

# Equity Now: Philadelphia Does Better When We All Do Better

## AN EQUITABLE DEVELOPMENT POLICY PLATFORM FOR PHILADELPHIA

PACDC and its partner organizations propose 22 high impact recommendations to create a more equitable city. We believe strongly that an equitable Philadelphia is a city in which all Philadelphians, including BIPOC Philadelphians (Black, Indigenous, People of Color including those who identify as Latino and Asian) who have been poorly served in the past, have access to the essential ingredients they need to thrive. These ingredients include quality jobs, entrepreneurial opportunities, viable housing choices, public transportation, good schools, strong social networks, safe and clean streets and public spaces, and a voice in the future of their community.



### QUALITY OF LIFE

An equitable Philadelphia requires that the city provide essential government services to all neighborhoods to ensure public safety, cleanliness, and resident well-being.

- 1 Improve neighborhood safety
- 2 Provide healthy and welcoming public spaces through equitable support, services and programs
- 3 Resource neighborhoods for street cleaning and litter and trash removal
- 4 Adopt equity-centered budget



### INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES

The city can ensure community residents have a strong voice in shaping the programs and policies that impact their neighborhood by increasing transparency and funding community-based organizations to pay equitable wages, compensate resident experts and pilot resident-generated programs.

- 1 Increase the capacity of community-based organizations
- 2 Adopt wage equity in city contracts
- 3 Infuse Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA) with greater transparency and community input



### ANTI-DISPLACEMENT

Putting four community stabilizing policies in place will distribute the benefits and burdens of new growth and investment more fairly, allow more current residents who want to remain in their community to do so, and discourage displacement of viable small businesses that serve community needs.

- 1 Create a coherent property tax relief system
- 2 Expand shallow rent subsidy
- 3 Address tangled titles and estate planning
- 4 Support legacy businesses





## HOUSING

An equitable Philadelphia needs a balanced housing market that includes healthy, safe affordable homes for households at all income levels. To do this the city must create, preserve, and improve the condition of affordable rental units and build up declining Black and Latino homeownership rates.

- 1 Create more affordable homes for households <30% area median income
- 2 Preserve and expand Black and Latino homeownership
- 3 Preserve expiring government subsidized rental units
- 4 Improve the condition of affordable private market rental housing
- 5 Expand mandatory inclusionary housing requirement



## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Philadelphia can help to create more stable and prosperous BIPOC workers and businesses by expanding and integrating programs that boost commercial corridors, expand training for workers, and provide capital and technical assistance to BIPOC business owners.

- 1 Boost commercial corridor recovery
- 2 Integrate housing and workforce programs
- 3 Increase access to capital and technical assistance for BIPOC business owners
- 4 Expand youth job programs



## VACANCY AND BLIGHT

The city can repair the damage that vacant land has caused in under-resourced neighborhoods by reactivating publicly owned vacant land in a way that meets community needs and by helping community-based organizations to compete with investors for the purchase of private market properties.

- 1 Create a revolving, rapid-access property acquisition fund
- 2 Improve Land Bank performance

