

GREATER PHILADELPHIA

FUTURES GROUP

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Equitable and Sustainable Regional Infrastructure Roundtable

March 12, 2021, 10:00am – 12:00pm

Virtual Meeting

Please Register for the Zoom Webinar [HERE](#)

AGENDA

Workshop Welcome

What does an equitable region look like? How do we overcome disconnects between the city and the surrounding suburbs? How can we use investments in climate resiliency and infrastructure to undo institutional/structural racism? This Roundtable will investigate some of these questions and explore participants' interest in infrastructure as well as some of the work going on in the region surrounding equity and sustainability.

The Temporality and Geography of Equity

Kafui Attoh will present some of his research focusing on labor and social justice issues with respect to transportation as a framing for a discussion around the temporality and geography of equity, and how that relates to infrastructure.

Infrastructure, Equity, and the Urban-Rural Gradient

Hamil Pearsall, Christina Rosan, and Melissa Gilbert will share a summary and some key findings from their workshop on 'How Does Infrastructure Shape Equity and Well-being Across the Urban-Rural Gradient,' held in September 2020.

Discussion

Attendees will join small breakout groups to discuss and respond to some of the big questions posed by our speakers before reporting back to the full group for ongoing dialogue.

Updates

Members will be invited to share updates from their organizations, time permitting.

Connecting People, Places & Prosperity in Greater Philadelphia

The Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC) fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related nondiscrimination statutes in all activities. For more information, visit www.dvrpc.org/GetInvolved/TitleVI.

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SPEAKER BIOS

KAFUI ATTOH, PH.D.

Assistant Professor of Urban Studies, Joseph S. Murphy Institute for Worker Education and Labor Studies, CUNY's School of Professional Studies.



Kafui Attoh received his B.A. from Macalester College and his Ph.D in Geography from Syracuse University. His broad interests are in the political economy of cities, the politics of public space and debates in and around the idea of the "right to the city." His research has focused on three areas: 1) the role of transit within the political economy of cities; 2) the economic impact of limited access to transportation on disadvantaged communities and 3) the role of urban social movements (including the labor movement) in shaping mass transit policy. He is the author of *Rights in Transit: Public Transportation and the Right to the City in California's East Bay* (University of Georgia Press 2019) along with a number of journal and popular articles on related issues.

CHRISTINA ROSAN, PH.D.

Associate Professor, Environmental Studies / Geography and Urban Studies / Public Policy, Temple University.



Christina Rosan, MCP, Ph.D., teaches in the Geography and Urban Studies Department at Temple University. She is particularly interested in how we make cities and regions more sustainable and just. Rosan is the author of *Governing the Fragmented Metropolis: Planning for Regional Sustainability* (Penn Press, 2016) and a co-editor of *Planning Ideas that Matter* (MIT Press, 2012). She is also the co-author of *Growing a Sustainable City: The Question of Urban Agriculture?* (University of Toronto Press, 2017), with her colleague, Dr. Hamil Pearsall, about the politics of urban agriculture in Philadelphia. She is finishing a co-authored book with Stephen Wheeler from UC Davis, *Reimagining Sustainable Cities* (University of California Press, Forthcoming 2021). The book aims to provide examples of policies that are working to promote sustainability. She holds a Master's in City Planning and Ph.D. from the Massachusetts Institute for Technology (MIT). Rosan is active in the Philadelphia sustainability community and is eager to use research to inform practice.

HAMIL PEARSALL, PH.D.

Associate Professor & Graduate Chair, Geography and Urban Studies, Temple University.



Hamil Pearsall is an associate professor in the Geography and Urban Studies Department at Temple University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA. Her research focuses on environmental gentrification, the role of vacant land in urban greening efforts, and the impact of environmental justice on urban sustainability planning. She uses GIS and qualitative approaches in her work.

MELISSA R. GILBERT, PH.D.

Professor and Chair, Department of Geography and Urban Studies / Director, Center for Sustainable Communities, Temple University.



Dr. Melissa R. Gilbert is Professor and Chair of the Department of Geography and Urban Studies, and Director of the Center for Sustainable Communities at Temple University. Her research interests broadly are to understand how racial, economic, and gender inequities shape and are shaped by urban geographies. She has looked at labor markets, poverty, health care, digital technologies and infrastructure through this lens as well as social movements and community-university partnerships as ways to create more sustainable communities. Her research has been supported by the Fulbright Commission, the National Science Foundation, and the Social Science Research Council. Her research has been published in journals such as the *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, the *Professional Geographer*, *Urban Geography*, *Geoforum*, *Transactions in GIS*, and *Information, Communication & Society*. With Dr. Michele Masucci, she published *ICT Geographies: Strategies for Bridging the Digital Divide*, (2011, Praxis (e) Press).