

Baltimore Regional AI Stakeholder Work Group

Notes (flip pads) from December 13, 2018 Meeting – Disparities in Access to Opportunity: Education, Low Poverty, and Public Health

Education

- Pursue a combination of both strategies:
 - Better access to high-performing schools (boost access to housing by good schools)
 - Improve underperforming schools
- Improve the physical environment – walking route to school
- Baltimore City's INSPIRE program seeks to improve neighborhoods around new & renovated schools in 21st Century Schools program.
- Persistent achievement gap along with increasing school segregation => Can separate ever be equal or adequate?
- Education data: Are we okay with segregation? No local or regional efforts focusing on increasing school integration.
- Examples in other metro areas (both state-funded):
 - [Boston MetCo program](#) begun in 1966 helps students in certain cities attend schools in other districts.
 - [Hartford magnet school program](#) – more than ½ of Hartford city students go to an integrated school.
- Howard County now has Source of Income as protected class:
 - Thought this would work for mobility, but landlords get around the law through income & credit requirements.
 - Need statewide & need to be smart around implementation & writing the legislation.
- Cultural factors in housing mobility
 - People can experience cultural isolation/segregation in new neighborhoods
 - Sometimes no social, family, church ties in new neighborhoods
- Success:
 - Generally test scores used as data to show improvement
 - How to define success/good schools? Less segregated?
 - "Bad" schools
 - Generally low test scores and violence (although what do we mean by violence?)
 - How to delink from poverty?
 - State funding formula is a key factor
 - What link to proficient?
 - Take cues for success from the educators
 - What are the local decisions that impact our outcomes?
- How racism plays into this: differential treatment of kids, schools, intensity of response.
- Work in concert with school boards & politicians to build political will to integrate (example of Realtor pressure on Howard Co. redistricting proposal)
- Revitalization as part of school quality:
 - Define what makes a school excellent
 - And then look at how funds for revitalization impact that

- Kirwan Commission is not addressing segregation directly.
- Barriers:
 - Silos within jurisdictions & within school districts
 - Not maximizing opportunities to integrate (e.g. Perkins redevelopment) or housing around new schools.
- AI possibilities:
 - Could bring more people together
 - Public spaces in revitalization funded through CDBG
 - INSPIRE Plans – need implementation funding

Health

- City Health Department initiative on maternal & child health: Bmore for Healthy Babies
 - Has achieved 31% reduction in infant mortality since 2009 and narrowed white/black disparity in infant mortality by nearly 40%, but...
 - Quality of housing has a huge impact on health
 - Vacant/unstable housing is associated with health problems.
 - Health Dept. wrote a paper => recommendations for housing
 - Housing needs to be at the table
 - Upton/Druid Heights:
 - Has highest life expectancy disparity with Roland Park
 - High infant mortality is major contributor to lower overall life expectancy
 - People working together across silos has resulted in zero infant deaths over four years.
- Bon Secours:
 - Has found blood pressure spikes walking past a vacant house
 - Being able to walk safely in neighborhoods means more exercise and better health – better sidewalks, etc. helps.
- Higher commute times means more problems with social determinants of health.
- Urban farms help health
- Need both place-based (improving struggling places) and housing mobility (helping people move to healthier communities) strategies.
- Zoning – another critical factor; decides:
 - Where sources of pollution can locate
 - Where stores that sell alcohol and cigarettes can locate – how close to schools
 - Where supermarkets with healthy food can locate
- Asphalt contributes to heat island effect.
- Need both long-term & short-term solutions:
 - Long-term: Housing remediation & addressing social determinants of health
 - Short-term: Helping someone move to a healthier place through housing mobility programs.
- Ohio:
 - Problem with high infant mortality
 - State Housing Finance Agency gave \$1 million to health payer consortium to help with housing solutions.