

**Sacramento Area Congregations Together (SACACT) Workshop
on Environmental Justice Element (November 12, 2018)
– Focus on Arden-Arcade Community**

Housing

1. Slumlords are a problem.
 - a. Apartments in shambles.
 - b. Not putting money into apartments/housing.
 - c. Always looking for reasons to evict.
2. Homeless – Homeless Vets
 - a. Need secure and clean homes.
 - b. We need several Loaves and Fishes in Arden-Arcade.
3. Problems in Accessibility
 - a. No elevators in Butano Apartments (three-story high apartments).
 - b. Multi-flight stairs for those who have physical limitations.
4. Huge disparity in income levels within short distances of each other.
5. Resources for homeless
 - a. Need resources to help them find housing.
 - b. Get resources to people in need.
 - c. Need navigators for Arden-Arcade (note: navigators are used in South Sacramento and in the City to help people get the resources they need.) Someone who can walk the homeless through the program.
6. Existing homeless programs
 - a. Have requirements (obstacles)
7. Arden-Arcade – one of the most affordable areas that are left. Many vulnerable people on fixed incomes.
8. Obstacles to getting housing finance
 - a. Credit checks
 - b. Down Payment
9. Assisting the Homeless
 - a. County – once in a lifetime thing.
 - b. Buffalo, NY – pay people to provide shelters.
10. There are a lot of vacant large buildings in Arden-Arcade – have homeless fix these buildings to make them habitable – create sense of ownership.

11. Existing program – Winter Sanctuary
 - a. Bus homeless in to local churches, bus them out in the morning.
 - b. Need more churches to participate.
 - c. This is a band aid only.
12. "If I am a victim of my landlord, I do not know who to call".
 - a. Rental Helpline – operated by Sacramento Self-Help Housing
13. Mather and McClellan are big enough for another Loaves and Fishes.
 - a. There are limited vacant lots in Arden-Arcade.

Civil Engagement

1. This requires dedicating time – volunteering – give some of your time.
2. Board of Supervisors
 - a. Cannot depend on them.
 - b. We need to talk among ourselves.
3. Techniques
 - a. Find out who the chiefs are. The chiefs will bring the people.
 - b. Reach people where they are. Example: set up a booth outside of Safeway.
 - c. Other communities have united under a single issue.
 - d. Use billboards (or message boards).
 - e. Use technology – geotagging.
4. Groups to contact
 - a. Find who the community groups are.
 - b. Contact the churches.
5. Contact the churches.
6. Developing trust relationships
 - a. Until they know that you care, they will not let you know what their concerns area.
 - b. It is about being consistent – requires some nurturing and tilling.
7. People are not as rooted here like in other areas (such as Del Paso Heights). A lot of college students.
 - a. We need events to help people engage with each other.
8. Identity – what is the identity of this community?
 - a. Embrace the history of Arden-Arcade.

**Stephens Foundation Workshop on Environmental Justice
Element (December 19, 2018)
– Focus on South Sacramento Community**

Potential Solutions to Identified Issues

1. Charging stations for cell phones at light rail to increase public safety.
2. Home ownership assistance programs and incentives.
 - a. To increase community pride.
 - b. Reduce home destruction, crime.
 - c. Inform public of high risk loans.
 - d. Promote civic engagement (more invested in community).
3. Access to public facilities
 - a. Increase access to facilities for children/teens.
 - b. Deters child and youth delinquency.
 - c. Repurpose old vacant buildings for youth engagement.
4. Crime Prevention
 - a. More community centers.
 - b. Incentives for Apple and other computer companies to assist with money (for computer equipment – job training and development).

Proposals

1. K-12 curriculum to teach urban planning and development.
2. Sacramento County Community Centers to promote youth activities and decrease crime.
3. Incentive programs for homeowners.
4. Land development waivers for disadvantaged neighborhoods.
5. Rotate farmers markets and educate families on how to prepare healthy foods.

6. Increase density in single family homes to address displacement.

Other Comments (Not Captured by Facilitator Notes)

1. Homeless situation – use big box buildings for triage center for homeless.
2. Blocks that are dark – use lights with trigger system.
3. Expand RT micro transit system.
4. Homeownership – a lot of people in disadvantaged communities do not think that homeownership is possible.
 - a. Develop a training program to help people buy a home – that it is possible to own a house.
5. Need for inclusionary housing – small subdivision has 10 homes, two has to be used for affordable housing.
6. SHRA has a homeownership program but nobody knows about it.
7. Before the recession, banks and mortgage companies were focusing on disadvantaged areas to sell bad mortgages (subprime loans).
8. Provide air filters for neighbors of a development project.
9. County's development project signs – make them to be able to be scanned so people do have to park and get out of the car to read.
10. Recreation facilities are too far – make facilities available and accessible.
 - a. Issue – how to get people to the community centers.
11. Community centers without children. Good centers to emulate – Wackford and Pannell.
12. Lack of lights at parks for activities during evenings.
13. Healthy food access ideas:
 - a. Grow own food in backyard.
 - i. Composting workshops
 - ii. Gardening workshops
 - b. Edible landscaping
 - c. Farmer's markets
 - i. Ability to use food stamps.
 - d. People do not know what to do with the fresh produce
 - i. Workshops on cooking.