and various other committees at ARC as well. Dovers distributed a flyer describing online public meetings which will start soon. See attachment. She encouraged everyone to visit the website for a comprehensive perspective on outreach activities in the region. <http://www.atlantaregional.com/transportation/plan-2040/Plan2040> .



### **Equity Atlanta Update – Nathaniel Smith**

The mission of Equity Atlanta is to “push for policies and actions that promote equity and prosperity in metro Atlanta, according to Smith. He described Equity Atlanta’s goals, steering committee, guiding principles, accomplishments and results. Smith invited the committee to get involved by participating in the Network noting that ARC Equity Atlanta will be utilizing PLAN 2040 and future equitable planning conversations for their community conversations process. Contact Nathaniel Smith for a copy of the presentation and additional information at [nathaniel.smith@emory.edu](mailto:nathaniel.smith@emory.edu) or telephone 404.712.9893

### **Community Announcements**

Millie Irizarry, CEO, Latin American Association, announced the following:

- Compañeros Awards Luncheon, April 22, 2010, 11:30 am , Georgia Aquarium, contact, [mpalacios@thelaa.org](mailto:mpalacios@thelaa.org); or (404) 638-1815
- 28<sup>th</sup> Annual CareerExpo, May 19, 2010, Latin American Association, 2750 Buford Highway, Atlanta, GA 30324, contact 404-638-1836
- Copa Latina de Atlanta: Fútbol, Familia y Fiesta, June 6, 2010, contact 404-638-1900 for additional information

### **Next Steps – Carolyn White, ARC**

White noted that Social Equity Advisories would be distributed semimonthly to committee members to keep committee members abreast of new developments and actions between meetings. Dovers stated that ARC would provide an additional input on the PLAN 2040 policies, beyond the time allotted during the meeting. See attachment.

The next meeting will be held on July 14, 2010, 8:30 am – 10:00 a.m., Atlanta Regional Commission.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

NOTE: BrynAnn Chen, President, Refugee Women’s Network was unable to attend but formally requested that committee members are advised of the harmful impact of SB 67 to refugees and immigrants. The request was also on the behalf of twelve organizations that work with women on the issues of domestic violence, health, education, civic engagement and microenterprise. For additional information on getting involved, contact D. BryAnn Chen, 404-299-0180.