

The Strong, Prosperous and Resilient Communities Challenge

The Strong, Prosperous and Resilient Communities Challenge (SPARCC) is a multiyear initiative¹ investing in and amplifying local efforts in six regions to ensure that public investments in the built environment reduce racial disparities, build a culture of health, and respond to the climate crisis. The initiative's long-term goal is to change the way metropolitan regions grow, invest, and build through integrated, cross-sector approaches that benefit low-income people and communities of color. SPARCC offers flexible grant funding, technical assistance, and a community of practice to support innovative solutions that advance racial equity, health, and climate resilience.

SPARCC IS CONTRIBUTING TO AN EQUITABLE ECOSYSTEM OF DEVELOPMENT

Racial income inequality is the largest since the government began measuring it in 1967, and that's not by accident. Historically, laws, rules and practices in planning and investment have perpetuated racial injustice, hurting local economies, public health, and the environment in the process.

The SPARCC initiative takes a strong stand in a growing effort toward building communities by investing in people and reforming the systems that stand as barriers to racial and social equity. It brings together residents, community advocates, business owners, artists, and experts in community investment, public health, public policy, climate resilience in unique collaborations that challenge assumptions and biases.

- » [Atlanta](#) | The Transformation Alliance
- » [Chicago](#) | Elevated Chicago
- » [Denver](#) | Mile High Connects
- » [Los Angeles](#) | SPARCC LA
- » [Memphis](#) | North Memphis V.O.I.C.E. Coalition
- » [San Francisco Bay Area](#) | Bay Area for All

SPARCC is leveraging the power of its collective network to influence policy, capital investments, and national conversations about the built environment. Collectively, more than 250 organizations are a part of SPARCC's regional collaboratives. While each region is different, all six have proposed concrete strategies to make their communities more prosperous and equitable through solutions including shifting power and decision making practices, regional transit expansion and revitalizing existing transit hubs, and reshaping and redirecting housing and land use.

¹ SPARCC is an initiative of Enterprise Community Partners, Low Income Investment Fund, and Natural Resources Defense Council, with funding from Ballmer Group, JPB Foundation, Kresge Foundation, and Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

The SPARCC Regions

ATLANTA

The TransFormation Alliance is a broad partnership of organizations from the private, public, and nonprofit sectors dedicated to creating thriving, mixed-income communities anchored by transit and linked to all the opportunities and amenities that make Atlanta great. To learn more, visit atltransformationalliance.org.

CHICAGO

Elevated Chicago is a partnership of organizations advancing equitable transit-oriented development and transforming the half-mile radius around transit stations by investing in the people, places, and processes that make communities of color culturally vibrant, health, and climate resilient. To learn more, visit elevatedchicago.org.

DENVER

Mile High Connects is a regional collaborative of resident leaders, nonprofits, and funders addressing racial, economic, health and environmental inequities by ensuring all communities have access to transit mobility, housing, and economic opportunity. Our inspiration to action is a racially equitable, resilient Denver region where community driven solutions are at the center of transformative systems change. To learn more, visit milehighconnects.org.

LOS ANGELES

SPARCC LA is a collaboration of coalitions and community based organizations across Los Angeles holding racial justice at the cornerstone of all advocacy, including transit justice, community-ownership of land, small business preservation, tenant protections and other anti-displacement strategies.

MEMPHIS

North Memphis VOICE is a multi-neighborhood collaborative connecting community voice to power by exploring the relationship of institutional power, social inequalities, and living conditions. In partnership with the collaborative, [Center for Transforming Communities](http://CenterforTransformingCommunities.org) (CTC) harvests community stories of resilience and hope to educate and engender new narratives for our communities and self. To learn more, visit northmemphisvoice.org/.

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA

Bay Area for All, a collaboration of the [6 Wins for Social Equity Network](http://6WinsforSocialEquityNetwork.org), [Great Communities Collaborative](http://GreatCommunitiesCollaborative.org), and [Bay Area Regional Health Inequities Initiative](http://BayAreaRegionalHealthInequitiesInitiative.org) are advancing a shared vision of community-driven housing preservation and development on public land in targeted, transit-rich neighborhoods across the Bay Area. Their goal is to create an equitable region, where Black and Brown communities who have been most impacted by racism, health inequity, and environmental injustice direct the future development of the region and preservation of cultural communities.