Equitable Development Principles & Scorecard:

a tool for communities, planners, & more

http://thealliancetc.org/equitable-development-scorecard/

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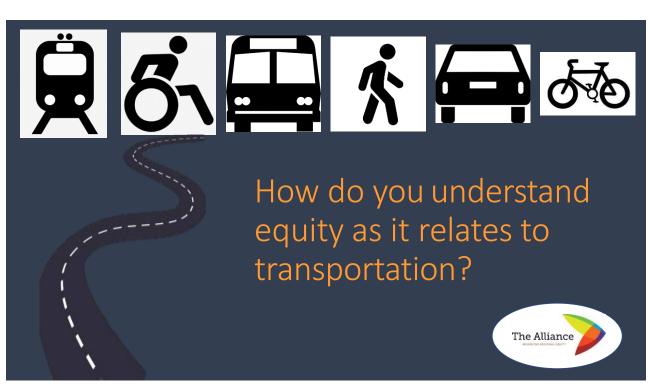# Alliance for Metropolitan Stability (The Alliance)

- The Alliance's mission is to advance justice and equity in economic growth and land development in the Twin Cities region. We are a coalition building shared power around the intersections of racial justice, economic justice, environmental justice, and health equity.

- Since 1994, the Alliance has united organizations across issues and geographies to advocate for racial equity and equitable development. Over the years, the Alliance evolved to center a race equity analysis, co-creating campaigns and coalitions addressing structural racism and centering BIPOC communities' visions and values.

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Today's Objectives

- Affirm why equity is important in transportation.

- Understand importance of intentionality and planning.

- Walk through the elements of the Equitable Development Principles and Scorecard.

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How do you understand equity as it relates to transportation?

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Equity understanding

IS NOT

- Equality or Parity
- A synonym for Diversity or Inclusion
- A euphemism for People of Color
- A set of tweaks or isolated in a single action
- Time limited
- Justice

CAN BE

- An outcome
- A process
- Human-centered
- Relative
- Reparative
- Regenerative

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Equity is...

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EQUITY IS A HUMAN RIGHT.

- Equity is about **providing opportunities and creating positive outcomes for everyone**. Policies and practices that restrict or exclude certain communities in order to maintain the status quo violate this principle.

- Policies and practices must **assume communities have the right** to safe, healthy, and dignified housing, employment, and neighborhoods.

- Equity promotes practices that **support healing** from centuries of exploitive, disenfranchising and destructive policies and practices

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EQUITY MUST BE CLAIMED AND DEFINED BY THOSE MOST HARMED BY SYSTEMS OF OPPRESSION.

The inequities in our region are rooted in an imbalance of power between white people and people of color, Indigenous, immigrant, and low-income communities. This imbalance of power occurs across systems and decision-making spheres, effectively omitting our communities from visions of a prosperous region. **It is about restorative and regenerative practices that undo that harm as defined by us.**

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EQUITY MUST FUNDAMENTALLY BE ABOUT BUILDING POWER, CAPACITY & LEADERSHIP TO ANNUL STRUCTURAL AND INSTITUTIONAL RACISM.

Strategies must implicitly **center the engagement and inclusion of people** of color, Indigenous, immigrant, and low-income communities to assert power and mitigate further harm, while **promoting healing from past harm** with targeted strategies for our communities' well-being.

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EQUITY EFFORTS MUST BE INTERSECTIONAL.

People's identities are made up of many overlapping pieces such as race, gender, class, sexual orientation, ability, and ethnicity. Thus, **patterns of oppression are interrelated and bound together.** To undo one form of oppression, we must fight all its forms.

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Big concepts, some seemingly unrelated to transportation or your role and authority.

Reflections?

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Example: LRT Station Area (Hypothetical)

- **Human Right** – Benefits are accessible to everyone and exclusionary
- **Human Centered** – community input and needs around livability define and drive the project
- **Centered in Communities historically harmed** – recognize the history of decision-making and unmitigated harm that provided unfair benefits or harm
- **Intersectional** – patterns of oppression are interrelated and bound together. Gender, Immigration status, Language, Race, etc.
- **Shifts & Builds Power** – engagement equals a a commitment by process to implement what community decides
- **Reparative** – learn from history and repair the harm
- **Regenerative** – Investments in and along the line strengthens community today and for generations

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Exercise: Your Road Project

- **Human Right**
- **Human Centered**
- **Centered in Communities historically harmed**
- **Intersectional**
- **Shifts & Builds Power**
- **Reparative**
- **Regenerative**

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The Equitable Development Principles & Scorecard

A TOOL TO SHIFT POWER AND SUPPORT ANSWERING THE QUESTION "HOW EQUITY RELATES TO *THIS* PROJECT" WITH COMMUNITY

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The Equitable Development Principles & Scorecard

- Developed by community over several years
- Creates shared definitions, framework, and vision
- Enforces intersectionality and comprehensive approach across principles
- Tool for conversations that puts community at center – NOT to be just used "off the shelf"

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- It's only as good as its users. The Scorecard is reliant on community engagement and strong equity lens
- Scores are not final, rather facilitate discussion
- It's about shifting how development happens
- Creates intentionality and centers community in the purpose and mission of the project

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EQUITABLE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT practices **involve the local community members most affected** in the development project (especially low-wealth people, people of color, neighborhood groups, community organizations, people living with disabilities, and new immigrants).

EQUITABLE TRANSPORTATION practices **integrate transit into walkable, livable, and affordable** land use practices to enhance healthy living within low-income communities and communities of color.

EQUITABLE HOUSING practices give families of all income levels access to housing that **costs no more than 30% of their household income.**

EQUITABLE LAND USE practices require that the overall vision, plan, and implementation **includes local communities' assets, aspirations, potential, and preferences.** They aim to keep current residents in the area and develop projects that promote people's health, well-being, and prosperity.

EQUITABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT practices require evidence that policies and programs work to **prioritize community based financial intelligence, sustainable wealth creation, and high quality job opportunities** that prevent unwanted displacement of residents and small businesses from low-income communities and communities of color.

Coming Soon: Livability Principle

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Using the Scorecard

STEP #1: Fill out the Project information on the previous page. Then turn to page 5.

STEP #2: Customize each Equitable Development Principle's scoring criteria according to your community's priorities. Not all criteria may apply to your community or project. You should tailor this Scorecard to be relevant to your specific purpose(s) and area.

STEP #3: Use the "Helpful Materials" section to clear up any questions of content or definition.

STEP #4: Hold conversations with your group around each criterion, and give each one a score.

STEP #5: Add up all of the scores below for the Final Score, and you have completed the Scorecard

Scoring

1. Write the score from each section below, along with the maximum possible score for the section. (Points Earned/Max Possible)
   ___/___ Equitable Community Engagement Score
   ___/___ Equitable Land Use Score
   ___/___ Equitable Economic Development Score
   ___/___ Equitable Transportation Score
   ___/___ Equitable Housing Score
2. Add up all of the above scores to get a Total.
   ___/___ Total (Points Earned/Max Possible)
3. Turn the Total into a Final Score.
   a. Divide the total Points Earned by the Max Possible
   b. Write the Final Score here: _____ /100
4. Copy the Final Score into the "score" box on the Scorecard cover page (previous).

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Equitable
Community Engagement Practices

Equitable Community Engagement practices require evidence that local community members most affected, especially low-wealth people, people of color, neighborhood groups, community organizations, people living with disabilities, and new immigrants are involved in the development project.
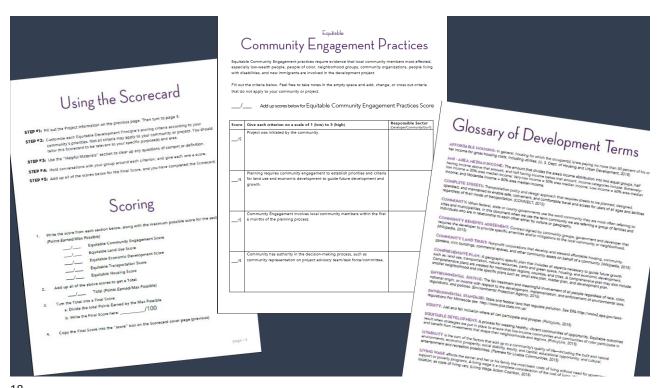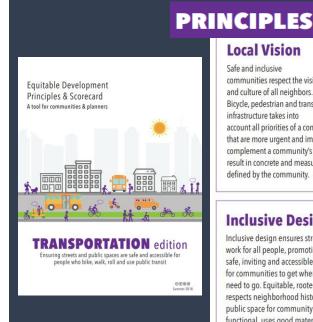
Fill out the criteria below. Feel free to take notes in the empty space and add, change, or cross out criteria that do not apply to your community or project.

___/___ Add up scores below for Equitable Community Engagement Practices Score

Score	Give each criterion on a scale of 1 (low) to 5 (high)	Responsible Sector (Developer/Community/Gov't)
___/5	Project was initiated by the community.	
___/5	Planning requires community engagement to establish priorities and criteria for land use and economic development to guide future development and growth.	
___/5	Community Engagement involves local community members within the first 6 months of the planning process.	
___/5	Community has authority in the decision-making process, such as community representation on project advisory team/task force/committee.	

Glossary of Development Terms

AFFORDABLE HOUSING: In general, housing for which the occupant(s) is/are paying no more than 30 percent of his or her income for gross housing costs, including utilities. (U. S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development, 2015)

AMI – AREA MEDIAN INCOME: The amount that divides the area's income distribution into two equal groups, half having income above that amount, and half having income below that amount. Income categories include: Extremely-low income ≤ 30% area median income; Very-low income ≤ 50% area median income; Low income ≤ 60% area median income; and Moderate income ≤ 80% area median income.

COMPLETE STREETS: Transportation policy and design approach that requires streets to be planned, designed, operated, and maintained to enable safe, convenient, and comfortable travel and access for users of all ages and abilities regardless of their mode of transportation. (CONNECT, 2015)

COMMUNITY: When federal, state or county governments use the word community they are most often referring to cities and municipalities; in this document when we use the term community we are referring a group of families and individuals who are in relationship to each other either by culture or geography.

COMMUNITY BENEFITS AGREEMENT: Contract signed by community groups, government and developer that requires the developer to provide specific amenities and/or mitigations to the local community or neighborhood. (Wikipedia, 2015)

COMMUNITY LAND TRUST: Nonprofit corporations that develop and steward affordable housing, community gardens, civic buildings, commercial spaces, and other community assets on behalf of a community. (Wikipedia, 2015)

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN: A geographic specific plan that includes all aspects necessary to guide future growth such as: land use, transportation, natural resources, parks and green space, housing, and economic development. Comprehensive plans are created for metropolitan regions, counties, and cities. A comprehensive plan may also include smaller neighborhood and site specific plans such as: small area plan, master plan, and development plan.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE: The fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies. (Environmental Protection Agency, 2015)

ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARD: State and federal laws that regulate pollution. See EPA http://www2.epa.gov/laws-regulations For Minnesota see http://www.pca.state.mn.us/

EQUITY: Just and fair inclusion where all can participate and prosper. (PolicyLink, 2015)

EQUITABLE DEVELOPMENT: A process for creating healthy, vibrant communities of opportunity. Equitable outcomes result when strategies are put in place to ensure that low-income communities and communities of color participate in and benefit from investments that shape their neighborhoods and regions. (PolicyLink, 2015)

LIVABILITY is the sum of the factors that add up to a community's quality of life—including the built and natural environments; economic prosperity; social stability, equity, and capital; educational opportunity; and cultural, entertainment and recreation possibilities. (Partners for Livable Communities, 2015)

LIVING WAGE affords the earner and her or his family the most basic costs of living without need for government support or poverty programs. A living wage is a complete consideration of the cost of living by location, as costs of living vary. (Living Wage Action Coalition, 2015)

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Scorecard Enthusiasm!

- Scorecard Enthusiasts – Community of Practice learning table
- Government Scorecard Enthusiasts – partnership Met Council & The Alliance
- Case Studies - http://thealliancetc.org/equitable-development-scorecard/

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Thank you!

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