



**VPS #1: NAVIGATING COMMUNITY-DRIVEN  
PLANNING IN CONSERVATIVE COMMUNITIES:  
LESSONS FROM THE GROUND**

Thursday, March 5, 2026

12:00 pm PT / 3:00 pm ET



PEOPLE'S  
CLIMATE  
INNOVATION  
CENTER



NACRP  
National Association of  
Climate Resilience Planners

# WELCOME!

## NAVIGATING COMMUNITY-DRIVEN PLANNING IN CONSERVATIVE COMMUNITIES: LESSONS FROM THE GROUND

This is a bilingual space. Click  
the globe for interpretation.

In the Chat: Add your name, pronouns, location, and  
an emoji that represents you today!

# ¡BIENVENIDOS!

## PLANIFICACIÓN COMUNITARIA EN COMUNIDADES CONSERVADORAS: LECCIONES DESDE LA PRÁCTICA

Marque el globo para escoger la interpretación.  
Pon "ESP" enfrente de tu nombre de pantalla  
para estar el grupos con otros hispanohablantes.

En el chat: Añade tu nombre, pronombres,  
locación y un emoji que te represente  
hoy!



# VISION POWER SOLUTIONS



is organized by..

se organiza por..



# ORIGIN OF VPS WORKSHOP SERIES

## ORÍGEN DE LA SERIE DE TALLERES VPS

COMMUNITY-DRIVEN  
CLIMATE RESILIENCE  
PLANNING FRAMEWORK

2018



2018

NACRP FOUNDED /  
NACRP ES FUNDADA

2019

NACRP  
MEMBER GATHERING /  
REUNIÓN DE MIEMBROS



2021

FIRST VPS SERIES  
PRIMERAS SERIES VPS



FACILITATOR CERTIFICATION  
& NETWORK DIRECTORY /  
CERTIFICACIÓN DE  
FACILITADORES Y DIRECTORIO

2023

# NACRP OPPORTUNITIES IN 2026

## OPORTUNIDADES CON NACRP EN 2026

1

### VISION POWER SOLUTIONS 2026 WORKSHOPS



**March 5**

*Navigating Community-Driven  
Planning in Conservative Communities:  
Lessons from the Ground*

**June 11**

*Telling Our Power:  
Narrative Strategies that Advance  
Community-Driven Planning*

**September 3**

*Bridging Economic Power & Resources  
for Community-Driven Planning*

**November 19**

*Restoring Our Power: Collective Care  
Practices for Community-Driven Work*

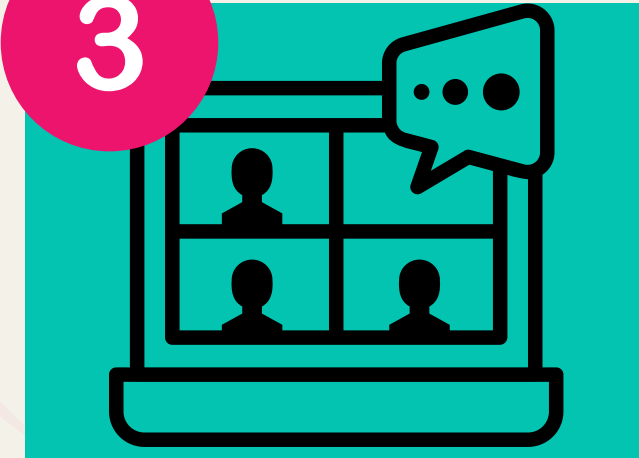
**ALL SESSIONS WILL TAKE PLACE BETWEEN  
12:00-2:30 PM PST / 3:00 - 5:30 PM EST**

2



- NACRP will launch a new curriculum grounded in the Community Driven Climate Resilience Planning Framework.
- The training will focus on elements needed to lead community-driven and manage multi-collaborator partnerships.

3



- Connection with network of community-based practitioners
- Peer-cyphers open to NACRP and the VPS community
- Opportunities to steward the member-driven network
- And more...

**Join [Here](#) / Únete [Aquí](#)**

# 2026 VPS SERIES / TALLERES VPS EN 2026

1

## NAVIGATING COMMUNITY-DRIVEN PLANNING IN CONSERVATIVE COMMUNITIES: LESSONS FROM THE GROUND

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Zoom



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Participants will learn how to use storytelling to frame issues and solutions in ways that build unity, counter dominant narratives, and communicate a shared vision of resiliency, equity, and justice.

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## RESTORING OUR POWER: COLLECTIVE CARE PRACTICES FOR COMMUNITY-DRIVEN WORK

Participants will reconnect with their own sources of energy and balance through healing, creative, and embodied practices that sustain long-term engagement in CDP.

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Zoom



# **FACILITADOR** **FACILITADORA**

## **Today's Facilitator/Facilitadora:**

- Katie Devlin

## **Organization/ Organización:**

- IMPACT Community Action

## **Location/Locación:**

- Columbus, Ohio



**KATIE DEVLIN, DIRECTOR OF CLIMATE JUSTICE INITIATIVES**



**SESSION FACILITATOR**



# AGENDA

1. Welcome! Check-in and Overview
2. Introductions
3. Map of Context activity
4. Guest Speakers
5. Community Mapping activity

# ORDEN DEL DÍA

1. Bienvenidos! Registro y Panorama de la Sesión
2. Presentaciones
3. Actividad de Mapa de Contexto
4. Presentadores Invitados
5. Actividad de Mapeo de Comunidad





PEOPLE'S  
CLIMATE  
INNOVATION  
CENTER

VISION  
POWER  
SOLUTIONS

NACRP  
National Association of  
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# FEATURED PRACTITIONERS

## INVITADOS ESPECIALES

MORGAN HARPER, COLUMBUS STAND UP!



KWESI LOW, COLUMBUS STAND UP!



DOMINIKIA PARRY, 2C MISSISSIPPI



## WHO'S IN THE ROOM?

Let's get to know each other a little more!

Feel free to share:

- Name
- Preferred pronouns
- Where you're from
- Organization/Role
- What drew you to this workshop?
- What are you hoping to get out of today?



## QUIÉN ESTÁ EN LA SALA?

Vamos a conocernos un poquito más!

Puedes compartir:

- Nombre
- Pronombres
- ¿De dónde eres?
- Organización y rol
- ¿Qué te atrajo de este taller?
- ¿Qué esperas obtener hoy?

# MAP OF CONTEXT/ MAPA DE CONTEXTO

**WHERE DOES RESISTANCE SHOW UP  
IN YOUR OWN WORK OR  
COMMUNITY? WHO HOLDS POWER?**

**We will be using a Mentimeter  
poll to create our group map of  
context!**

**¿DÓNDE SE MANIFIESTA LA RESISTENCIA  
EN TU PROPIO TRABAJO O COMUNIDAD?  
¿QUIÉN TIENE EL PODER?**

**¡Usaremos una encuesta de  
Mentimeter para crear nuestro  
mapa grupal de contexto!**





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# MAP OF CONTEXT

## MAPA DE CONTEXTO

**LINK TO MENTIMETER SURVEY HERE / LINK A LA ENCUESTA DE MENTIMETER AQUÍ**



# MAP OF CONTEXT REFLECTION / REFLEXIONES MAPA DE CONTEXTO

- **What themes or patterns did we see?**
- **What surprised you about what others mapped?**
- **Do we have any shared allies?**

- **¿Qué temas y patrones vimos?**
- **¿Qué te sorprendió de lo que otros mapearon?**
- **¿Tenemos algunos aliados en común?**



# COMMUNITY LEADERS

## LÍDERES COMUNITARIOS

### Speakers/ Presentadores:

- Morgan Harper and Kwesi Low

### Organization/ Organización:

- Columbus Stand Up!

### Location/Locación:

- Columbus, Ohio

MORGAN HARPER, CO-FOUNDER & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



GUEST SPEAKERS



KWESI LOW, CO-FOUNDER & DEPUTY DIRECTOR



**BUILDING  
FOR  
POWER**

**COLUMBUS  
STAND UP!**



# WHY WERE HERE



# OHIO REALITY



Ohio 2024 U.S. Presidential Election Results by County. Yellow = Harris, Black = Trump



# CENTRAL OHIO

**A Blue Dot Inside  
A Red State**



# LOOMING

**CULTURE**

**Historically Conservative Leadership**

**Appalachian + Southern Roots**

**Rapid Growth**

**Progressive  
Pockets**

**Conservative  
Environment**

ELECTIONS  
ARE NOT  
ENOUGH

WE NEED  
A CHANGE

# THE GAP

**High  
Registration**



**Low  
Turnout**



**WE BELIEVE...**

**People Aren't  
Apathetic.**

**They're  
Disconnected.**

OUR

APPROACH



# Consistency



# Relationships



# Presence

# COMMUNITY FIRST

**Dinners**

**Conversations**

**Healing Spaces**

# SPAGHETTI DINNER & CONVERSATION

# ELECTIONS

# TOO

**Forums**

**Education**

**All Candidates**

# Black Residents

PRIORITY COMMUNITIES

# Young People



# ISSUE ORGANIZING



**Start with real life problems**

**Example: Energy Costs**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

# CASTLE STUDY



**Education**



**Activation**



**Pressure**



**ACTIVATION**

**PHASE**

**Petitions**

**Canvassing**

**Phonebanks**

**PRESENCE**

**PHASE**

**Testimony**

**Speakers**

**Rally**



# WHY IT WORKS



**Trust First • People Centered • Leadership Building**



**DURABLE  
ORGANIZING  
INFRASTRUCTURE**

**More Turnout**

**More Leaders**

**More Wins**



# STAY CONNECTED

[ColumbusStandUp.org](http://ColumbusStandUp.org)

[Info@ColumbusStandUp.org](mailto:Info@ColumbusStandUp.org)

DOUBT  
IS BUILT  
TOGETHER

# COMMUNITY LEADERS

# LÍDERES COMUNITARIOS

## Speakers/ Presentadores:

- Dominika Parry

## Organization/ Organización:

- 2°C Mississippi

## Location/Locación:

- Mississippi



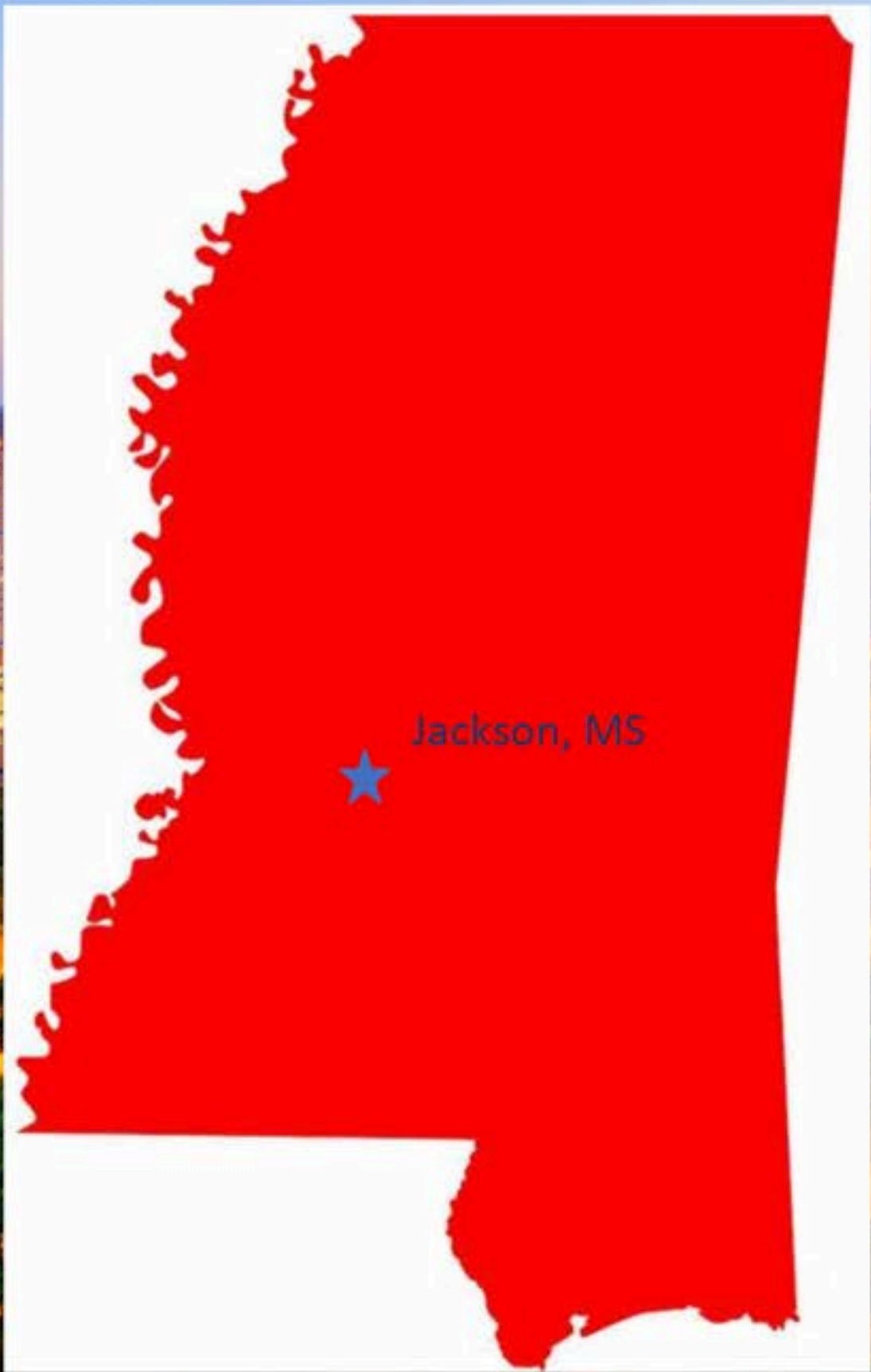
NAVIGATING COMMUNITY-  
DRIVEN PLANNING IN  
CONSERVATIVE COMMUNITIES:  
LESSONS FROM JACKSON, MS

Dominika Parry, Ph.D.

President and C.E.O. of 2°C Mississippi



# Jackson, MS



82%

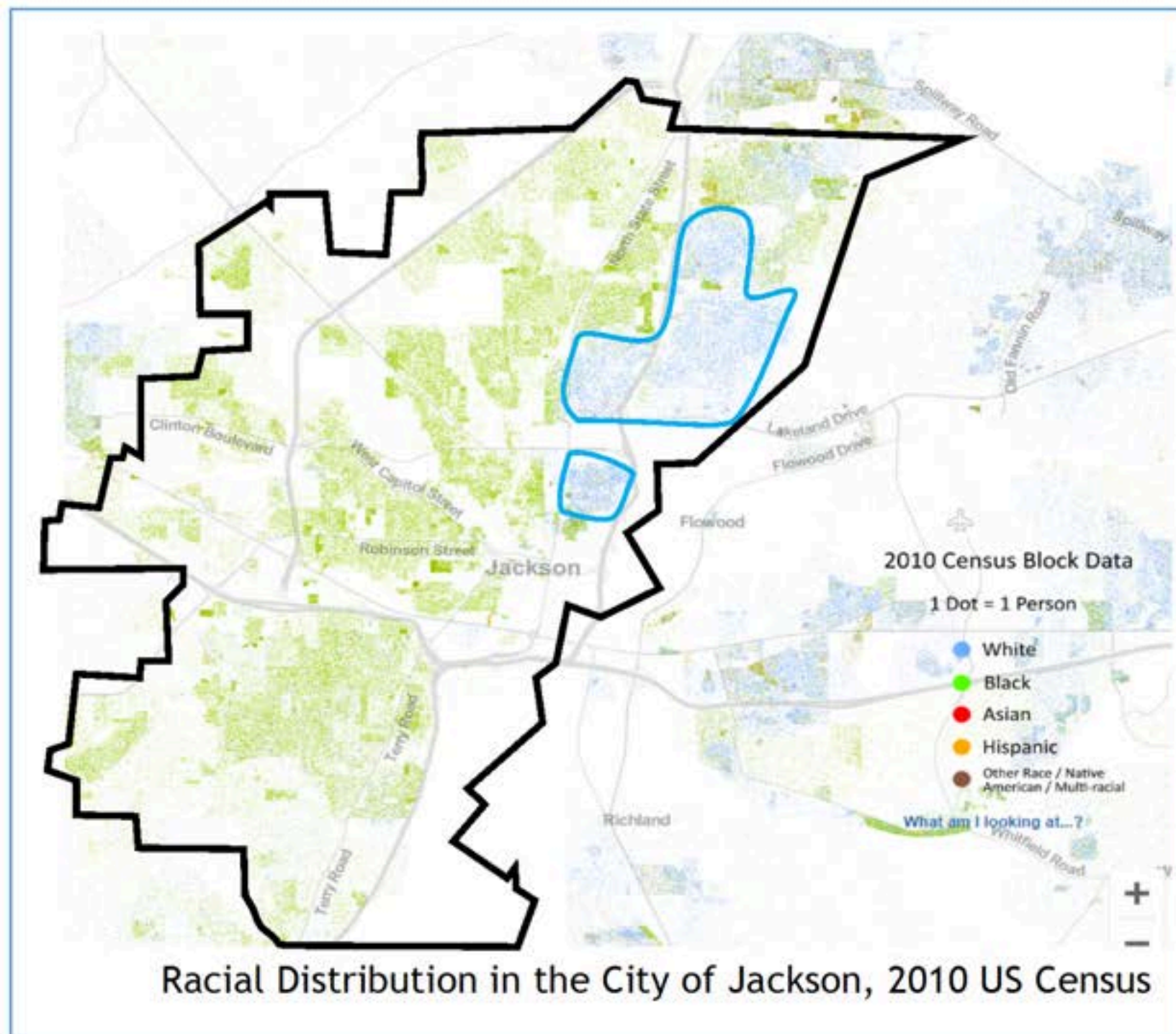


16%

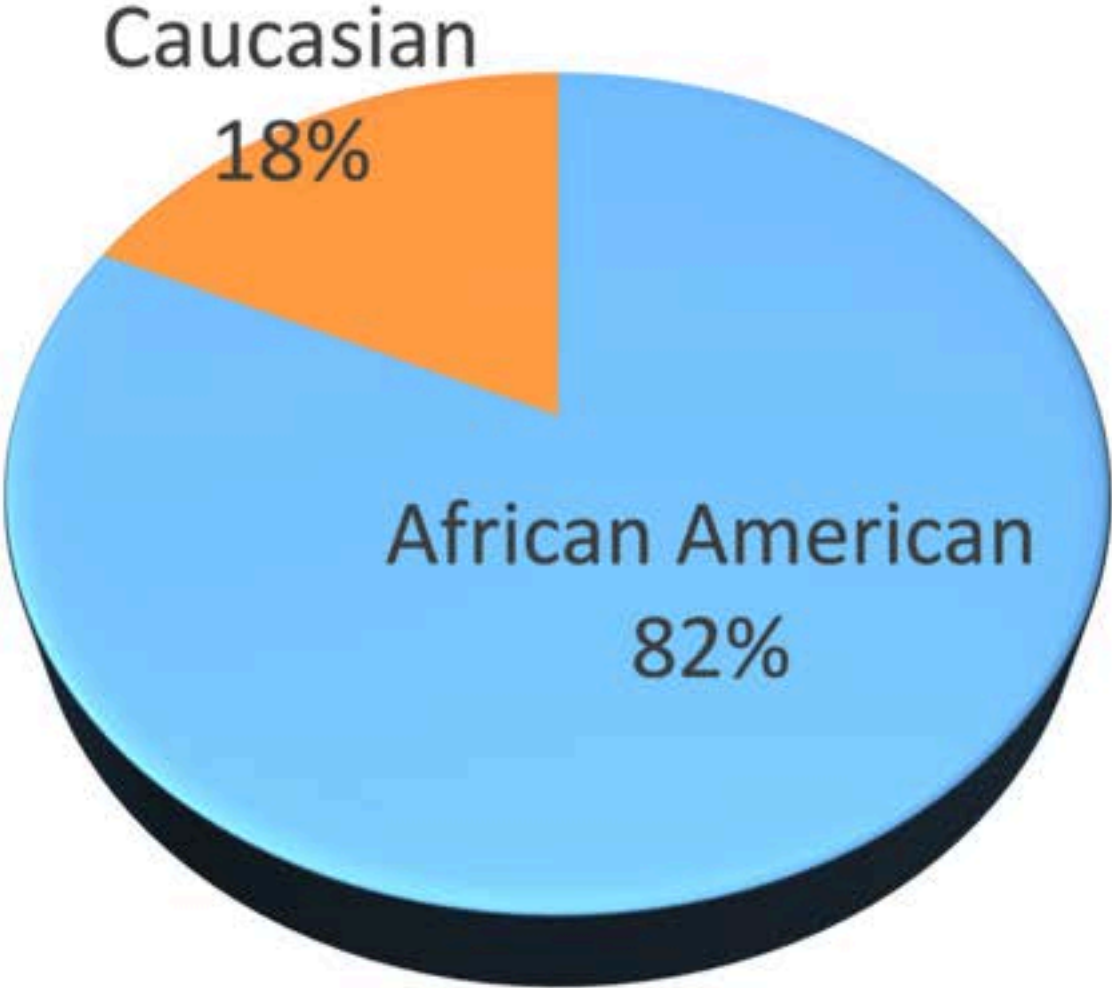


Racial Distribution in Jackson, MS

# Racial Distribution in Jackson, MS



# Jackson, MS: Median Household Income



# Federal Government

<https://www.epa.gov/climate-justice>



Sorry, but this web page does not exist.



At a [campaign stop](#) earlier this month in Tupelo, Mississippi, Hyde-Smith said of a local rancher: "If he invited me to a public hanging, I'd be on the front row."

Only One Republican Senator Refused to Say 'Climate Change Is Real'



# State



Gov. Reeves tells Hattiesburg audience it's 'great day to not be in Jackson'



# Municipal



JUSTICE

Yacht, strip club, bags of cash: The traveling FBI sting that set the stage for bribery charges against Jackson officials



The undercover operation that led to federal corruption charges for Hinds County District Attorney Jody Owens, Jackson Mayor Chokwe Antar Lumumba and Councilman Aaron Banks mimicked stings that the feds carried out in other U.S. cities. The local officials have vowed to fight the charges.



# Community SELF Governance – with a Catalyst







*Spotlight on*

# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

## HOW to be a CATALYST?

- Assessment
- Planning Plan
- Co-creation

# 1. Make assessment of where you are

- local climate challenge:
  - most urgent and least addressed
  - least controversial
  - supported by local data (if possible)
- community:
  - minimum level of self-organization
  - genuine interest in collaboration



## 2. Make a planning plan

- develop a flexible schedule for community meetings
  - decide on frequency
  - choose an appropriate location
  - decide on institutional partners
- develop a communication system:
  - systematic project updates
  - two-way feedback channels
  - grievance mechanism
- secure finance
  - for planning
  - for project development
  - MAINTENANCE!



# 3. Co-create together

- Elements of the co-creation:
  - be humble: serve not save the communities!
  - focus on trust:
    - do what you said
    - support people, not just the project
    - share successes AND failures
  - listen: speech is silver, silence is golden
  - document: notes, audio, video, pictures
  - adapt the process: collect feedback and adjust
  - show appreciation



# 3. Co-create together

- Schedule of the co-creation
  - identify most general needs, hopes and dreams
  - collectively choose the project's scope
  - map available resources
- start co-design process:
  - identify functions
  - select design elements
  - decide on aesthetics
  - get approval on the final co-design
  - consider co-development and co-maintenance

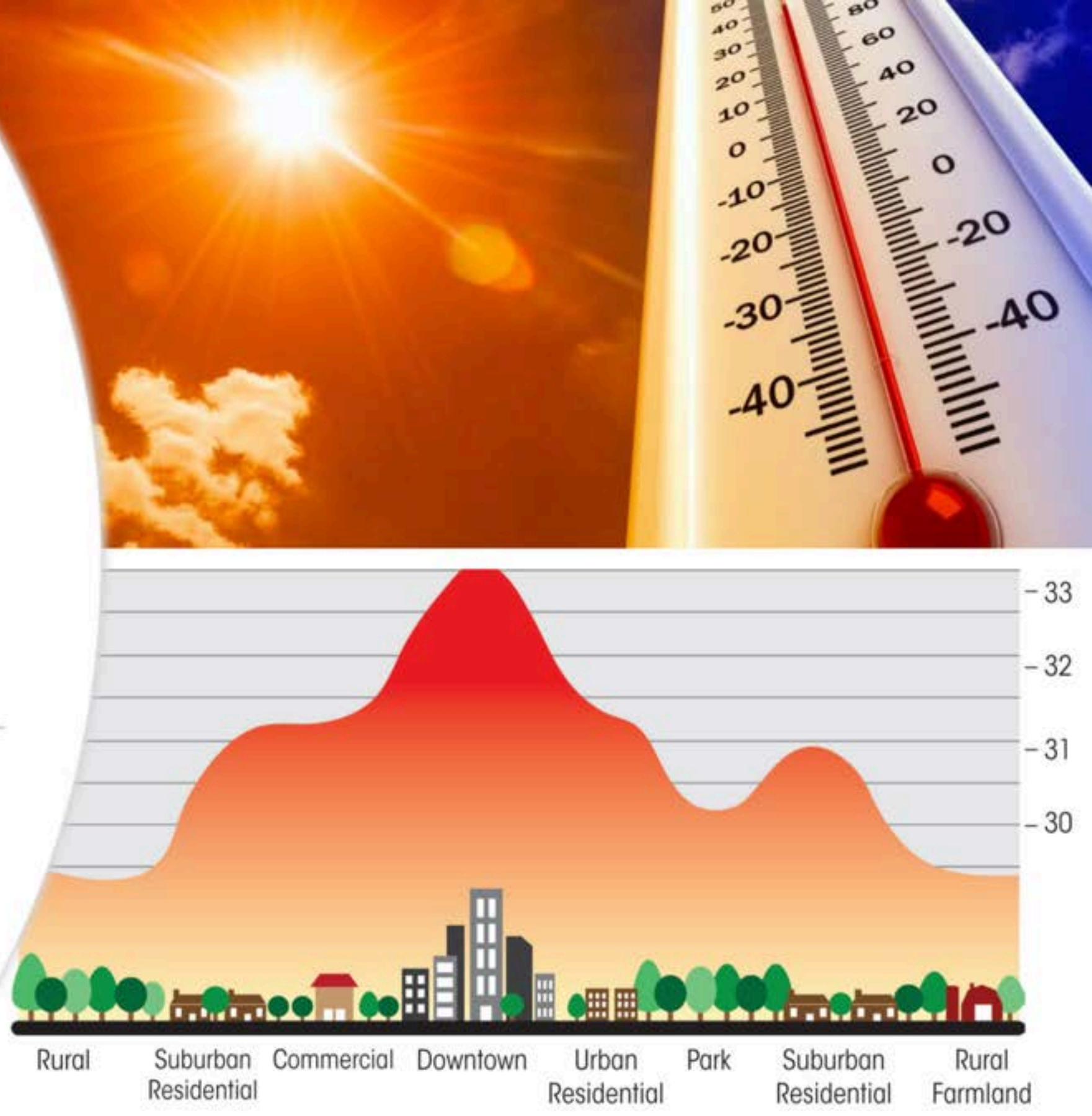


Going Green for Cool, Healthy Jackson.





# Jackson, MS

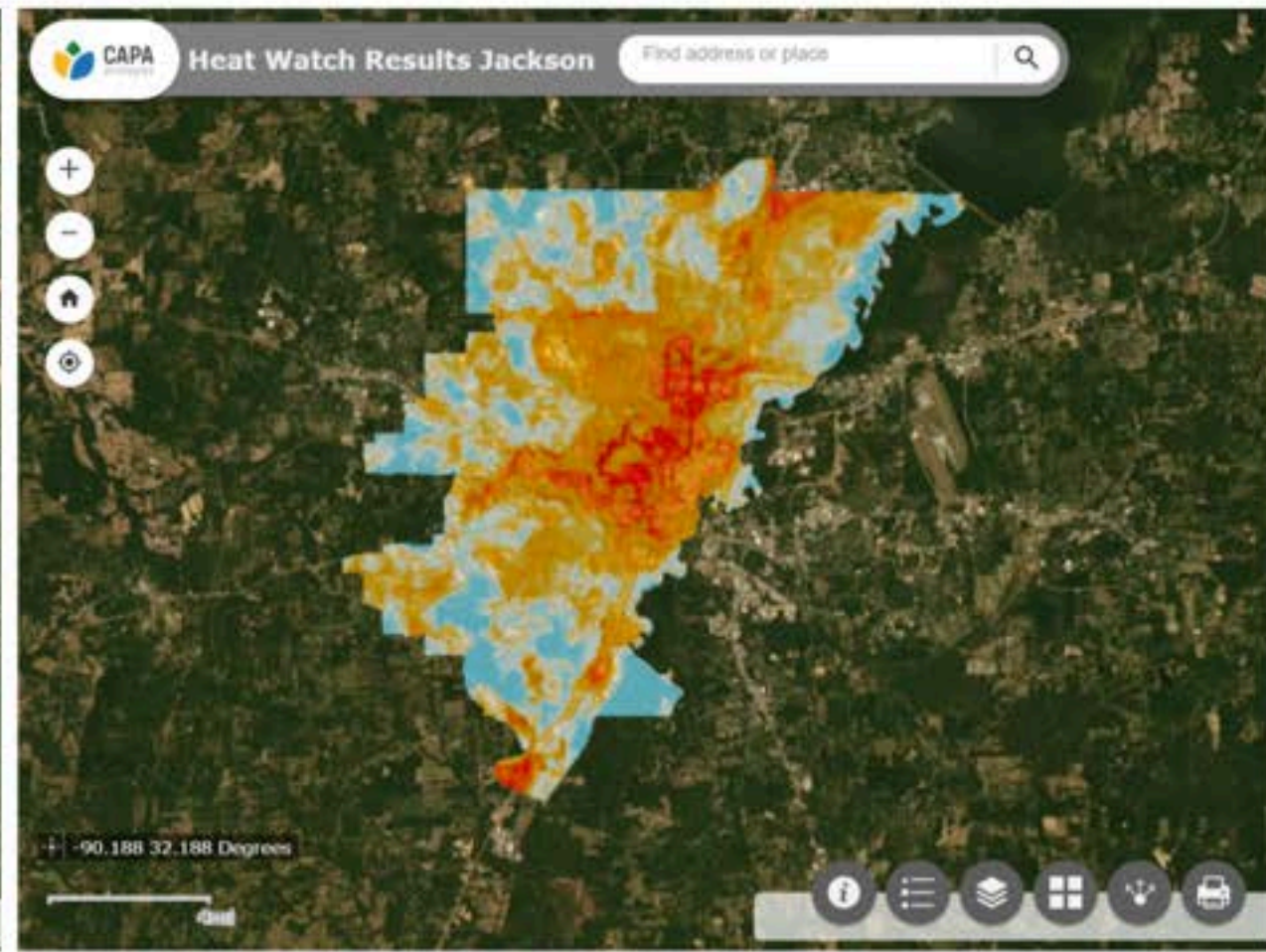


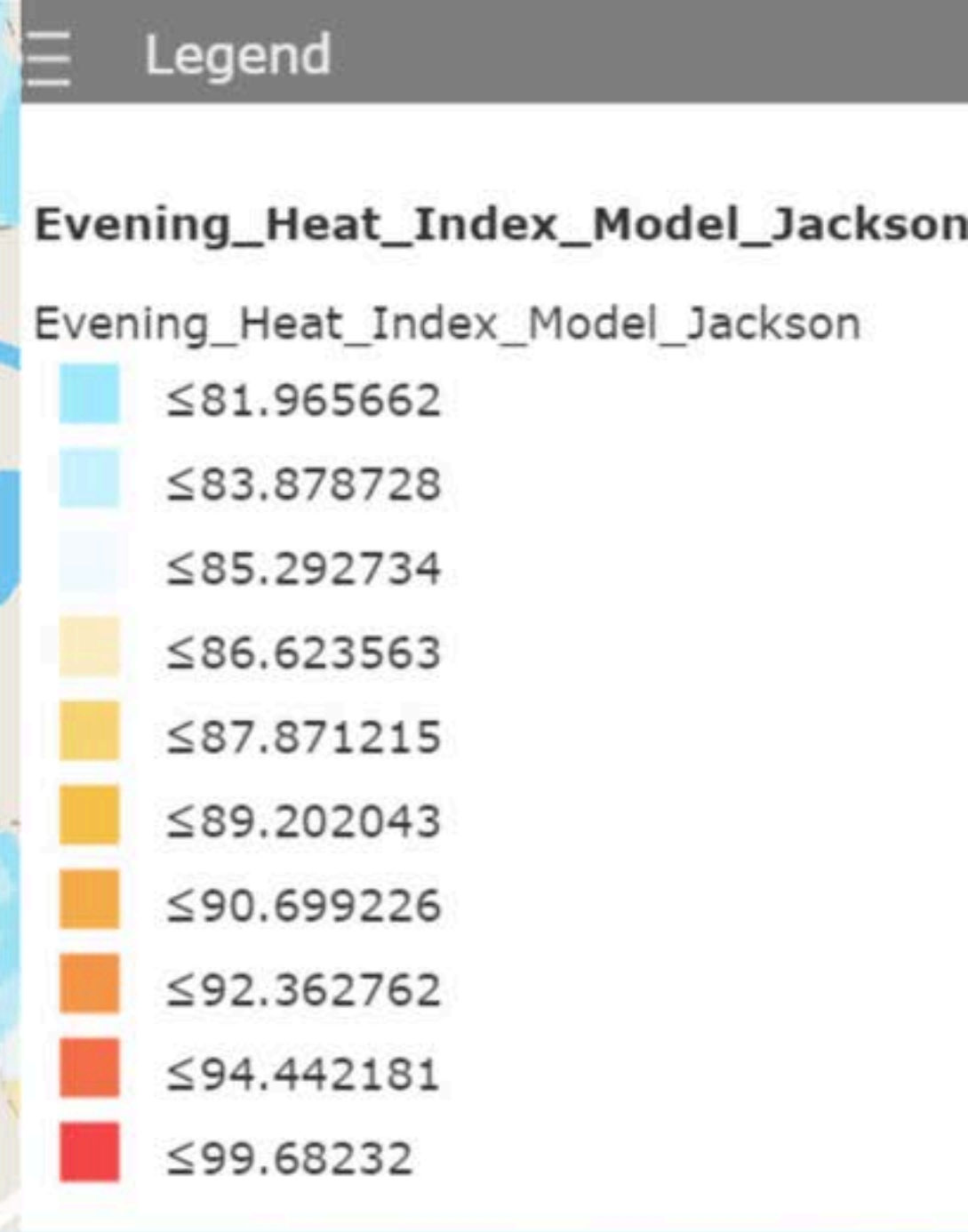
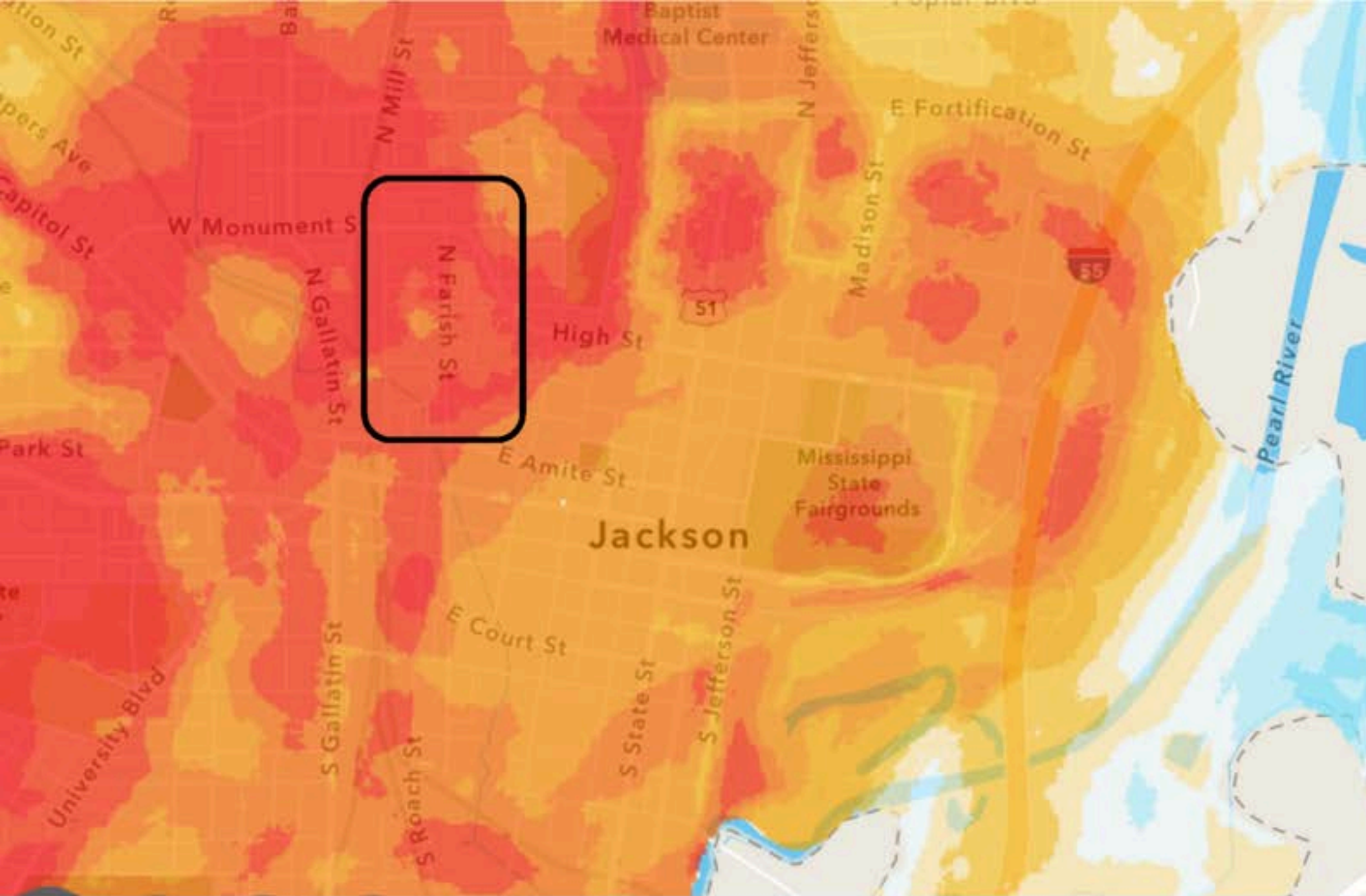
## Urban Heat Island Data Collection Jackson, MS Summer of 2020

“Heat Watch” organized by 2°C  
Mississippi and supported by CAPA and  
the National Integrated Heat Health  
Information System (NIHHIS-NOAA).

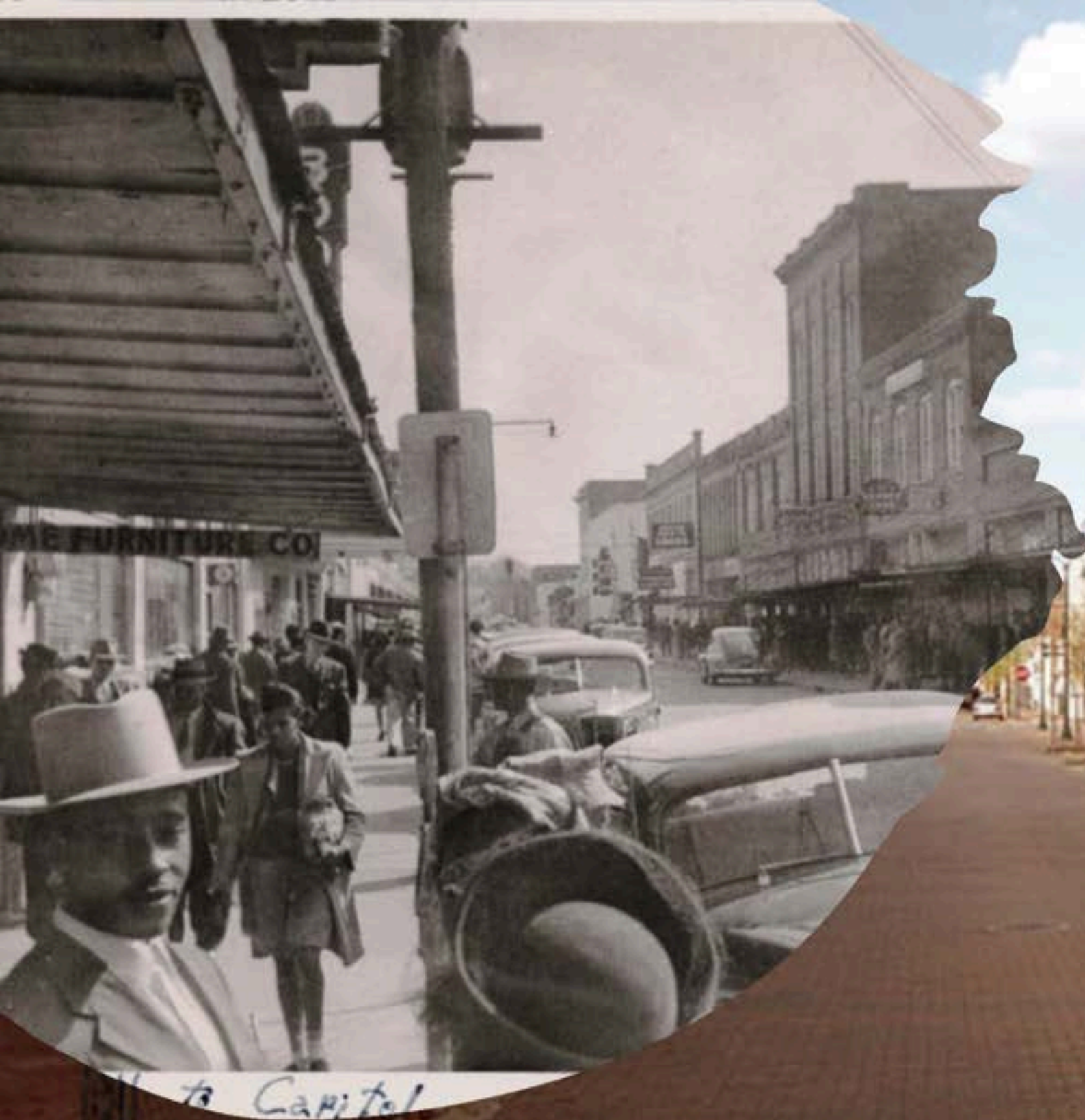


# UHI Data for Jackson, MS





Evening Heat Index



Farish Street



City of Jackson \* Legacy Builders Inc. \* Jackson Black Pages

presents...

# JUNETEENTH ON FARISH

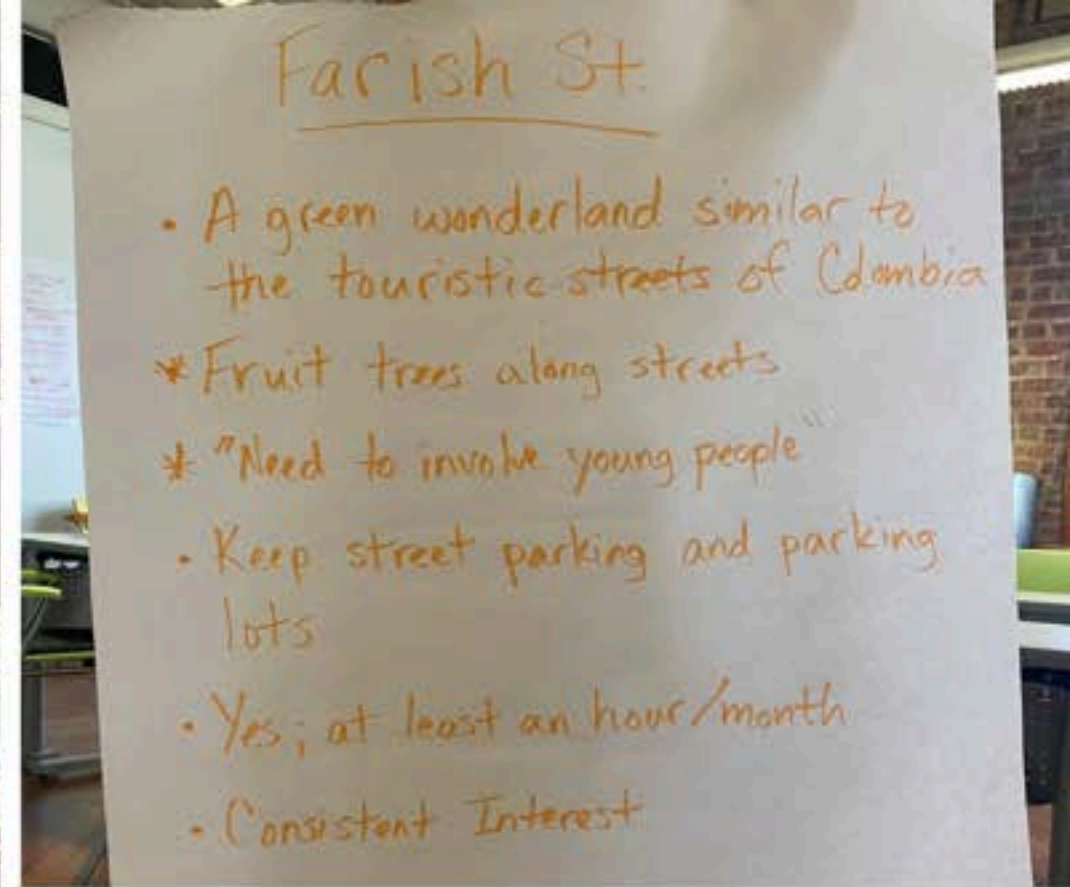
*"Our Black Is Beautiful"*



JACKSON  
BLACK PAGES



Fearless Community Partner





## Climate Action and Community Co-creation











## **QUICK BREAK**

**Music will play while we pause,  
feel free to stretch, refill your cup  
and we'll start back up when the  
music stops**

## **BREVE DESCANSO**

**La música se reproducirá mientras  
hacemos una pausa, siéntete libre  
de estirarte, rellena tu taza y  
comenzaremos de nuevo cuando  
la música se detenga.**

Take a break

# WELCOME BACK!

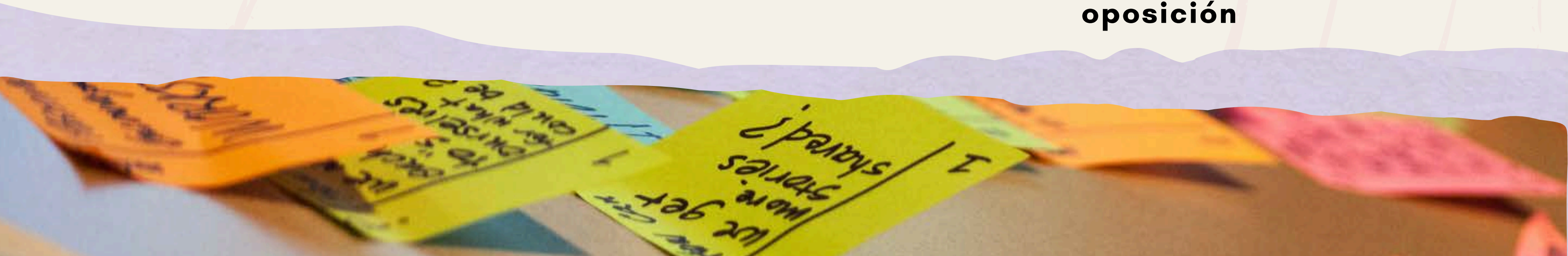
## SO FAR, WE HAVE...

- Identified themes and patterns where both resistance and power shows up for our group
- Heard from practitioners on tools and strategies they've used to navigate opposition

# ¡BIENVENIDES NUEVAMENTE!

## HASTA EL MOMENTO, HEMOS...

- Identificado temas y patrones donde tanto la resistencia como el poder se manifiestan en nuestro grupo
- Escuchado a profesionales hablar sobre las herramientas y estrategias que han utilizado para navegar oposición



# PARTICIPATORY COMMUNITY ASSET MAPPING

## MAPEO PARTICIPATIVO DE ACTIVOS COMUNITARIOS

### WHAT DO WE KNOW BECAUSE WE LIVE HERE?

#### Goals

- To identify local assets that shape trust
- Turning lived experience into planning insight
- Starting with strengths and not deficits

### ¿QUÉ SABEMOS PORQUE VIVIMOS AQUÍ?

#### Metas

- Identificar los activos locales que generan confianza.
- Convertir la experiencia vivida en conocimiento para la planificación
- Comenzar por las fortalezas, no por las deficiencias



# PARTICIPATORY COMMUNITY ASSET MAPPING

## MAPEO PARTICIPATIVO DE ACTIVOS COMUNITARIOS

### HOW TO USE IT AS A TOOL/STRATEGY?

- Traditional mapping uses formal data & often reflects institutional priorities
- Use this approach to identify landmarks and commonly overlooked informal networks that can guide community-driven planning

### ¿CÓMO UTILIZARLO COMO HERRAMIENTA/ESTRATEGIA?

- El mapeo tradicional utiliza datos formales y suele reflejar las prioridades institucionales.
- Utilice este enfoque para identificar puntos de referencia y redes informales que suelen pasarse por alto y que pueden orientar la planificación comunitaria.



# **PARTICIPATORY COMMUNITY ASSET MAPPING**

## **MAPEO PARTICIPATIVO DE ACTIVOS COMUNITARIOS**

**HOW TO USE IT AS A  
TOOL/STRATEGY?**

**Let's try it out!**

Grab a piece of paper and something to  
write with  
Envision a community you know well

**¿CÓMO UTILIZARLO COMO  
HERRAMIENTA/ESTRATEGIA?**

**¡Pruébalo!**

Toma un papel y algo para escribir.  
Imagina una comunidad que conozcas  
bien



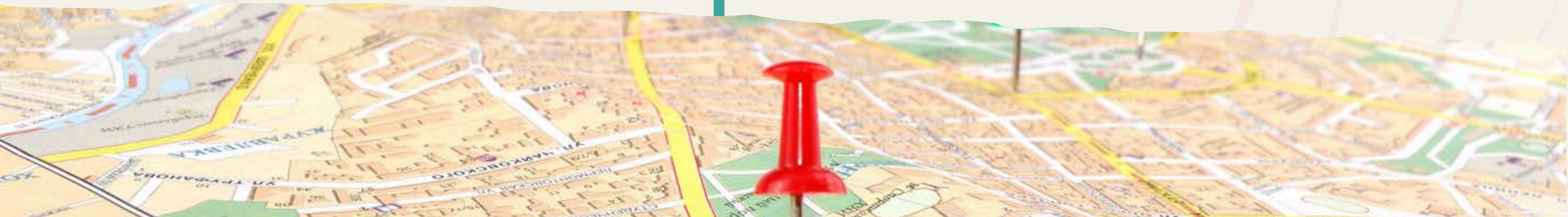
# ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS

**1** Draw a map of the community based on lived experience and landmarks that are important to you

**2** Challenge yourself to draw based on your own interpretation and not official boundaries

**3** Identify:

- Where do people feel safe?
- Where do folks gather in emergencies?
- What places hold special meaning or memories?
- Where are decisions influenced? Where are they decided?
- If you're having a bad day, where do you go to feel uplifted?



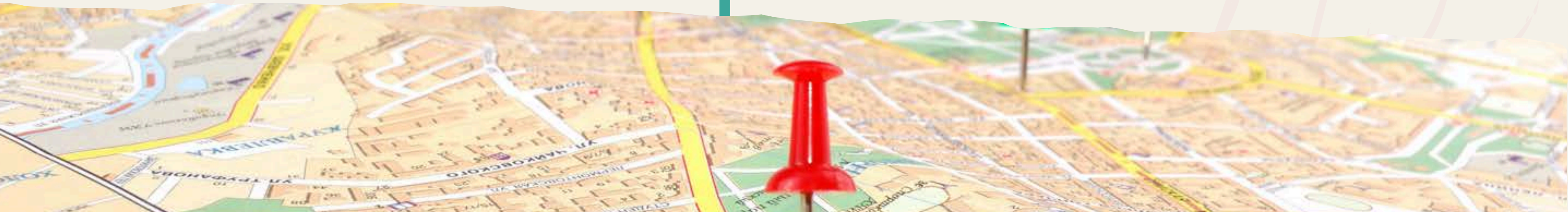
# INSTRUCCIONES PARA LA ACTIVIDAD

**1** Dibuja un mapa de la comunidad basándote en tu experiencia vivida y en lugares emblemáticos que sean importantes para ti

**2** Anímate a dibujar basándote en tu propia interpretación y no en los límites oficiales.

**3** Identifica:

- ¿Dónde se siente segura la gente?
- ¿Dónde se reúne la gente en caso de emergencia?
- ¿Qué lugares guardan un significado o recuerdos especiales?
- ¿Dónde influyen las decisiones? ¿Dónde se toman?
- Si tienes un mal día, ¿adónde vas a sentirte mejor?



# PARTICIPATORY COMMUNITY ASSET MAPPING

## MAPEO PARTICIPATIVO DE ACTIVOS COMUNITARIOS

### REFLECTION

- What shows up on your map that may not appear in official data?
- If every planning process started from this map, how would that potentially influence decision-making?
- How did it feel to draw based on memory or experience instead of geographical or political boundaries?

### REFLEXIÓN

- Qué aparece en tu mapa que podría no aparecer en los datos oficiales?
- Si todo el proceso de planificación partiera de este mapa, ¿cómo influiría eso en la toma de decisiones?
- ¿Qué sentiste al dibujar basándote en la memoria o la experiencia en lugar de en límites geográficos o políticos?



# **PARTICIPATORY COMMUNITY ASSET MAPPING**

## **MAPEO PARTICIPATIVO DE ACTIVOS COMUNITARIOS**

### **HOW TO IMPLEMENT IN A CDP PROCESS**

This activity can be very useful for communities either beginning or revisiting a community-driven planning process; allows for multiple perspectives and may lead to commonalities among groups

Can be done individually, as we did today, or in a group with posterboard and sticky notes

Adaptable for all ages, languages and mobility levels

### **CÓMO IMPLEMENTAR EN UN PROCESO DE PLANIFICACIÓN COMUNITARIA**

Esta actividad puede ser muy útil para las comunidades que inician o re-inician un proceso de planificación comunitario; permite múltiples perspectivas y puede generar puntos en común entre los grupos.

Puede realizarse individualmente, como hicimos hoy, o en grupo con cartulina y notas adhesivas

Adaptable a todas las edades, idiomas y niveles de movilidad.

**THANK YOU! / ¡GRACIAS!**



**YOUR FEEDBACK MATTERS!**

**TU OPINIÓN CUENTA!**

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**BECOME PART OF NACRP!**

[Join Here](#) / [Únete Aquí](#)