

ADVANCING LOCAL WEALTH AND OPPORTUNITY

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WINTER
2025

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DEMOCRACY
COLLABORATIVE

ADVANCING LOCAL WEALTH & OPPORTUNITY

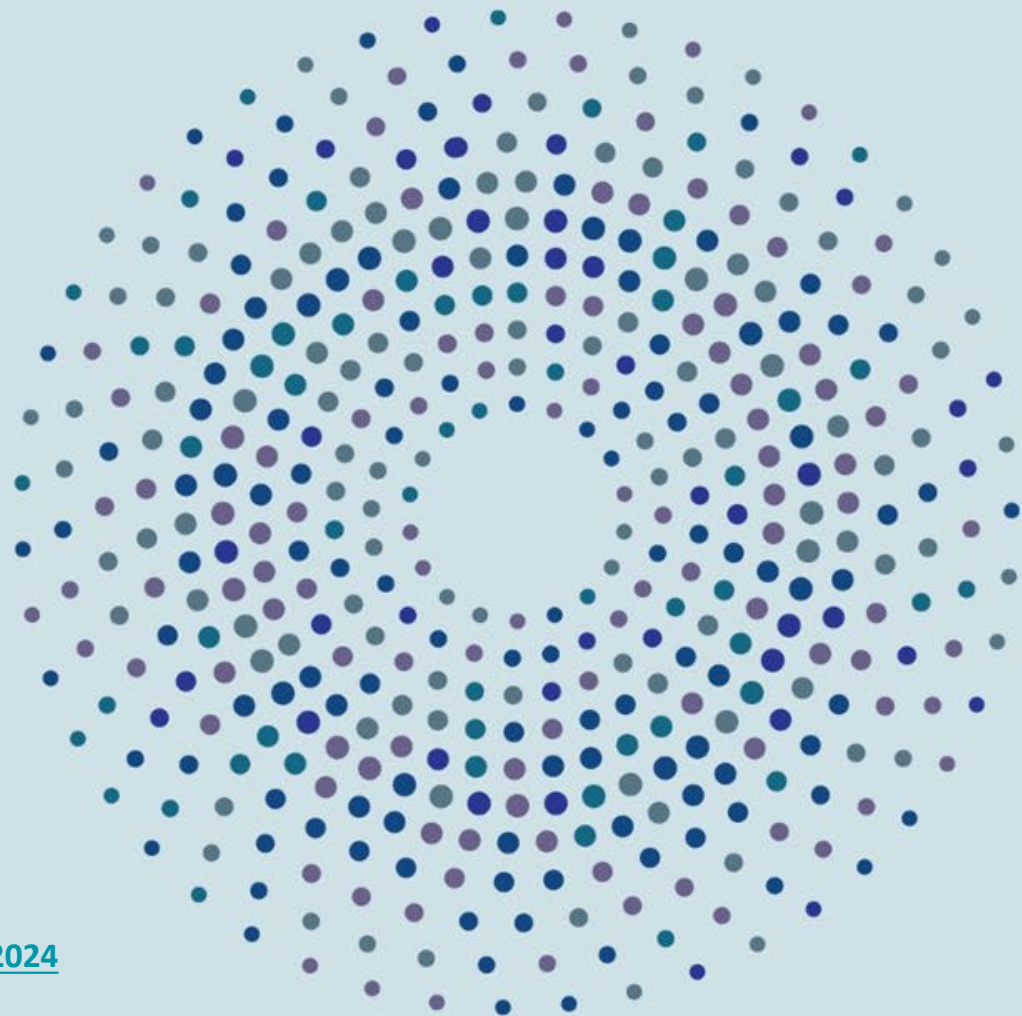
2025 MIP Winter Conference



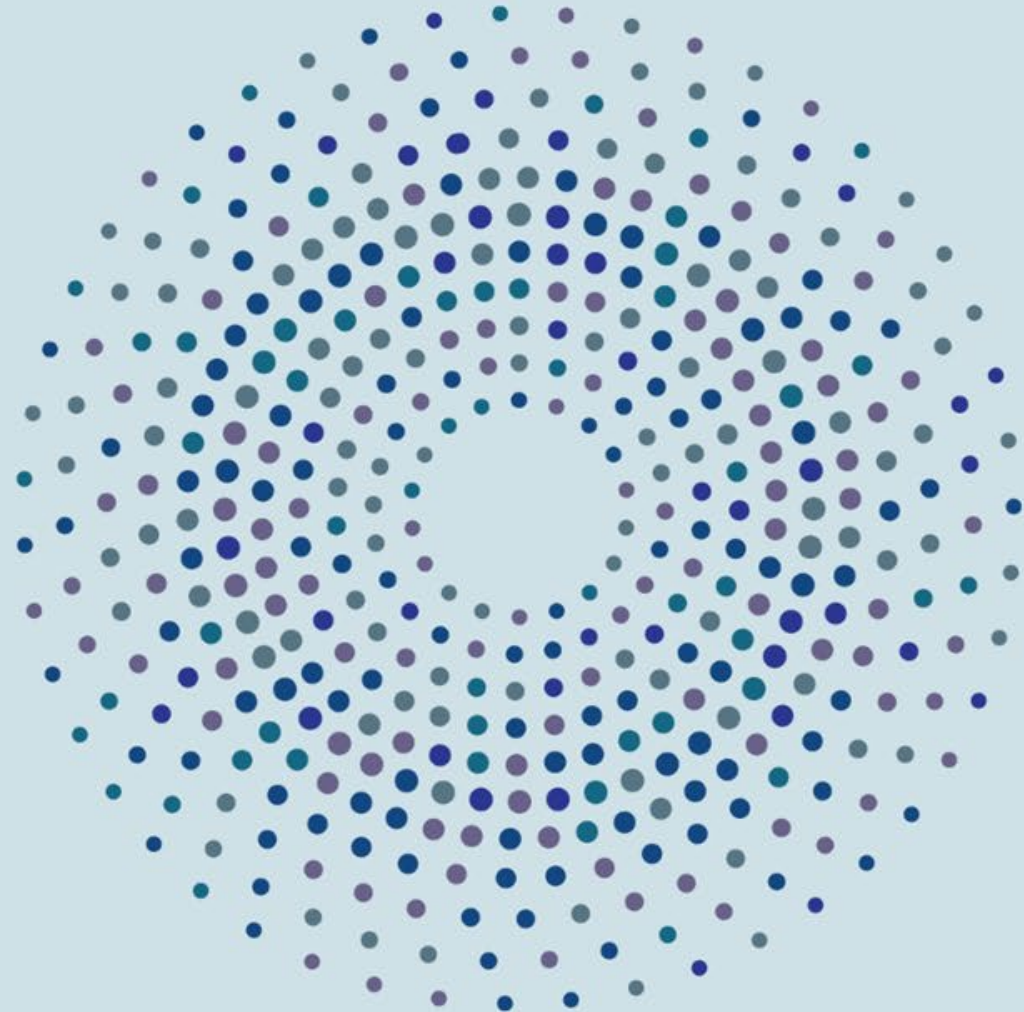
81% OF REGISTERED VOTERS

SAID THE ECONOMY
WAS VERY IMPORTANT
TO THEIR VOTE IN THE
2024 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.

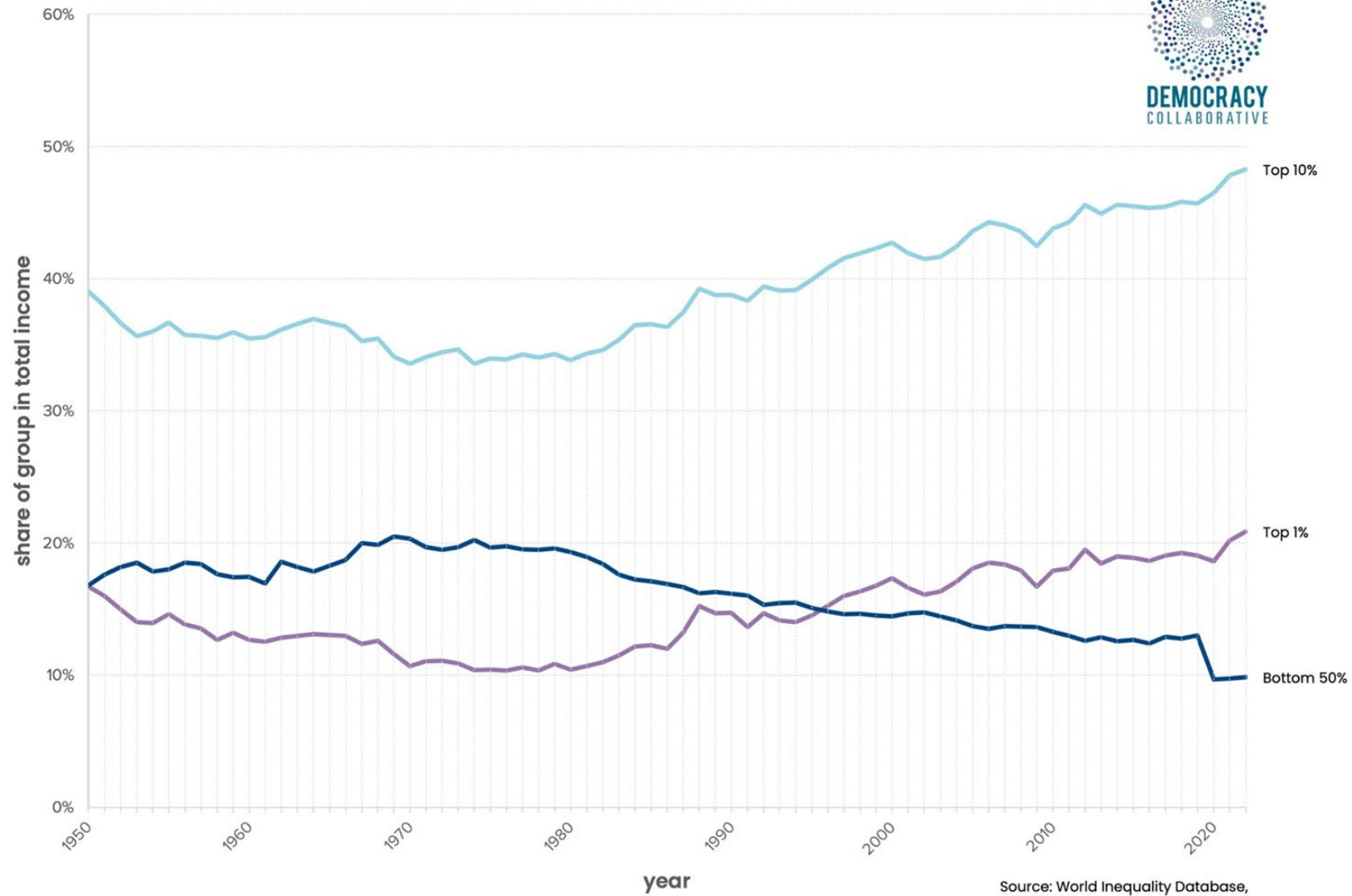
Pew Research Center 2024



BUT WE KNOW THAT
THE PROBLEM OF WEALTH
TRANSCENDS ELECTORAL
POLITICS.

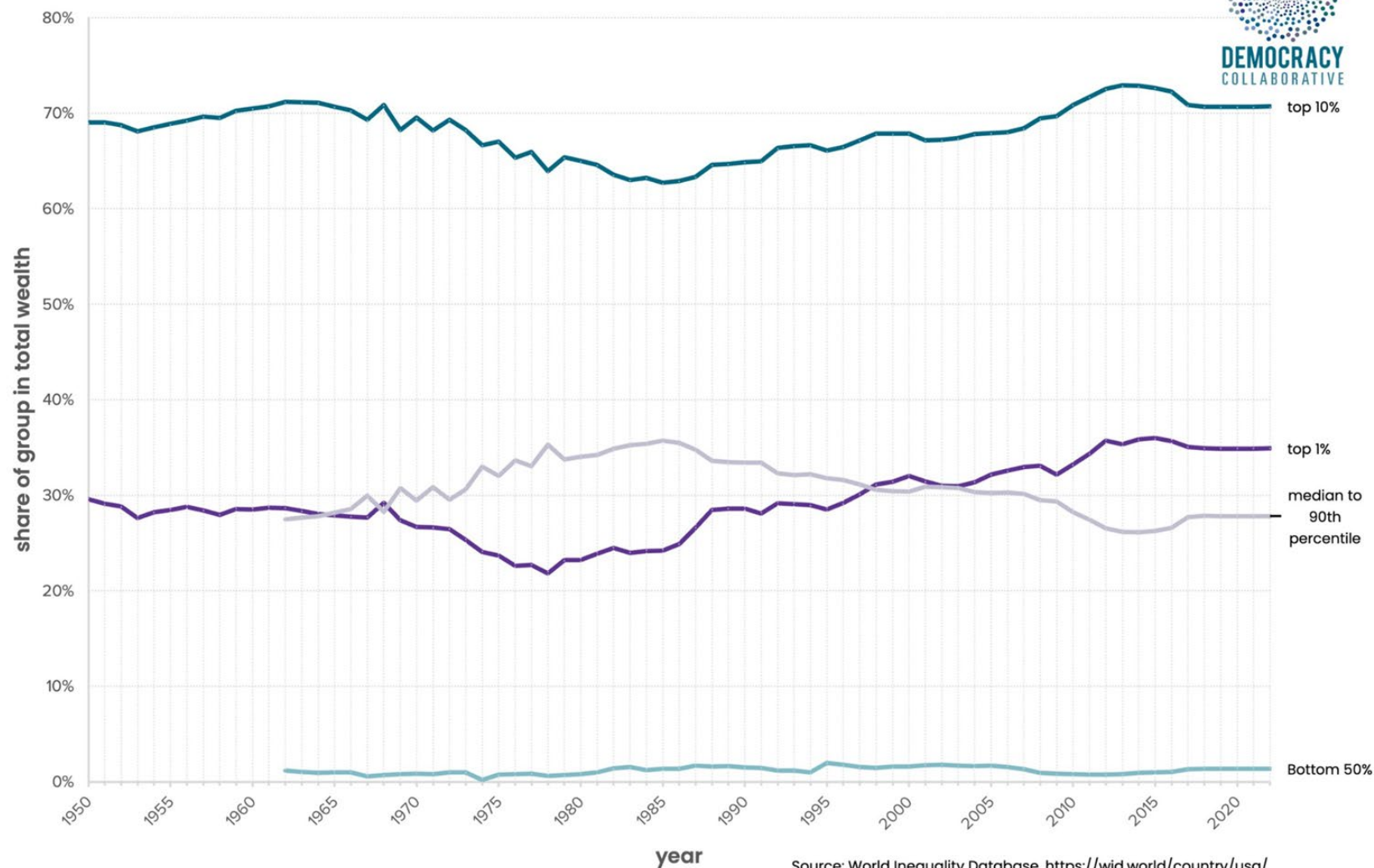


US income inequality since 1950



Source: World Inequality Database,
<https://wid.world/country/usa/>

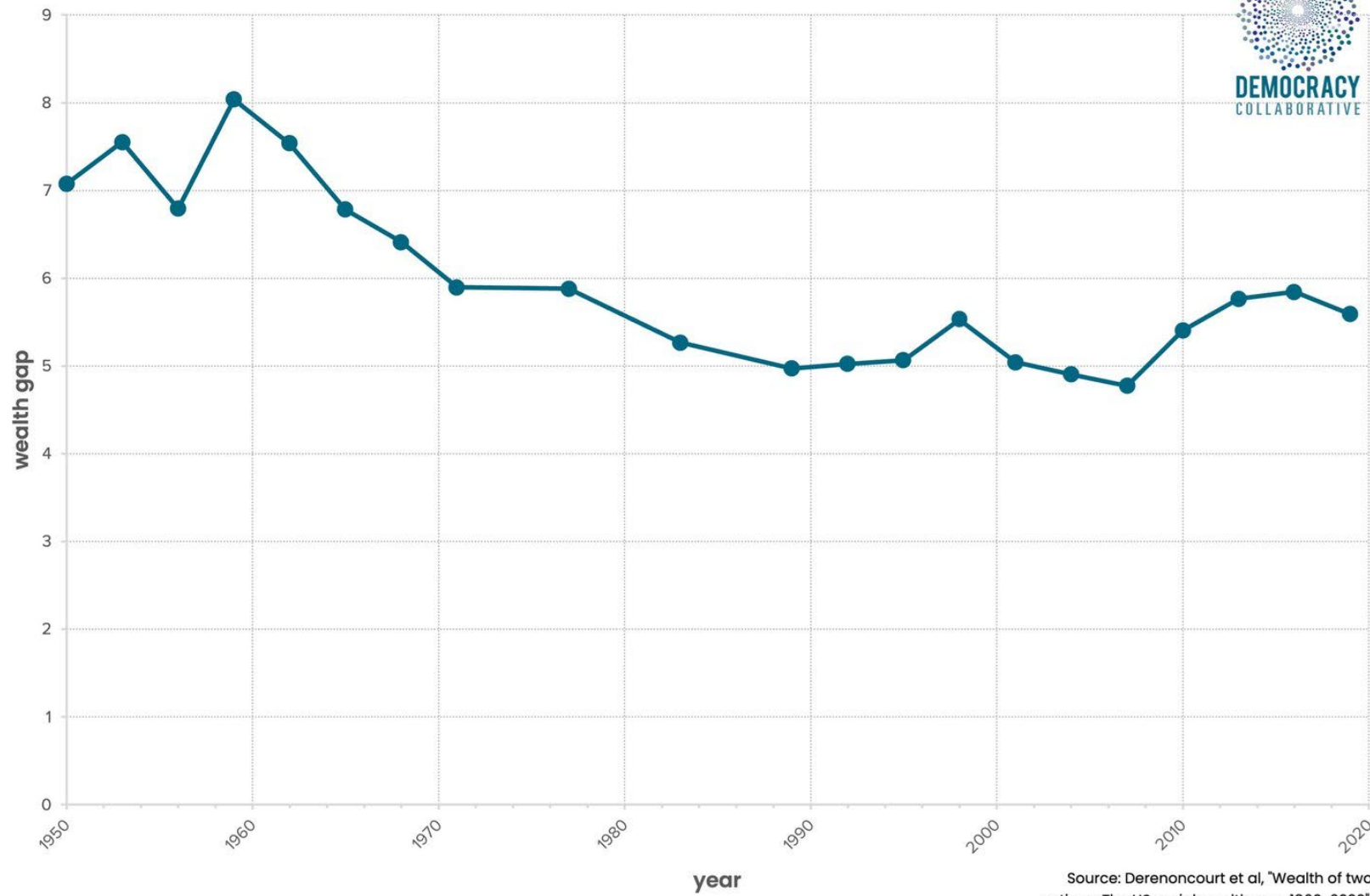
Share of the top 1%, top 10%, the next 40% and the bottom 50% of the US wealth distribution in total wealth, 1950-2022



Source: World Inequality Database, <https://wid.world/country/usa/>

Note: Data on bottom 50% share and 50th-90th percentile share only available from 1962 onwards.

US White-Black wealth gap, 1950-2019



Source: Derenoncourt et al, "Wealth of two nations: The US racial wealth gap, 1860-2020",
<https://economics.princeton.edu/working-papers/wealth-of-two-nations-the-u-s-racial-wealth-gap-1860-2020/>

WHAT HAVE **LOCAL GOVERNMENTS**
DONE? WHERE HAVE THEY
STALLED?

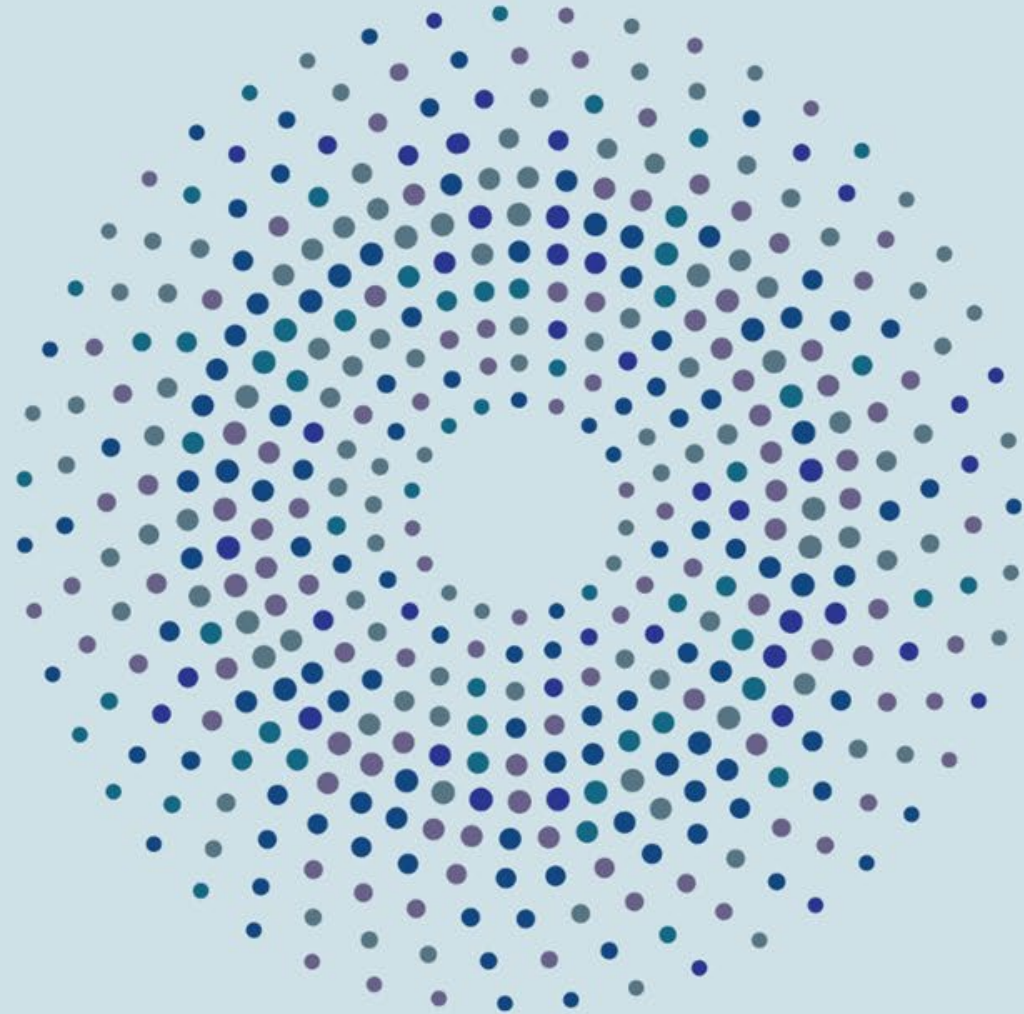


The state of economic development in cities is often:

- ❖ highly fragmented;
- ❖ limited by restricted and/or short-term funding flows
- ❖ straightjacketed by and conservative politics;
- ❖ experiencing a deepening polarity between addressing immediate needs/crises and changing economic conditions at the root; and
- ❖ without the goal of economic transformation at its core.



COMMUNITY WEALTH BUILDING

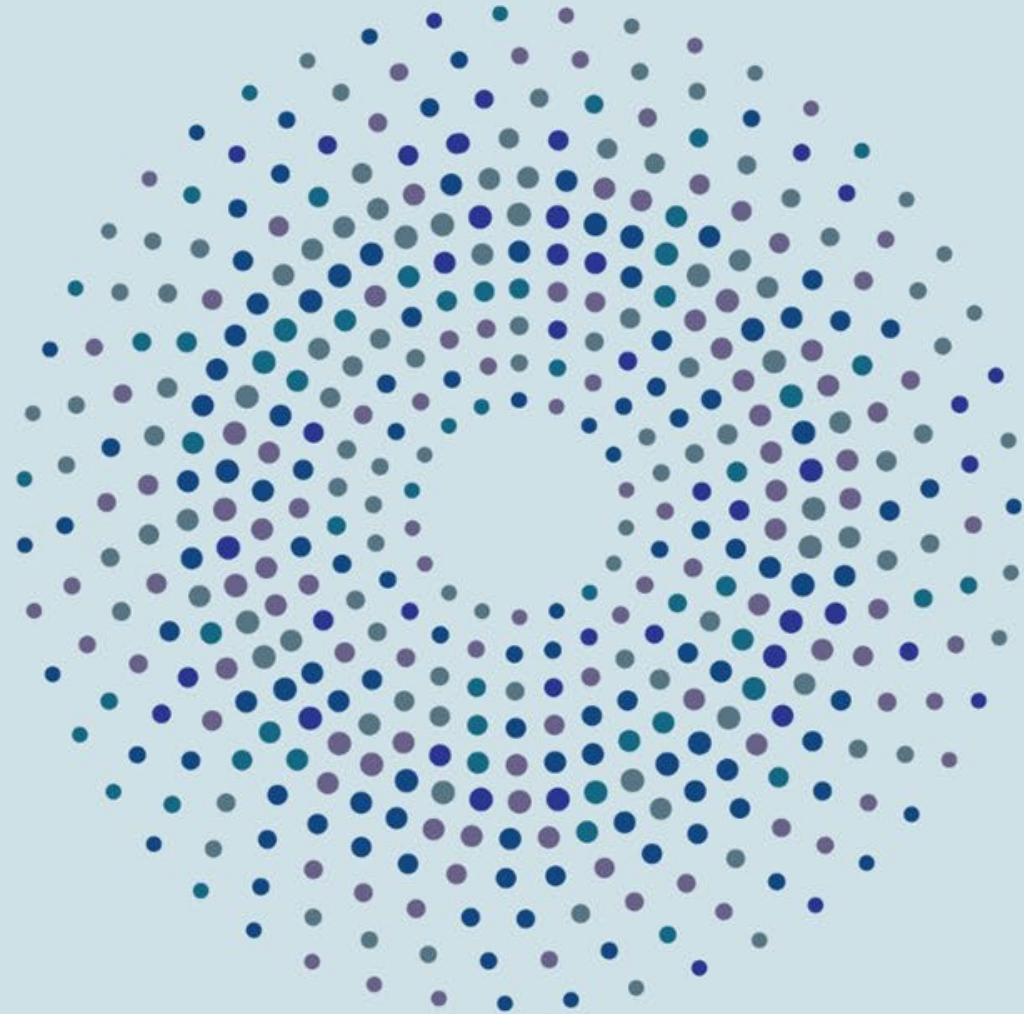


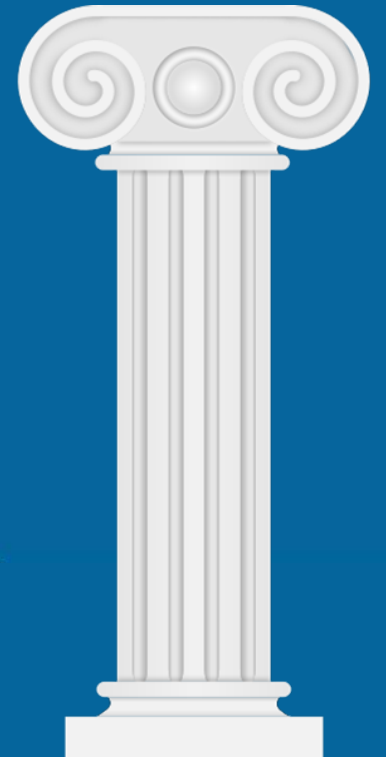
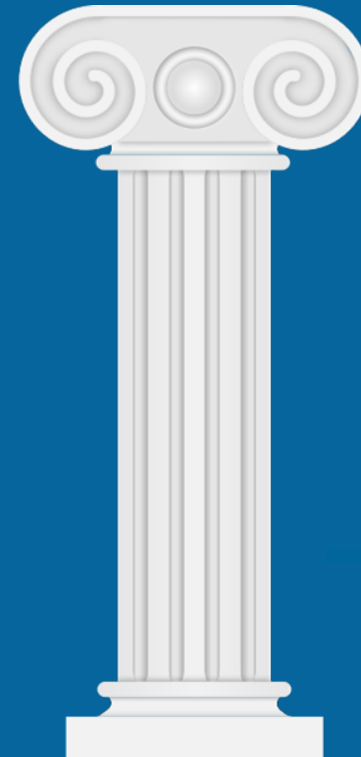
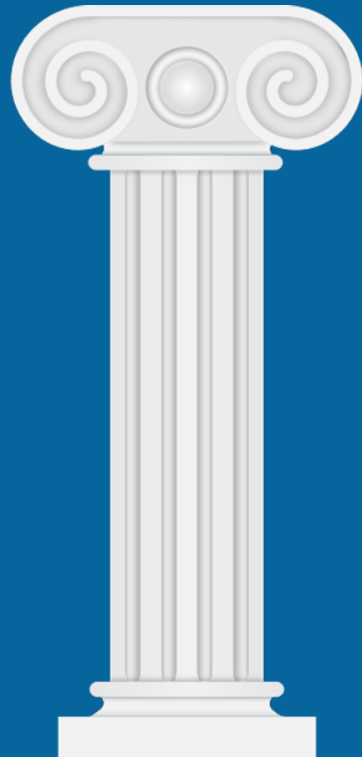
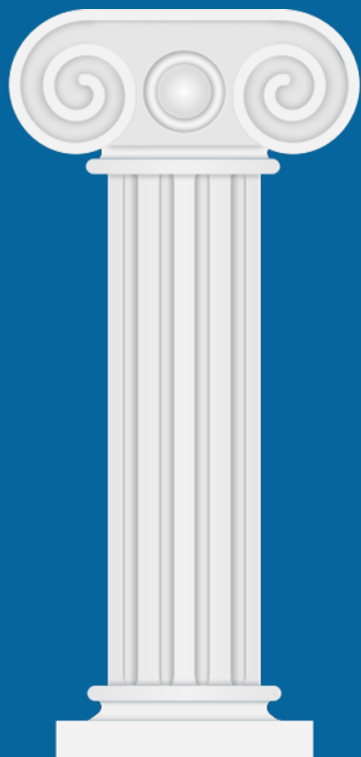
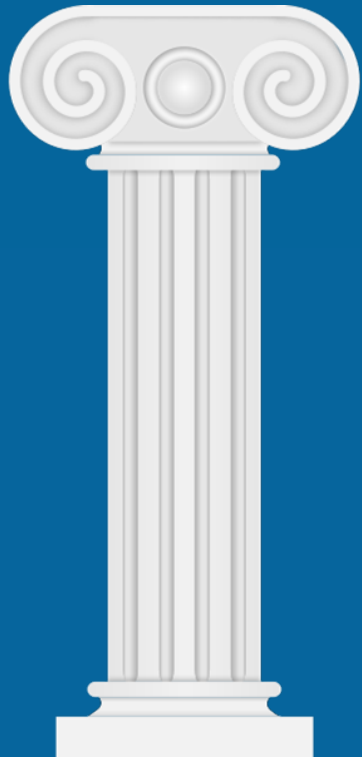
Community Wealth Building (CWB) is an economic development model that transforms local economies based on communities having direct ownership and control of their assets, namely land, labor, and capital.

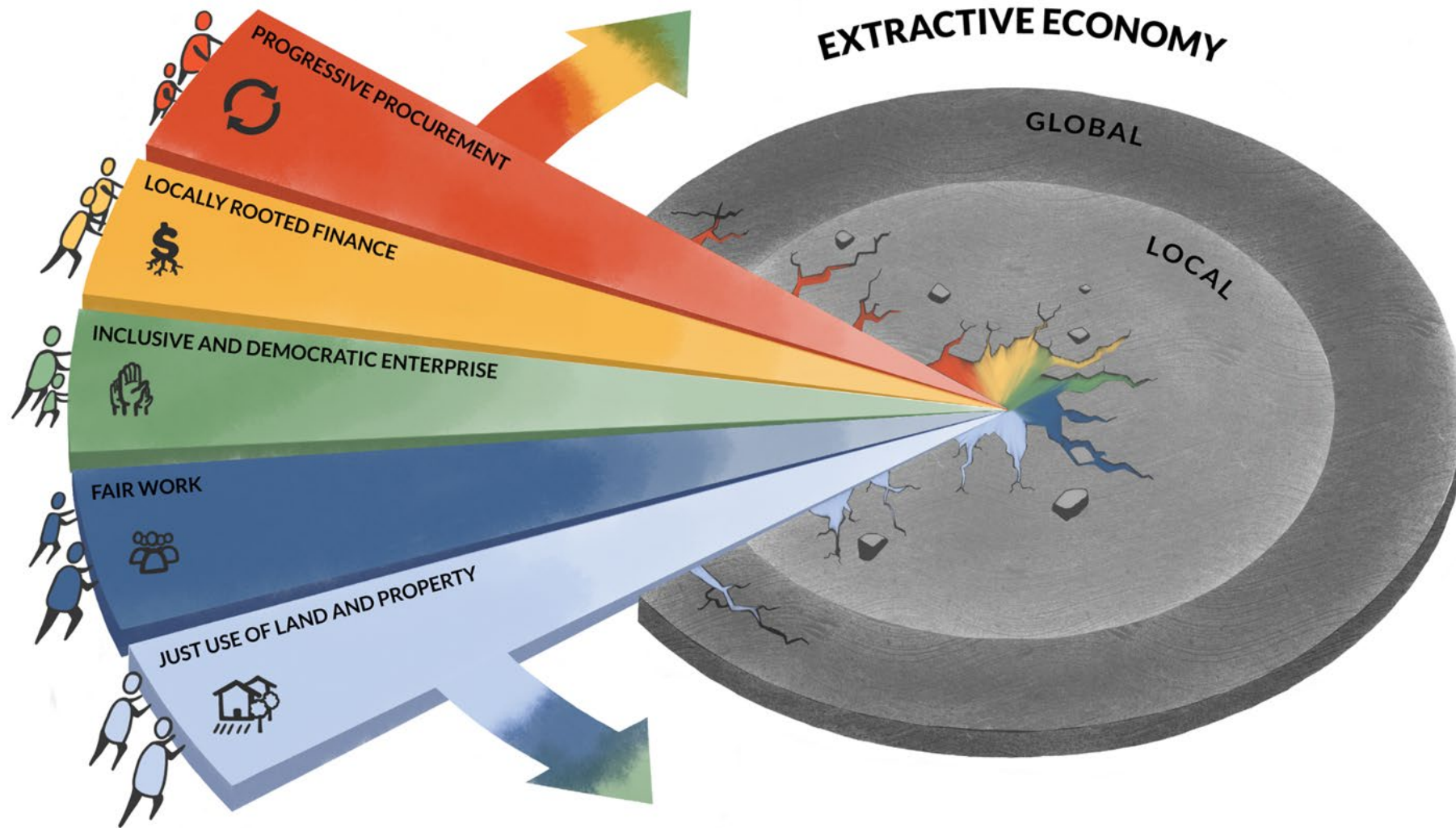


long-term goals: economic transformation to produce broadly shared economic prosperity, racial equity, and ecological sustainability

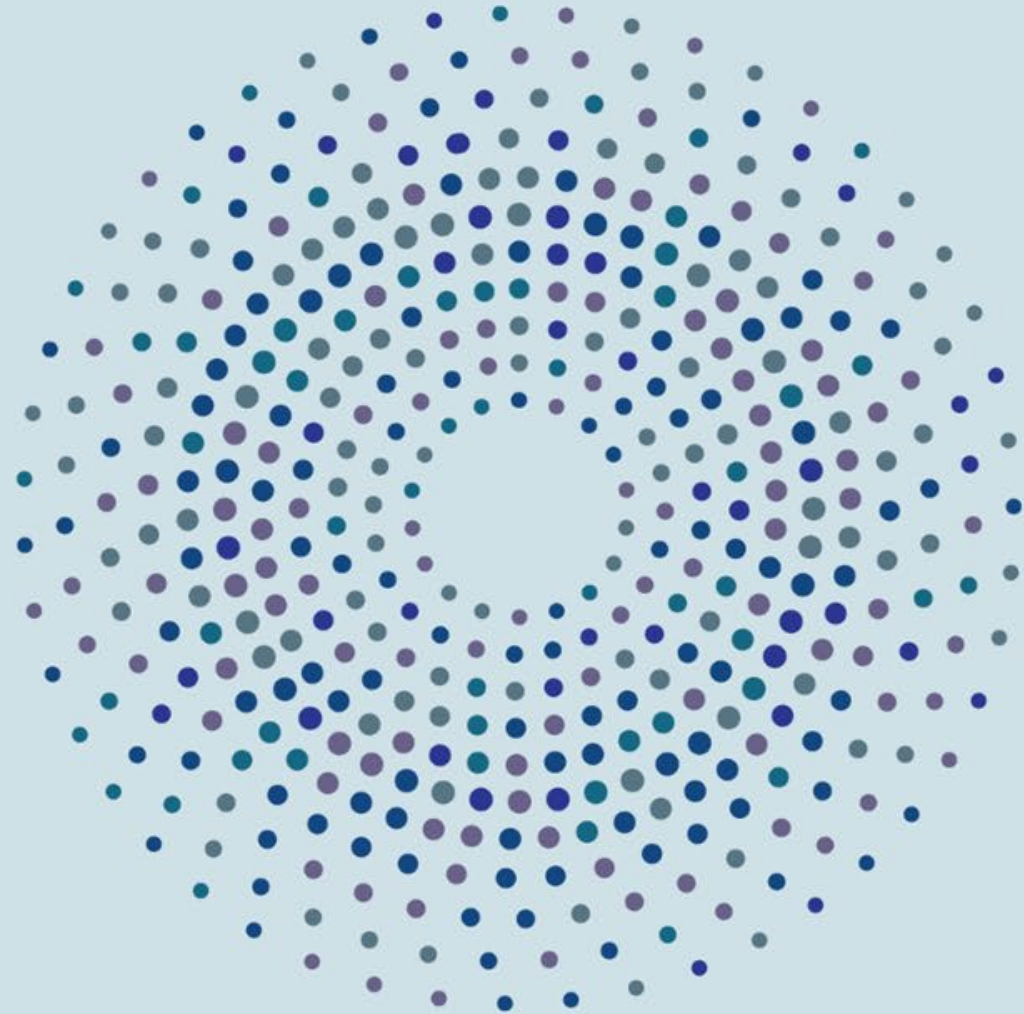
THE FIVE PILLARS & THE CWB WEDGE







CWB IN PRACTICE



CWB & IMMIGRATION

Denver, CO and Fairfax, VA



CWB & CLEAN ENERGY

PEOPLE'S ECONOMY LAB

Seattle, WA

COMMUNITY WEALTH building

Strategies to
Close the Racial
Wealth Gap
in Seattle and
Our Region



Washington State Just Transition Strategy Summit

PEOPLE'S
ECONOMY
LAB 2021 FRONT
AND
CENTERED



CWB & RACIAL INEQUALITY

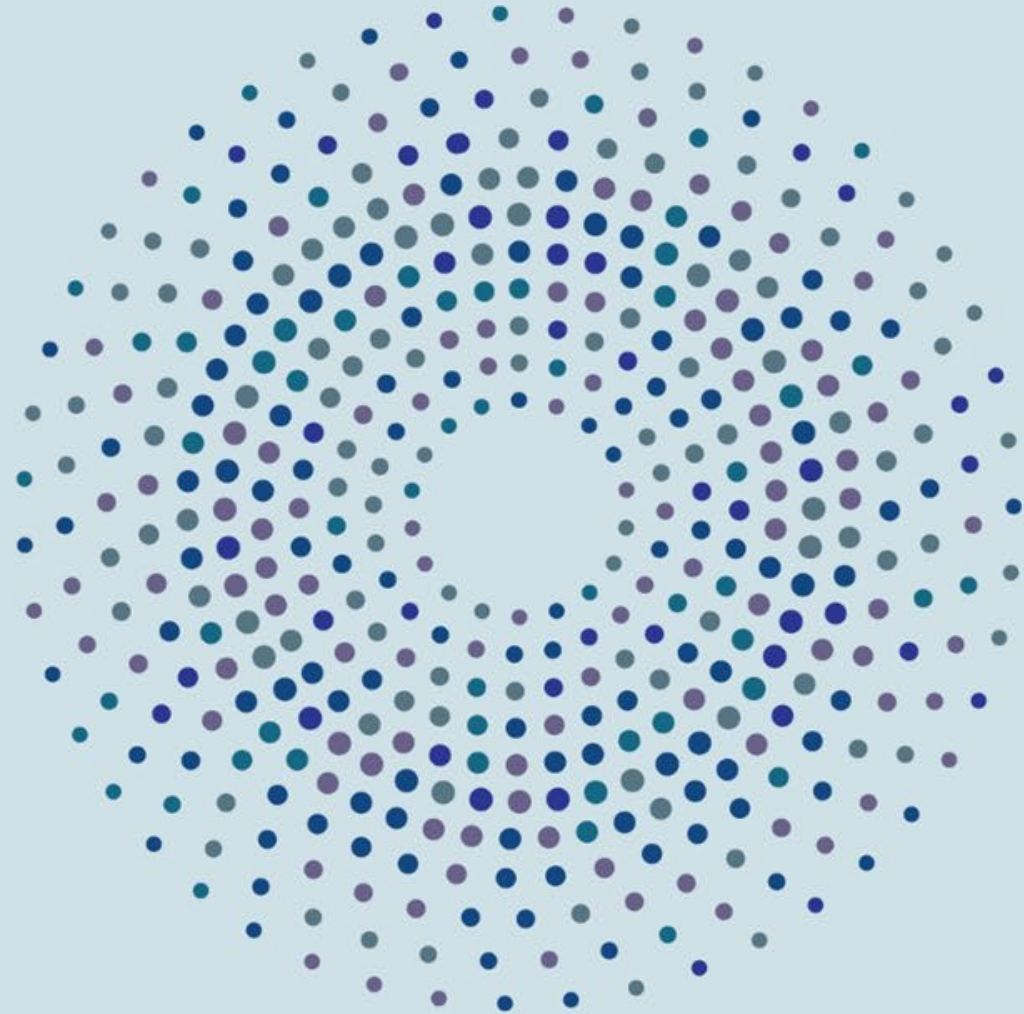
Chicago, IL and St. Louis, MO



WEPOWER



CWB & YOU





What role can mayors play in advancing CWB in their respective cities?

- ❖ serve as powerful champions for CWB theory *and* practice;
- ❖ mobilizing city residents through political campaigning (and beyond!);
- ❖ convening key stakeholders;
- ❖ analyzing what's already happening and calling attention to the connective tissue;
- ❖ directing much-needed capital and resources to advancing structural change; and
- ❖ policy-making to better enable CWB activity at the local level



EAGER TO GET STARTED? GET IN TOUCH.

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action planning, strategic advising, communities of practice, and more!