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2017 DIVERSITY SUMMIT

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## Supporting Vulnerable Communities

Lessons learned from a history of  
urban renewal and displacement

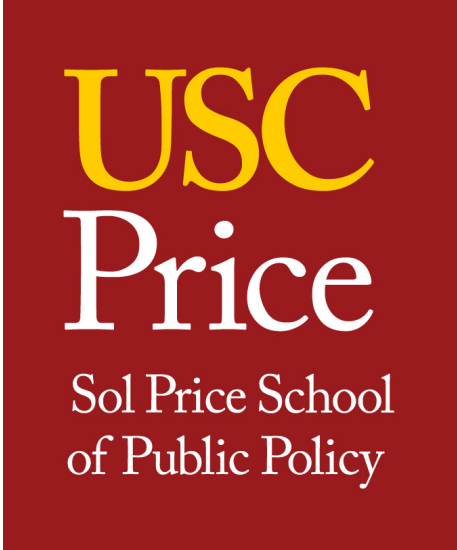
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## IMPORTANT ROOM CHANGE

THE FOLLOWING SESSIONS ARE BEING HELD IN SH MAGNOLIA

### **Sunday, September 24**

10:00 am – 11:30 am      New Suburbanism: Changing the Way We Reinvest in California's Suburban Communities

1:15 pm – 2:45 pm      Leadership in a Time of Rapid Change

*(California Planning Roundtable Session)*



## IMPORTANT ROOM CHANGE

THE FOLLOWING SESSIONS ARE BEING HELD IN SH GARDENIA

### **Sunday, September 24**

- |                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| 10:00 am – 11:30 am | Taking it to the Streets:<br>Participatory Planning<br>Strategies for Transportation<br>Projects |
| 1:15 pm – 2:45 pm   | The Power of Storytelling in<br>Community Planning   |



## IMPORTANT ROOM CHANGE

THE FOLLOWING SESSIONS ARE BEING HELD IN SH CAMELIA

### **Sunday, September 24**

- |                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| 10:00 am – 11:30 am | APA California 2017 Legislative Update   |
| 1:15 pm – 2:45 pm   | The Planner's Paradox:<br>Exploring Ethical Advocacy<br><i>(Section Directors Session)</i> |

# Membership Inclusion Directors

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## **Miroo Desai, AICP**

Membership Inclusion Director, Northern California  
*Senior Planner, City of Emeryville*

## **Erica Gutierrez, MA, MRP**

Membership Inclusion Director, Southern California  
*Senior Planner, County of Los Angeles Department  
of Regional Planning*





FROM THE HARBOUR BY J. A. COOPER.

BY J. A. COOPER.

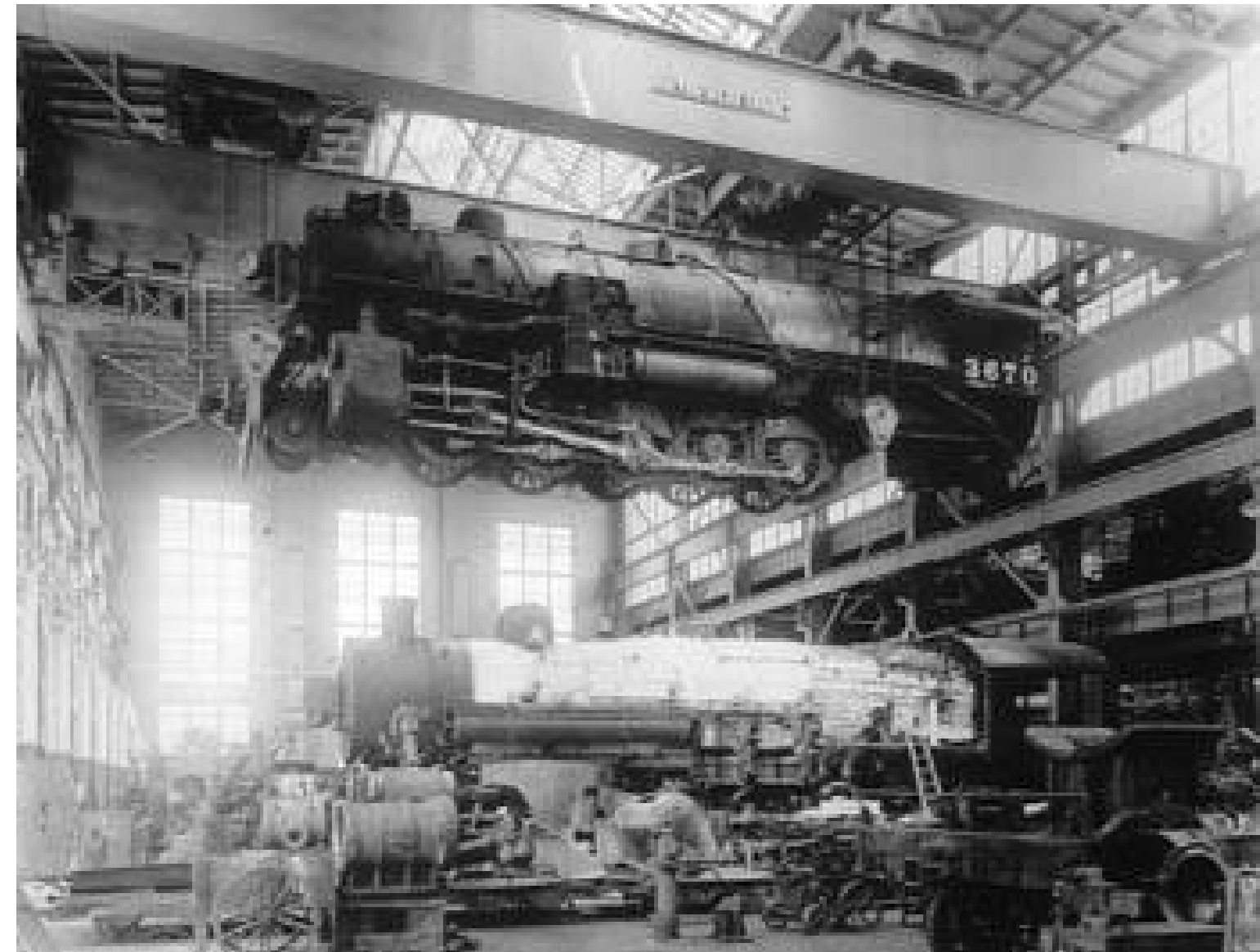
- 1. Market Building
- 2. Daily Market
- 3. W. B. Woodruff & Co.
- 4. Hotel
- 5. Smith & Co. (W. B. Woodruff)
- 6. Montgomery & Robinson (W. B. Woodruff)
- 7. Smith & Co. (W. B. Woodruff)
- 8. Hotel
- 9. Superior Market
- 10. Warehouse
- 11. Custom House
- 12. Hotel

- 13. W. B. Woodruff & Co.
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- 24. W. B. Woodruff & Co.

**SACRAMENTO CITY CA.**  
 FROM THE FOOT OF J. STREET,  
 SHOWING I. J & K. STS WITH THE SIERRA NEVADA IN THE DISTANCE.

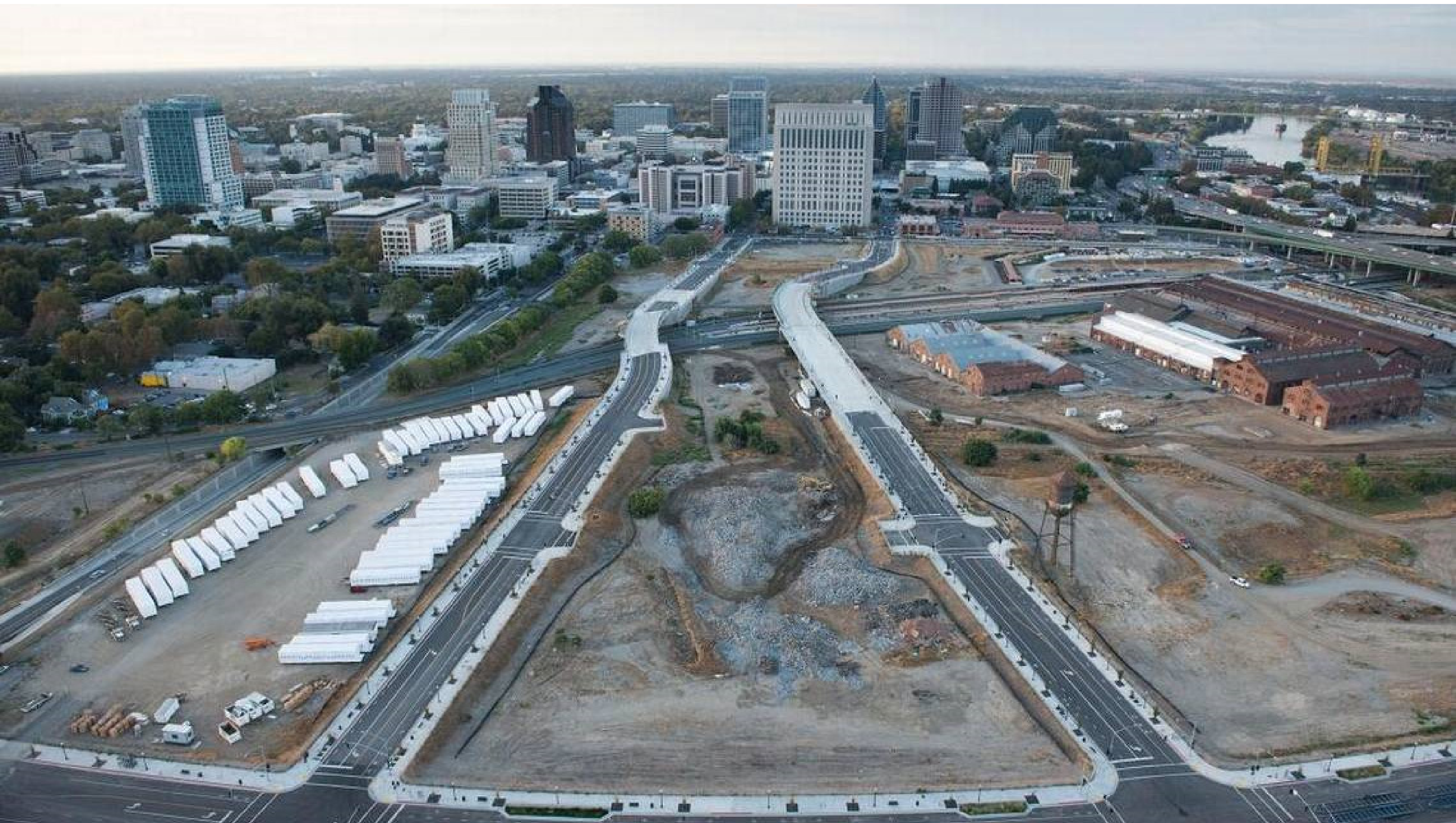
NEW YORK: THE ENGRAVERS & PRINTERS 111 NASSAU ST.













# Panel

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**Dan Amsden, AICP, Moderator**  
Planner | Urban Designer at MIG  
State APA Diversity Inclusion  
Directors Board Member

**Chris Lango**  
Filmmaker

**Katie Valenzuela Garcia**  
President, Oak Park  
Neighborhood Association

**Dr. Yolanda T. Moses**  
Professor of Anthropology,  
University of California, Riverside



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## Replacing the Past:

*Sacramento's Redevelopment History*

Chris Lango

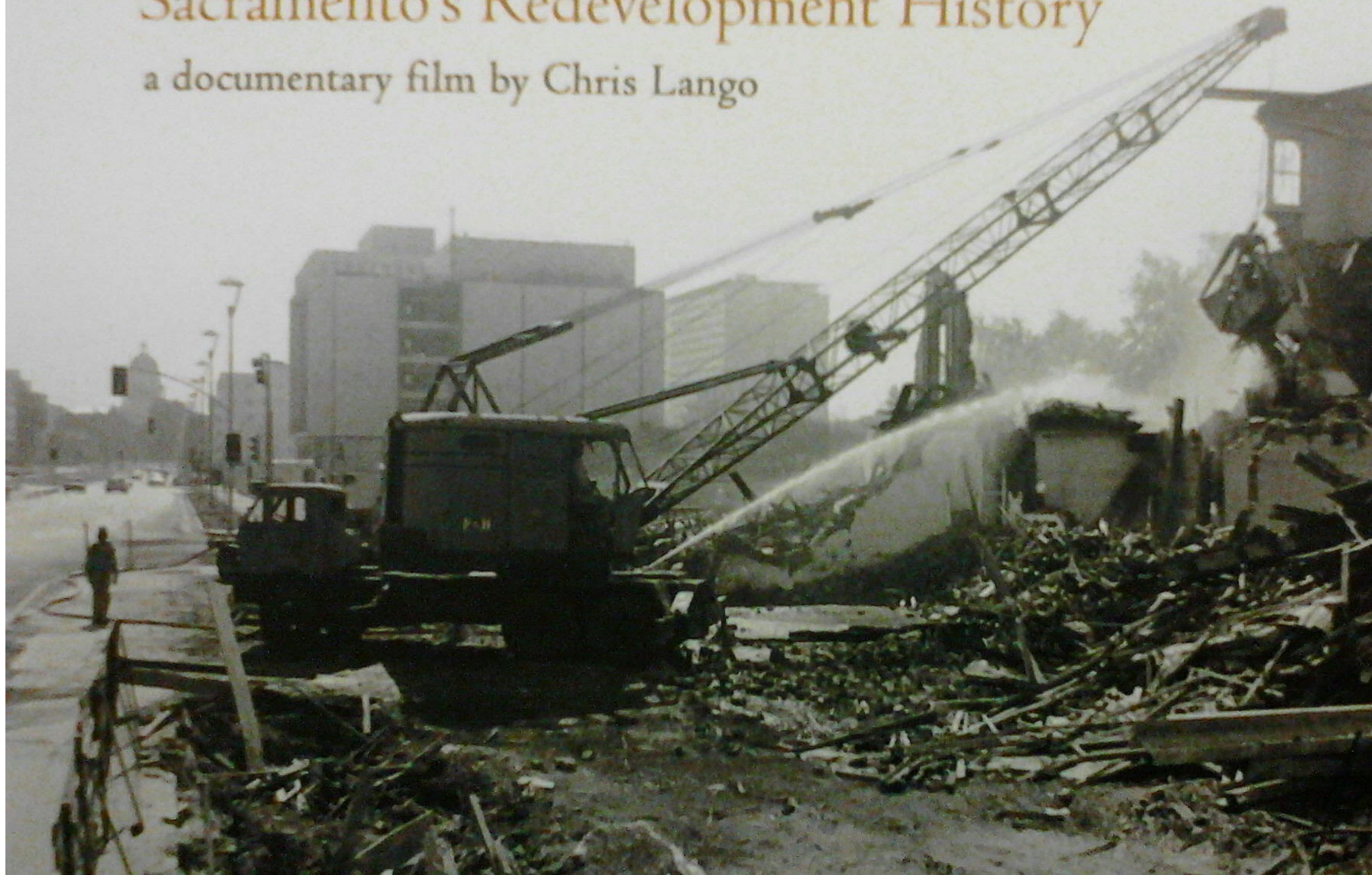




The Center for Sacramento History presents

# REPLACING THE PAST: Sacramento's Redevelopment History

a documentary film by Chris Lango





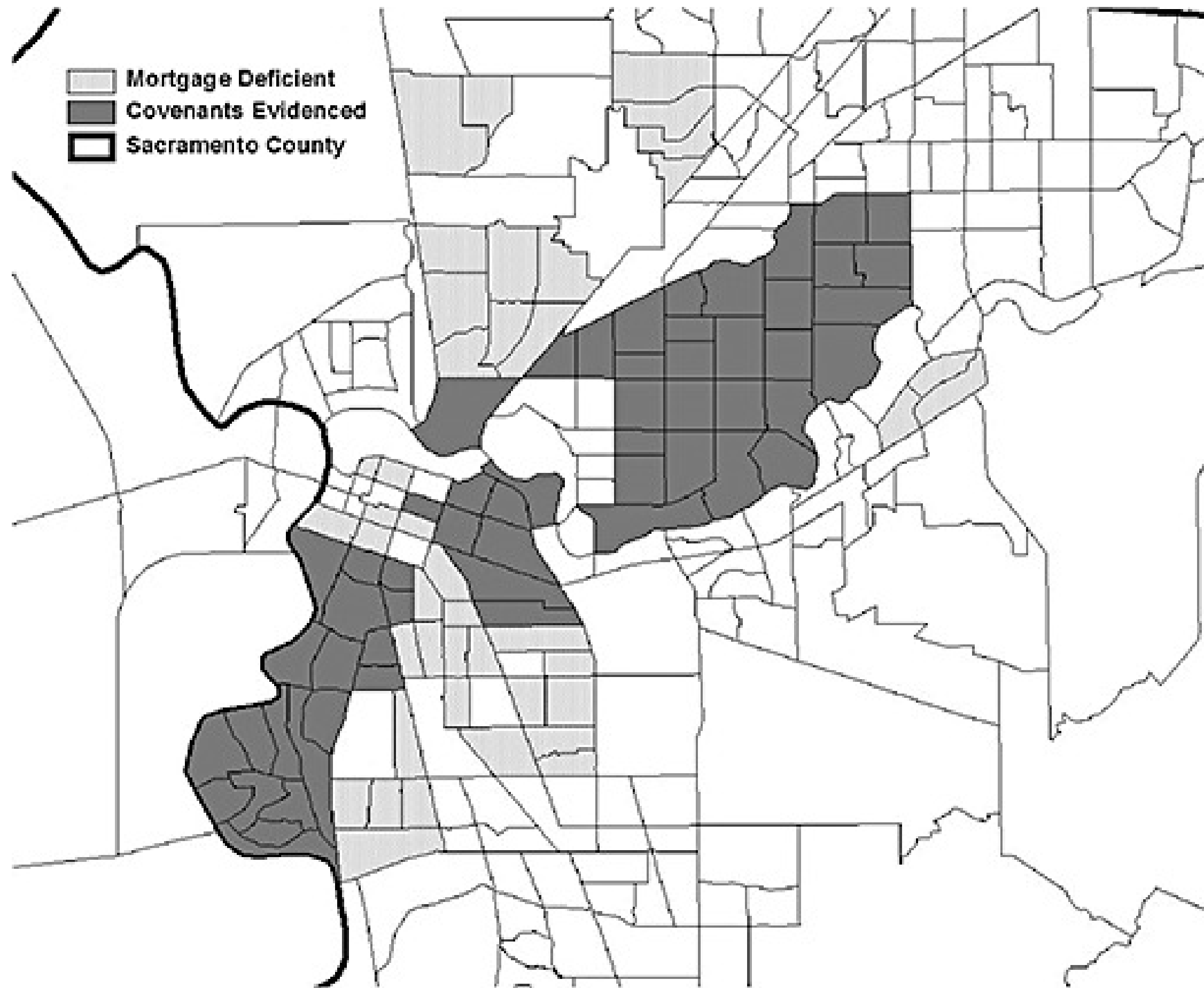
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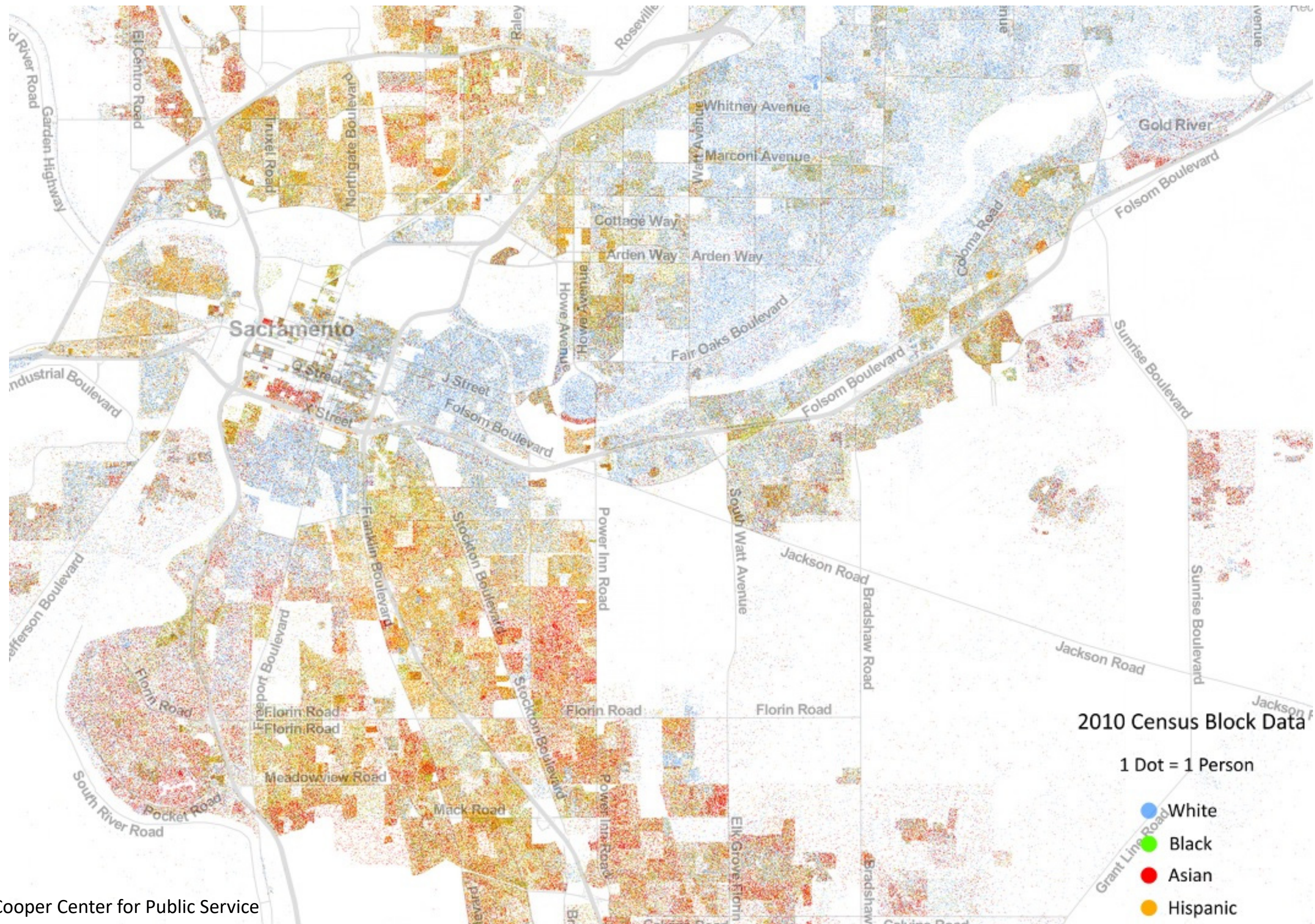
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## Sacramento's Exclusionary Past, Present – *and Future?*

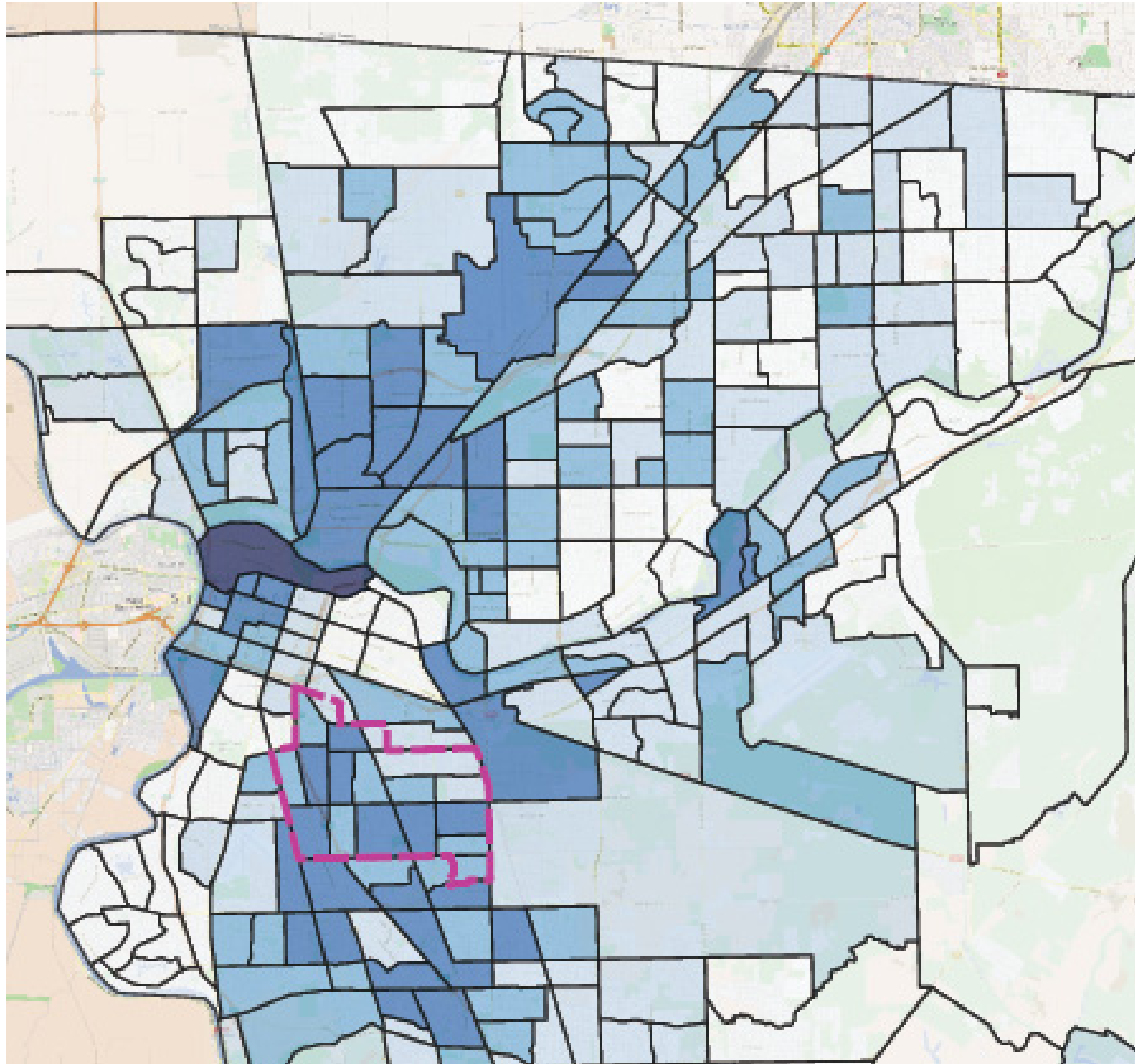
Katie Valenzuela Garcia



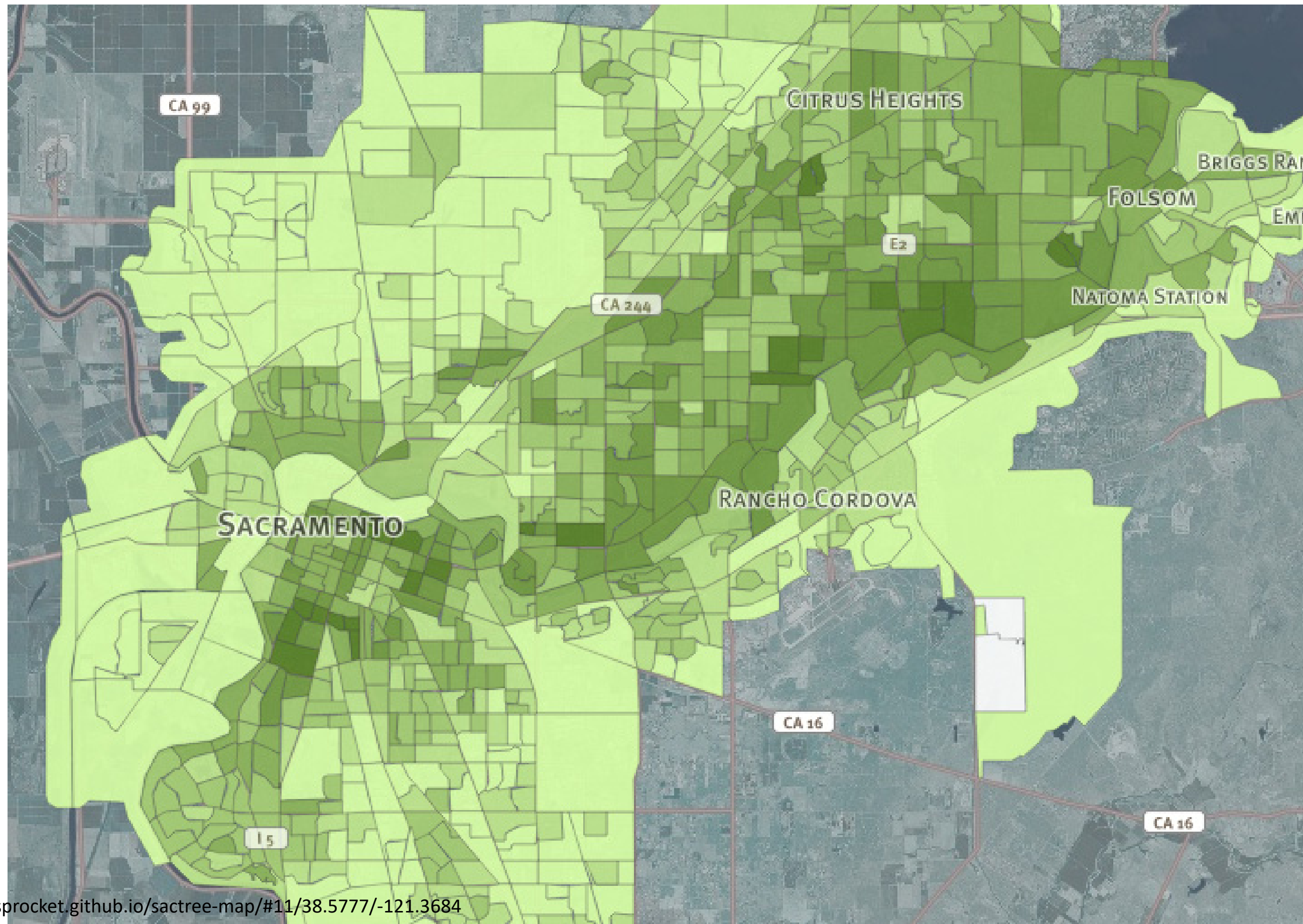
Source: Dr. Jesus Hernandez



Source: Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service



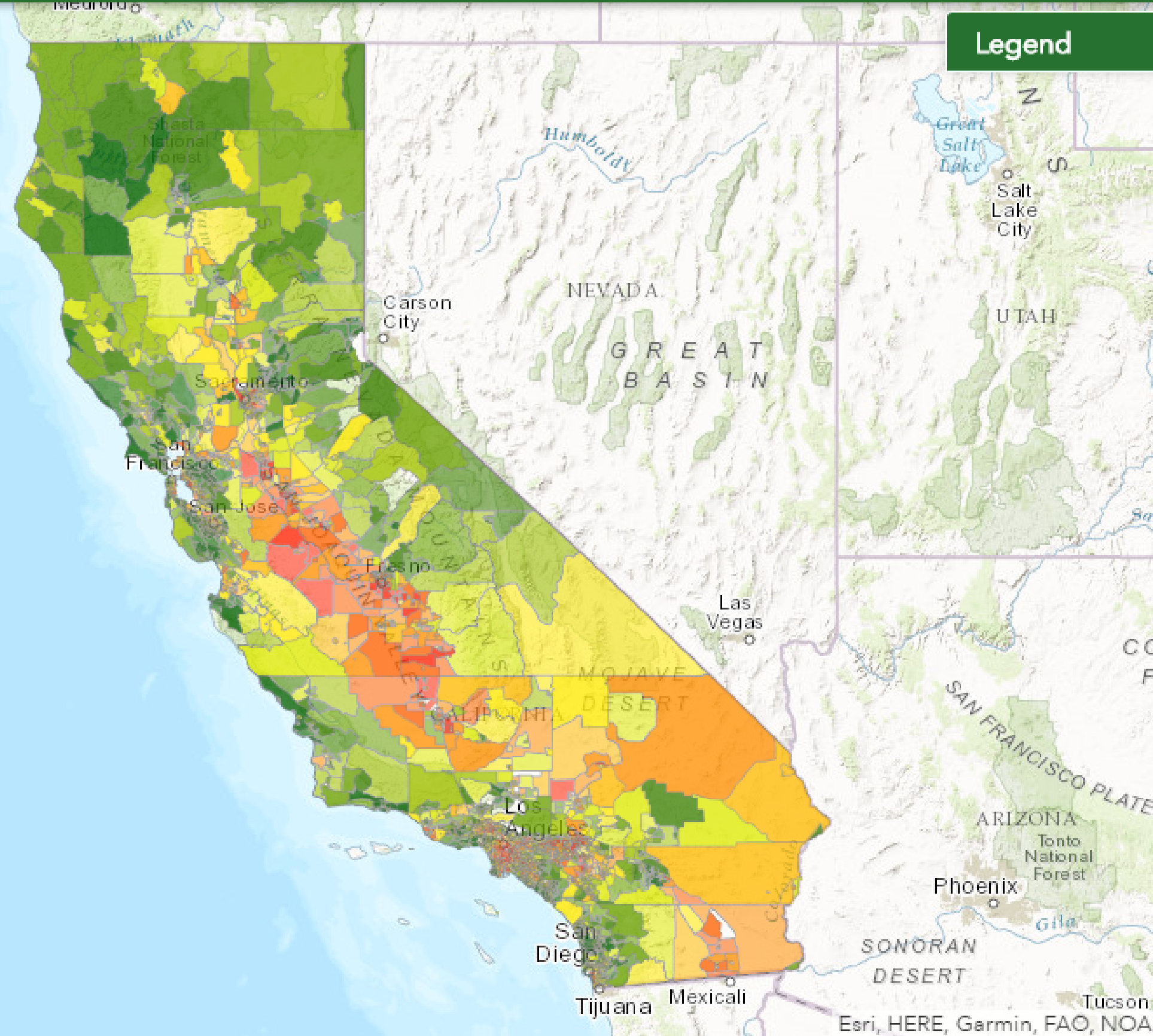
Source: Human Impact Partners



Source: <http://geosprocket.github.io/sactree-map/#11/38.5777/-121.3684>



## Legend



100mi

# The Intersection of Race and Land Use

**INDIAN LAND FOR SALE**

GET A HOME  
OF  
YOUR OWN  
\*  
EASY PAYMENTS



PERFECT TITLE  
\*  
POSSESSION  
WITHIN  
THIRTY DAYS

**FINE LANDS IN THE WEST**  
IRRIGATED IRRIGABLE    GRAZING    AGRICULTURAL DRY FARMING

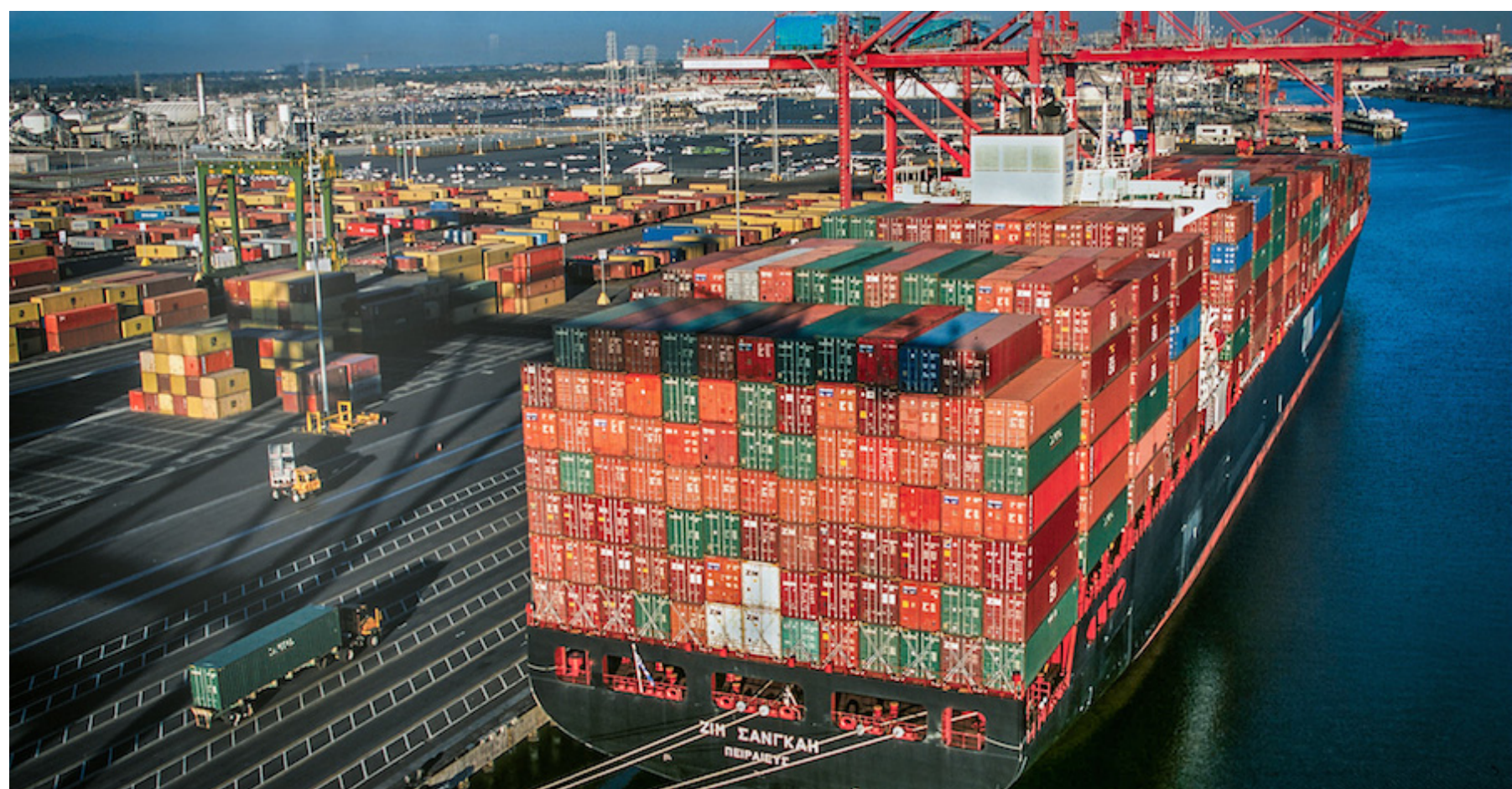
IN 1910 THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR SOLD UNDER SEALED BIDS ALLOTTED INDIAN LAND AS FOLLOWS:

Location	Acres	Average Price per Acre	Location	Acres	Average Price per Acre

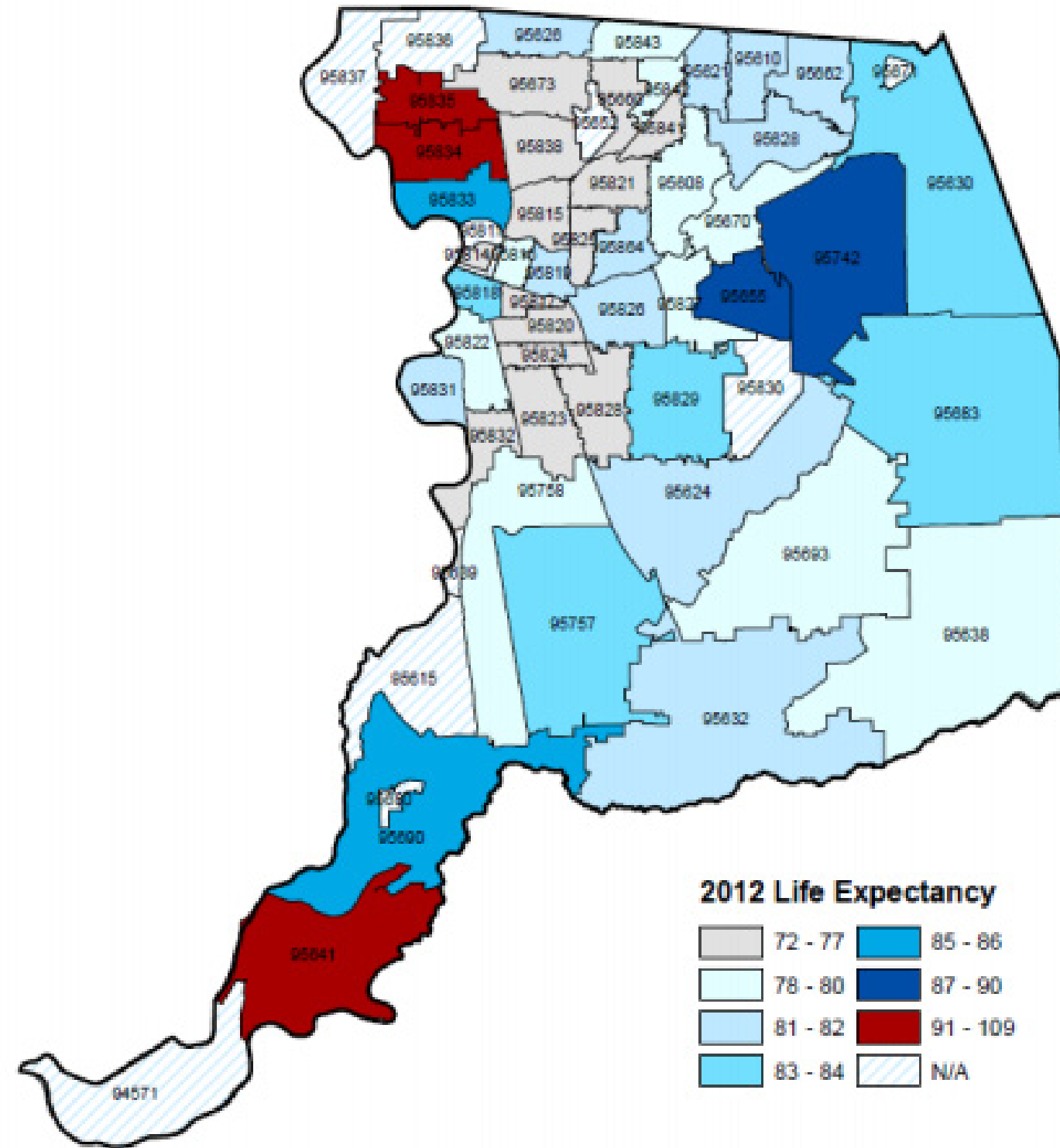
091 092 517      Advertisement - Library of Congress







**Map 1. Life Expectancy by Zip code  
Sacramento County, 2012**



# Geographic Correlation

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- Our communities were built to racially segregate
- Health outcomes are still favor communities built exclusively for white residents
- **How do we plan to shift land use in communities of color to better promote health equity?**

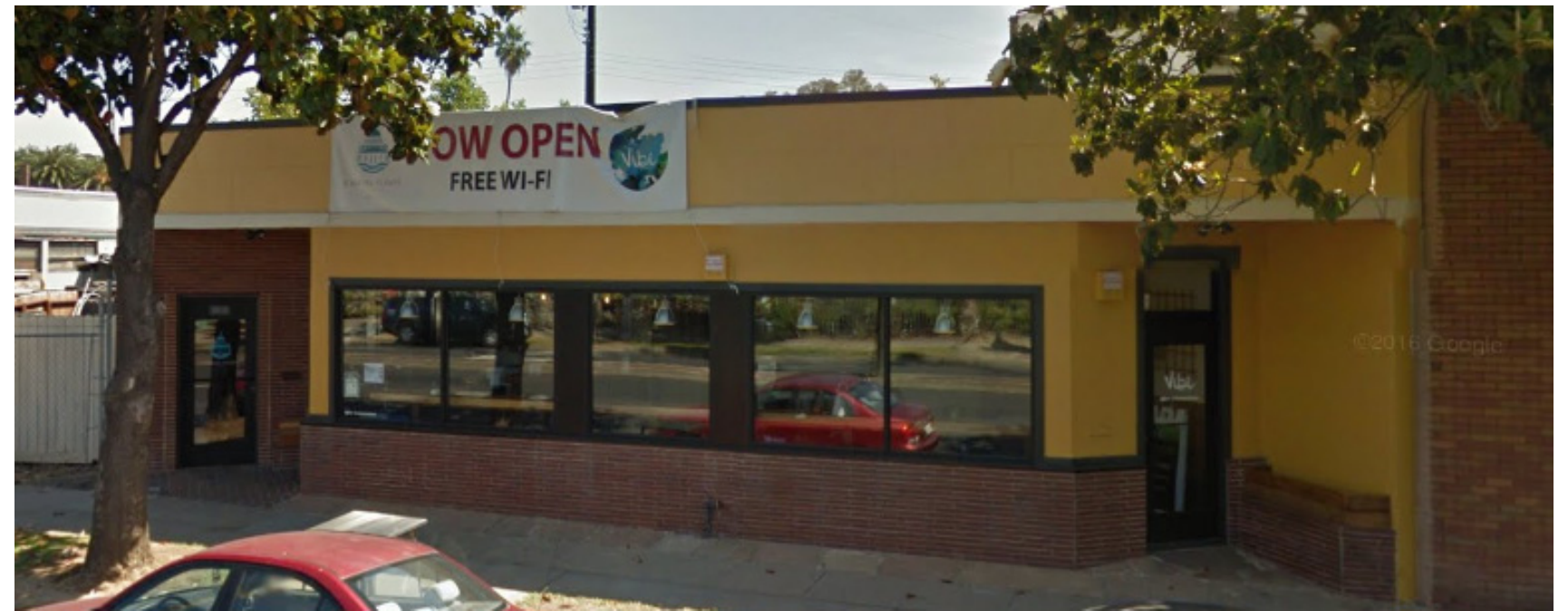


**Health Inequity:** Disparities or differences in health and mental health, or the factors that shape health that are systemic, avoidable and therefore considered unjust or unfair.

# The Transition of Oak Park

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**2254 34TH St,  
Sacramento, CA 95817**

3 beds · 2.5 baths · 2,325 sqft [Edit](#)

● **SOLD: \$428,000**  
Sold on 07/10/15  
Zestimate®:  
**\$529,954**

# Unintended Consequences

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- Criminalization of activities
- Rent increases
- Increases in tax auctions or penalties for code violations
- Real estate speculation
- Displacement
- **Gentrification**



# Interpreting Exclusionary Practices

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- **Reexamine planning norms:** “appropriate,” “consistent,” defining valid data
- **Consider local policy changes to ensure equitable development:** tenant rights, rent control, homeowner assistance, landlord accountability, business development, community land trusts
- **Create zoning and incentives for developers:** SB 1000 implementation, grocery store zones, sales tax reductions
- **Consult community leaders throughout the process:** go where the people are, rely on trusted messengers, start early
- **Consider the equity implications of “high opportunity” investments...**

# The Problem with “High Opportunity” Investments

## Vance McKinney’s Fight to Save Matheny tract



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LOCAL MARCH 24, 2017 2:29 PM

**The American Dream took root here. Now it's filled with ghosts. But one man's passion won't let it die**

HOMES FROM THE LOW \$300s  
**RIVERSTONE**  
Look forward to life

**“Many of these places were created because people of color were not allowed to live within the city limits.”**  
Ashley Werner, Leadership Counsel for Justice and Accountability







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## Supporting Vulnerable Communities in the Planning Process

Dr. Yolanda T. Moses

# Introduction

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- Why Anthropology?
- Challenges in working with vulnerable communities
- How do the challenges impact the long term outcomes and sustainability of projects and communities
- Promising Case studies
- Overall Best practices from the field of Practicing Anthropology
- Resources
- Contact information

# Why Anthropology?

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- American Anthropology is 120 year old discipline-4 fields (cultural, Archaeology, Linguistics and Biological) history of working with marginalized people cross-culturally
- Research and applied history in U.S. as well (Eugenics, race, Anti-Semitism, Anti-immigrant issues in early 20th century)
- More recently focused on Practicing anthropology and the Politics of Engagement:
  - Collaboration, engagement, activism and advocacy of underserved populations cross-culturally.
  - Will be sharing with you the lessons learned from this research and practice.

# Challenges Working in Vulnerable Communities

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- Too often consultants/planners are **brought in too late** in the process (what is the history of the project, and why is a planner needed, and in whose interest is this planning being done?)
- Often the **consultant does not understand the complexity of the cultural and political dynamics**: Are we talking about communities that have been in place a long time, or are we talking about communities where wave after wave of immigrants have moved in or out? Layered effect (New Orleans 9<sup>th</sup> Ward)
- **Racial dynamics**—especially in the U.S.—role of segregation and redlining. Still very relevant today (Difference between laws, beliefs and practice)

# Challenges Working in Vulnerable Communities

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- **Language is culturally constructed:** too often words and concepts have different meanings for professional consultants than they do in local populations (“sustainability”, “the good life and well-being”)
- The concept of “**gentrification**” has to be broken down to have constituents understand that it is not always a lose-lose proposition.
- **Class issues** :destabilize your assumptions about homogeneity in communities that visibly look the same. One size set of solutions does not work for everybody (Zuniga—design issues)
- **Space and place:** displacement-what it might mean for one population is different than another ( Gaither- Atlanta-MARTA)

# Challenges

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- Understanding how **policy processes** of local, state and federal governments are impacting planning decisions (El Paso, Communities under surveillance-Ali). What is the bigger picture?
- Understanding the deep **resilience challenges** that vulnerable communities face over and over again because of disasters and being in harm's way (New Orleans).
- How to consider the **voices of those NOT present** in the discussions (age, immigrant status, disability, language)
- **Issues of trust:** vulnerable communities do not trust outsiders!

# How do Challenges Impact Outcomes?

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- The goal of the project **misses the mark** for vulnerable populations. It may work for some groups (government and business ). Missed opportunity that might not come again.
- **Unintended consequences** (Ex. 148th St. Park-Harlem) Park that was built on a waste facility that ended up making visitor's sick.
- Making things **worse**, and not better (Sacramento), where vulnerable communities of color were displaced and nobody seemed to care.
- Considered a **failure**, so no new money or funds for future projects (in those neighborhoods, for those people)



# Promising Case Studies

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## The Nuevo South Action Research Collaborative (NSARC)

- Collaboration between East Carolina University and a network of Latino Community based organizations-Recent Latino immigration in a 5 county region. 400% increase in last 15-20 years.
- Documents the process of partnership building- and problems that come from misunderstandings, organizational culture, politics, culture, and motives for participation.
- **Community Based Participatory Research:** goals are to empower CBOs to evaluate their own community needs through:
  - Recognizing community as a unity of identity
  - Building on the strengths and resources within the community

# Promising Case Studies

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- Facilitating collaborative, equitable partnership in all research phases.
- Promoting co-learning and capacity building
- Balance between research and action
- People to decide local problems issues (framed by them)
- Systems development cyclical and iterative-constant engagement with data analysis
- All partners involved in dissemination process
- Designed for long term sustainability-leave the community with skills to be used over and over. **Builds trust and sustainability**

(Contreras and Griffin)

# Promising Case Studies

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## Building Living Alliances: Community Engagement and Community based Partnerships—Health of Elderly

- Project describes process of creating and maintain alliances to address the health and well-being of older adults- housing project in Hartford Connecticut.
- More than all of older adults surviving on Social security and Medicare live in publicly subsidized housing,
- Many feel socially isolated and neglected, so to work effectively with these populations need a long term commitment.
- The ethical stance to “**first doing no harm**” requires a long term commitment to individuals, communities, and to professional standards.

# Promising Case Studies

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- Concept of **living alliance** establishes a practical framework that embodies this long term commitment by supporting resident empowerment to improve personal health management.
- Also **transforms social capital** of older citizens by increasing opportunities for resident leadership and advocacy and expertise.
- **Institute for Community Research**: run by anthropologists (Schensul) in Hartford. Live their work. 30 years in community.
- Basic tool of **ethnography**: get to know the people and the neighborhood and local resources. Anthropologists have long history of working with and in marginalized populations.
- Use **Participatory Action Research** to achieve material, political and cultural goals. Use org. Structure to work on many issues. (Radda and Schensul 2011)

# Best Practices from the Field of Practicing Anthropology

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- **Challenge assumptions** in normalized language and practice of your field – ex. “Sustainability”- series of urban and environmental processes that impact some groups and not others.” By putting issues of justice and inclusion first, you are looking at the processes that mask inequality. Look at other so-called neutral terms in a new way.
- **Understand the value propositions and first principles** that you as a consultant/planners/researcher/advocate are dealing with. What is your scope of work? What can you actually do. Do not over promise.
- Build trust through being as transparent as possible. Learn how to be the cultural broker if that is your role. More participatory engagement. For example, “Urban Renewal” loaded term.

## Overall Best Practices...

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- **Understand the insider and outsider dynamics:** emic and etic we call it in anthropology. Sometimes more is expected from planners of color than they can deliver.
- **Be conversant and able to address past issues of community or neighborhood issues and problems is key.** Trying to move forward without addressing those concerns will not result in sustainable change. What do people fear, what are they not saying?
- **Understand the historical and contemporary role that institutional racism, sexism, anti-immigrant, anti-religious sentiments have played in establishing policies that we view as normative.** Restrictive policies may be gone, but discriminatory norms and practices still remain.

# Overall Best Practices

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- Planning projects whether local, or state must be partners for the **long haul**. These will not be easy fixes.
- “Be the Change you want to see in the world.” (Gandhi) Learn how to be a **community organizer** because you must be able to build sustainable and authentic coalitions across a wide range of constituents. Once these are established, then they can be used for multiple projects over the years ( NGOs, Universities, local councils working together-Schensul).
- Understand the **California context**: it is about places and spaces both urban and rural, cultures both seen and unseen.

## Overall Best Practices...

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- Special place of **Native Americans in the planning process**, whether urban or Rural.
- Understand the “**glocal**” **nature of community planning**. People, values and processes may not just flow in California but can come from other places- what can we learn from planners and processes in other countries with large diverse and immigrant populations.



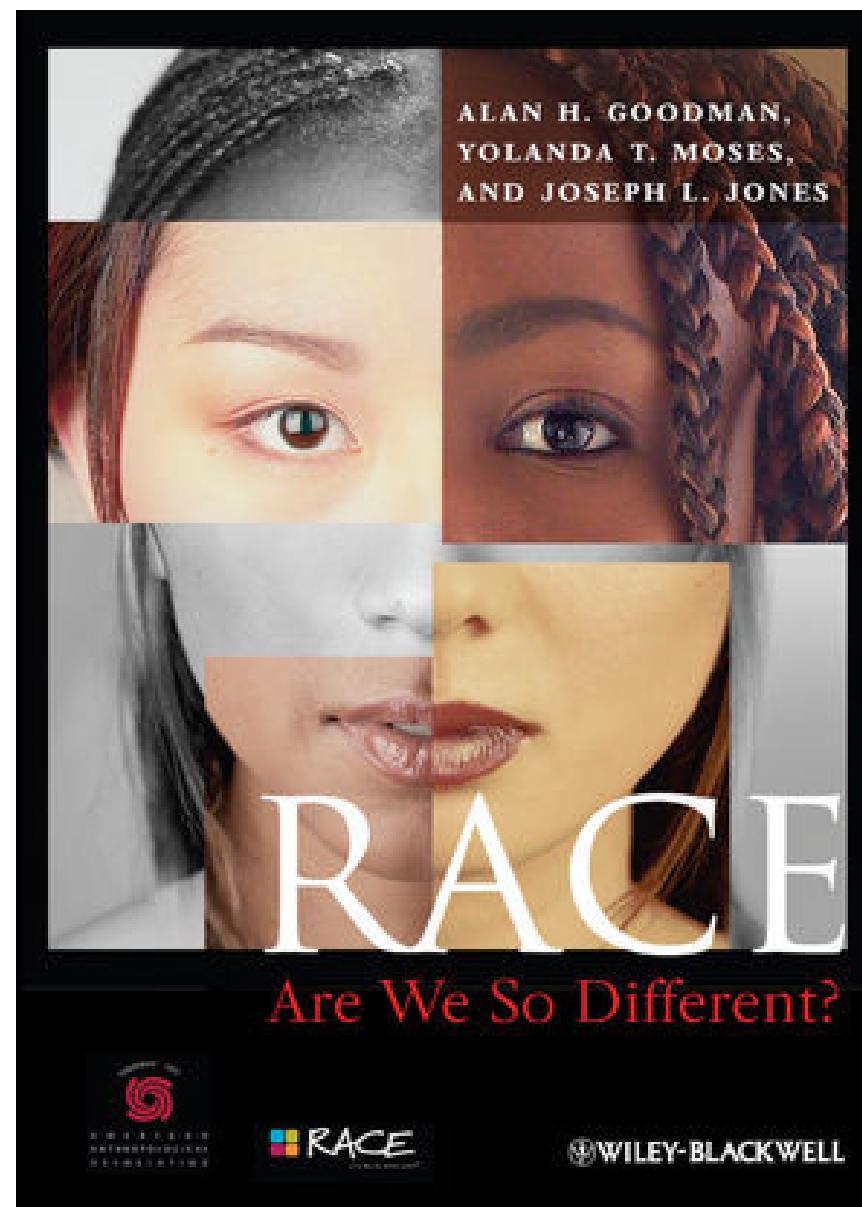
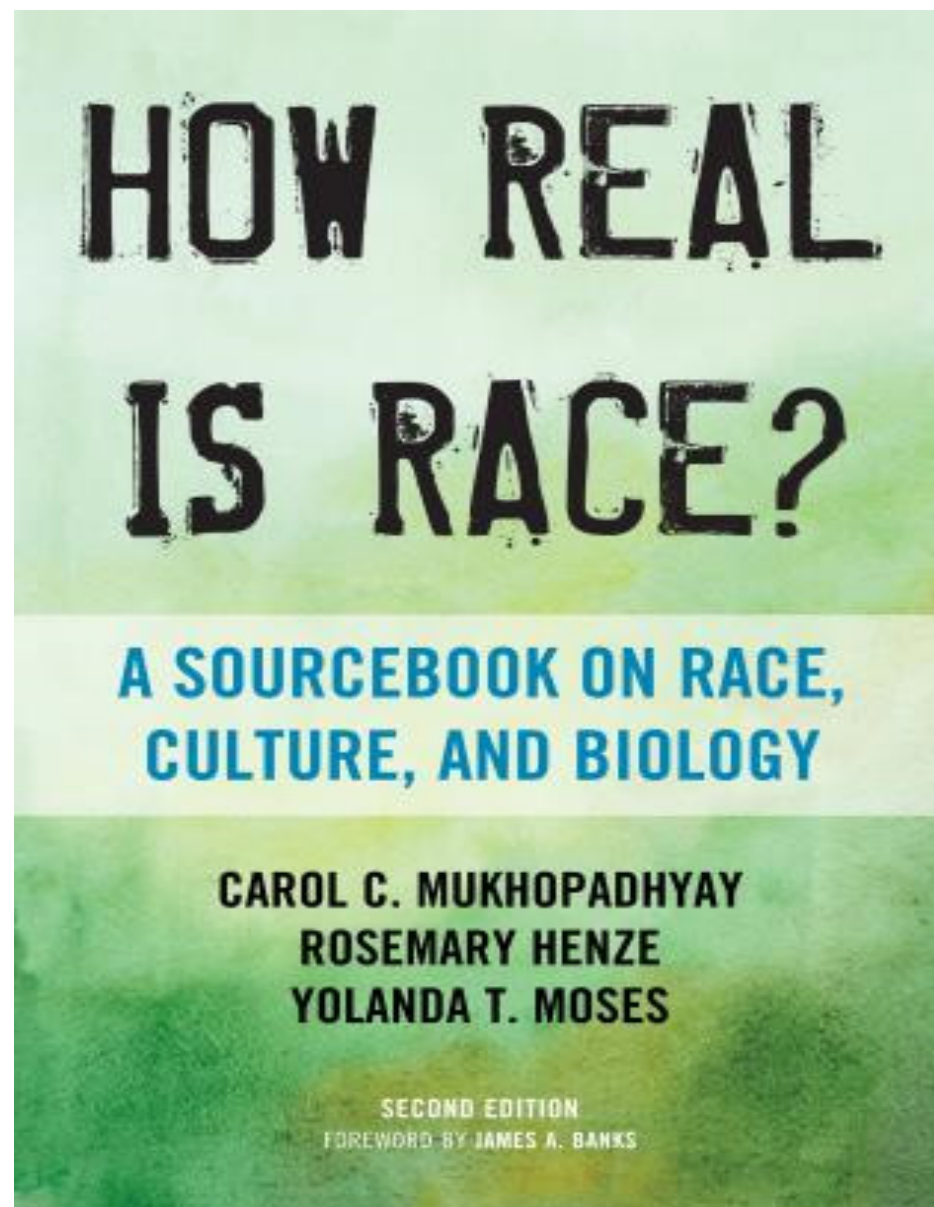
# Resources From Presentation

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- Radda, Kim E. and Jean J. Schensul. (2011) “Building Living Alliances: Community Engagement and Community Based Partnerships to address the health of Community Elders.” *Annals of Anthropological Practice*. 35.2. pp 154-173.
- Contreras, Ricardo and David Griffith. ( 2011) “Building Latino-Engaged Action Research Collaborative.” *Annals of Anthropological Practice*. 35.2. pp 96-111.
- Lawrence-Zúñiga, D. (2015), Residential Design Guidelines, Aesthetic Governmentality, and Contested Notions of Southern California Suburban Places. *Economic Anthropology*, 2: 120–144
- JOHNSON GAITHER, C., HIMMELFARB, D., HITCHNER, S., SCHELHAS, J., SHEPHERD, J. M. and K.C., B. (2016), “Where the Sidewalk Ends”: Sustainable Mobility in Atlanta's Cascade Community. *City & Society*, 28: 174–197
- Ali, A. I. (2016), Citizens under Suspicion: Responsive Research with Community under Surveillance. *Anthropology & Education Quarterly*, 47: 78–95.

# Resources From Presentation

- Race: Are we so different Project. ( website: [www.understandingrace.org](http://www.understandingrace.org))



# Resources From Anthropology

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- American Anthropology Association-Advocacy Activities
- <http://www.americananthro.org/ParticipateAndAdvocate/Landing.aspx?ItemNumber=2402&navItemNumber=659>
- NGOs and Non Profits-Interest group of the AAA
- <http://ngo.americananthro.org/>
- AAA Webinars and Virtual Seminars
- <http://www.americananthro.org/AttendEvents/Content.aspx?ItemNumber=2143&navItemNumber=637>
- Open Anthropology Archives
- <http://www.americananthro.org/StayInformed/OAArchive.aspx?&navItemNumber=713&navItemNumber=13294>

# Conclusion

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- In human history, it is the first time that we have the intellect, technology and moral will to create the communities and the world that we want to live in, and that we want our children and their children to live in as well.
- What we do in our classrooms around inclusive community building and authentic civic engagement will influence the students in our classes, our communities and our world.

# Conclusion

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- We know that our planet has the capacity to support us all in a sustainable and “healthy lifestyle.” We, our students, and our inclusive community partners can be the drivers of that change.

**“The Future of us all as a diverse democracy ” depends on it!**





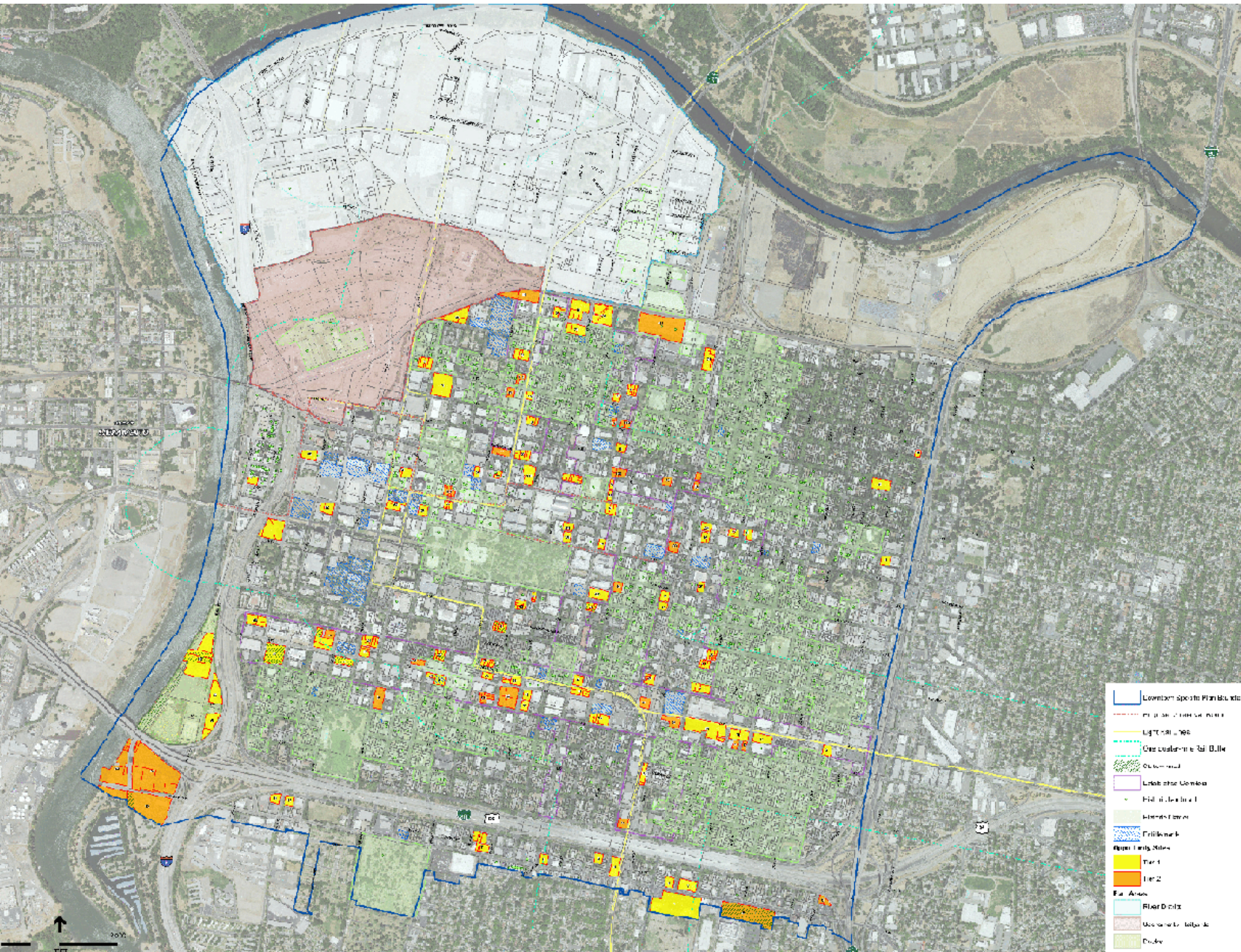
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## Being Inclusive in the Planning Process

Dan Amsden, AICP





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**Comments and Questions**





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## National APA Initiatives

Miguel A. Vazquez, AICP

# What does Diversity mean to APA?

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**Miguel A. Vazquez, AICP**

Chair, National APA Diversity Committee

Contact:

[mavurbanplanning@gmail.com](mailto:mavurbanplanning@gmail.com)

# Planners of Color and LGBTQIA Community Mixer

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## DeVere's Irish Pub

Tonight from 6:30 to 8:30 PM

1521 L Street (two blocks to the east)

*Food will be served!*





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## Supporting Vulnerable Communities

Lessons learned from a history of  
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