

## APPENDIX C. SUMMARY OF COMMENTS FROM COMMUNITY MEETINGS

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To get input on the development of the Assessment of Fair Housing, MDHA, in partnership with 5 of its Promise Zone Implementation Partners, held community meetings open to the general public. These meetings were advertised in accordance with the Citizen Participation Plan, as amended. In addition, the Metro Councilman for District 1 hosted a community meeting at the Bordeaux Library.

A summary of comments received at these meetings follows.

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### *District 1 Meeting at Bordeaux Library, April 5, 2017*

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- Brick houses that are spread out and close to town is a positive for Haynes Park.
- I don't like government funded housing because it brings crime.
- I like the building materials used on established homes in the neighborhood.
- Schools are failing us.
- We don't have any sit down restaurants.
- There is no medical access, not even a CVS Minute Clinic.
- I wish that government funded housing was spread across the entire city fairly.
- There are no restaurants in my neighborhood. We only a Subway and a Sonic.
- Traffic is awful and takes an hour every day. We need to have cameras on the roads to help during traffic accidents.
- The families and the richness they bring to the community is amazing.
- We need leadership to bring economic power.
- We need better schools and diversity of teachers.
- We need to have a place that serves a good cup of coffee and good food.
- I'm afraid of how the upcoming tax increases will affect this community.
- We have enough subsidized housing.
- Absence of homogeny is positive. Folks grow up here and then often come back.
- If the city is going to increase our taxes, then they also need to bring the amenities.
- There is division between the neighborhood associations. There is no collaboration.
- A lack of sidewalks is a problem.
- We have to prostitute ourselves to the city to get the same amenities that the rest of the districts get all the time.
- I love Nashville.
- I like the community in Bordeaux. I want to come back and buy a home here.
- I want a restaurant in Metro Center, Rosa Parks.
- I love my neighborhood especially the lot sizes and views. The neighborhoods are nice and it is calm.
- Lack of sidewalks on Kings Lane and bus routes in general makes it hard to get to work.
- This is the last enclave in a gentrified city. It's like an oasis in Bordeaux.

- We are lacking sidewalks. A stretch of Clarksville Highway has been developed but there is no shopping.
- Residents are proud of single family homes.
- We are lacking sidewalks and customer friendly businesses.
- Drains are clogged up with storm water. I've been calling for 3 years to have the ditch cleaned and they haven't done it. I had to clean it out myself and they never put in grass seed.
- Bordeaux has 100 years of history. It was founded by free slaves and it has been supported by the city as the location for the inhabitants, e.g., the prison, dumps, TB clinics, insane asylum, government funded housing, etc. These investments are part of the psyche of the community.
- The poverty rate is already at 30% in Bordeaux.
- I want to live in a diverse community. I don't understand why Hermitage has less land but it is worth more money.
- Living in Bordeaux is detrimental because we don't have diversity. It is a traditionally African-American community.
- We're the only neighborhood left in Nashville with lots of single family brick homes with disposable income.
- Inclusionary housing should be equal and include the entire community, not always dumping it in Bordeaux.
- The number of owner occupied homes are less than they used to be.
- Bordeaux has undesirable housing and a lot of Section 8 housing.
- There is no disbursement or equality of how affordable housing is disbursed across the city.
- Too many group homes coming into Bordeaux. They are coming in secretly and I'm not happy about it.
- MDHA is creating larger pockets of poverty downtown but not increasing diversity.
- Our community should be mixed income not only affordable housing. They should create jobs and affordable housing. They should, attract younger families.
- Bordeaux is looked at for the only area to put affordable housing and it should be spread out across the entire city.
- Traditional owner-occupied family housing is being replaced by group homes. Owners are selling to whomever and the developers are doing whatever they want.
- There are lots of Metro owned property in our area. We really need more market rate owners because we are already affordable. New homes in the neighborhood should only increase the economy not bring it down.
- No more affordable housing.
- Group home residents sit outside and stare across the street while I cut the grass, I feel like I'm being sexually harassed.
- We have government funded housing for those with mental health issues. They might be sex offenders.
- I do not feel safe with crazy people from group homes when they are congregating outside my home and at the bus stop. I am concerned for my safety. When I call the police, they say they are too busy. No one comes.
- Density is an issue. Developers tell us they won't support the area because we don't have the density and disposable income. But we do have that!

- The city needs to stop sending all of their affordable housing projects here because while it increases the density, it also increases the neighborhood's poverty rate which makes commercial developers look elsewhere.
- We need more economic development. I want Bordeaux to be seen as worthy of all the other development that's going on in the city.
- I have to leave the neighborhood to do any shopping or dining out. I should be able to spend my money here.
- Where was Bordeaux when the city made a master plan 20 years ago?
- We are physically the largest district and have beautiful views and access to the interstates. We have enough disposable income to support more development.
- The benefit of NashvilleNext was that it set precedent for the procedure of getting support from neighborhood and Council for development.
- We don't need any more liquor stores, Family Dollars, Dollar Generals, or any more check cashing companies. They are everywhere. And no more tire shops.
- East Nashville has done it and they developed with intention. Bordeaux should be developed with a plan. Why can't this place look like Five Points or 12 South?
- All I want is a Starbucks! Not that I even drink coffee but it indicates a certain maturity in a community. I want other nice stores.
- We need design standards for Clarksville Pike with height restrictions, signage, setbacks, etc.
- We need more restaurants. Maybe beer permits aren't such a bad thing.
- We have poor performing schools. We need early educational programs and daycares.
- We've had to create our own tutoring and mentoring program and the city and schools should be providing this.
- The city gives so much money to other districts for these programs. Hillsboro High just got a lot of money but that community is already prosperous and they don't need it.
- We have slim to none daycare options.
- I had to board up a house myself that was dangerous to children. The city nor the school would do anything about it.
- Bordeaux never developed economically and so the education has dwindled. With education no longer being central, it is killing us.
- The schools can't have evening programs because there is poor lighting.
- There is no awning in the front of the school so students who get dropped off get wet.
- There are no speed bumps at school so kids get hit. There are no ramps or railings to keep children safe.
- We have no charter or magnet schools. The one magnet school we have didn't even know they were removed from the list.
- We need a customer friendly grocery store. Our Kroger was the last to be renovated and really all they did was paint it.
- I have to drive out of my neighborhood to shop for groceries. I spend my gas and go to the Kroger on 8th Avenue.
- We need vegetarian options.

- The bus stops are a problem. Men hang out at the bus stops and they congregate and loiter. The buses are not safe for females.
- The traffic lights are so old.
- We want a train station and the amenities that surround it.
- We have been asking for sidewalks for 30 years.
- Too much traffic.
- I don't want mass transit. The current infrastructure is bad.
- The bus used to come every 30 minutes but they changed the routes and now it only comes once an hour on Kings Lane.
- Some bus routes only come once a day. How do you get to work and/or get home?
- We need to find jobs for convicted felons. We have a high percentage of individuals with felonies.
- We have so much government funded housing.
- We need incentives for new small businesses.
- We need support for small businesses with the money allocated to THDA.
- We need tax incentives and tax abatements.
- No taxes for 10 years and maybe we can attract a Publix.
- Create more public/private partnerships to support local businesses before they leave the neighborhood.
- We need to create a Master Plan. A holistic and comprehensive plan for Bordeaux.
- If Metro really wants to be genuine, the Federal government should know.
- When I do call for codes violations, they tell me that they are too busy.
- I do not like government funded housing, because it creates crime.
- No amenities, nice restaurants, clinics, or hospitals. We need better economic development.
- We need a moratorium on subsidized housing and no more half-way houses. Then market-rate housing will come in.
- Nashville is segregated. You don't see people of color like me in 12 South or downtown now.
- Inclusionary housing is needed, and we need to spread it out equally based.
- Metro owned property not set aside for affordable housing.
- I feel that police are non-responsive, and there are incidents every day.
- What are the city's plans for development in Bordeaux?
- Grocery stores are not good. They have expired food.
- Provide incentives for locally owned businesses such as tax abatements.
- Hire felons to work in local businesses.
- Bordeaux is redlined.
- Bordeaux has land and tracks for transit.
- There is a concentration of poverty caused by subsidized housing.
- Bordeaux has to be developed with heart.
- UDO for design standards.
- Clarksville Pike look should look like West End.
- Work with homeowners that are seniors.
- It's been 100 years of the same things. We need to be deemed worthy of upscale progressive development like the rest of Nashville.

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## *St. Luke's Community House, April 5, 2017*

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- City-wide issue with tall skinny houses. Low income and minority residents are having to move to surrounding counties.
- It's difficult to tell where residents who fall under National Origin or Disabilities protected classes live in your neighborhood.
- It's difficult to find housing for veterans.
- Managers discriminate against veterans with mental disabilities and mental illness but it's difficult to prove.
- Case managers can help mitigate risk for property managers.
- Issues for people who get evicted and then can't sign another lease.
- Banks can't find enough African-Americans to lend to because of disparate impact of credit.
- Sex offenders can't find employment and housing.
- The lack of transit hours of operation for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> shift is an issue.
- Residents in 37208 were segregated two years ago and now they're not. But has that changed anything positively for them?
- At-will employment plays a role in terms of bringing in income.
- Residents need to overcome mental barriers to find resources and be comfortable in public housing.
- Millennials skew data because they have low income, high student debt, but parents are buying them homes.
- Migration outside of Nashville area is occurring for some residents.
- It's difficult to access transit for all protected classes.
- Services need to move to where residents are.
- There is a stigma to riding the bus. We need to change the mindset.
- The mindset for public transportation is the only people using the buses are those that have to.
- NYC and Chicago are examples of more user-friendly transit models to emulate in Nashville.
- People can't live off SSI of \$733 as a disabled resident.
- Predatory lenders are putting notices and notes on residents' doors.
- Developers are using code violations to push out older residents.
- Possible solution is for citizens to group together like Edgehill Homeowners Association.
- Residents can develop Community Benefit Agreements because developers don't want residents to know what's going on.
- We need to connect residents in different communities together.
- Hendersonville didn't want a group home there.
- There are issues with food deserts in Cleveland Park.
- Only 87 homes on the market under 200k currently.
- NOAH & Neighborhood Resource Center are great tools for residents.
- PTSD and mental disabilities are barriers to housing for veterans.
- There is a glimmer of hope for veterans in situations where landlords have a heart for veterans but with so much demand, it's still difficult to find units.

- Some residents see their neighborhoods as deprived of outside investment and support.
- The Nations has always been cohesive and maintained an “us against the world” mindset.
- The older residents are being pushed out because of new development & suburban mindsets. We need to find a middle ground.
- Grassroots movements have been working to defend the past culture.
- I live in the Oakwood subdivision of Antioch, and there have been more neighborhood subdivisions and an increase in crime in Antioch.
- We have had to add crime watches in Antioch. My house was broken into today. Who breaks into a house during the day?
- I’ve lived in Bellevue 1 ½ years and I still feel good, safe and not afraid.
- I am proud that Bellevue still has its urban feel and has not yet been affected by gentrification.
- A good job has been done to keep new developments looking vintage.
- There are a wide range of nationalities currently living in Bellevue, but the rising living cost is an issue.
- The people who lived in the area in 2010, have now moved to Antioch and Madison and there has been a huge influx of homeless people.
- The Better Business Bureau has been rude to the diverse people who are now living in Hendersonville, because mortgage was cheaper than rent.
- The Gallatin area has good safe schools, but 20-30 year old yuppies that come into the community need things to do. People don’t want to drive 30-40 minutes to go to a movie.
- Does people moving into the community know that they can move closer to the city? Are they being pushed to move to the Gallatin area? Is it just the trend to move out here?
- Ever since I was a kid the SE side of the Donelson/Briley area has been diverse, untouched and affordable.
- The new development has caused a \$500 jump in my rent but there hasn’t been any new \$550-equivalent renovations made.
- It is illegal to have a more than 10% jump in rent without equivalent renovations/additions being made to the building. However, my roommate makes more money now so they said they could charge more.
- It is also illegal to be charged more because of your income. That is income discrimination.
- I am worried that if these things are happening to me, an educated white woman, then what is happening to the rest of the community?
- Low-income levels and people of color are being pushed out.
- Antioch has a large population of Muslims, because their Mosques are there.
- Federal services should be coordinated together to make a larger impact.
- Affordable housing should be incentivized. We need more work like Envision Cayce to be done to change the look of affordable housing.
- Wouldn’t you love to have a teacher in your neighborhood?
- The big problem is Us vs. Them. We need education and the perception to be changed. Backstories need to be shared.
- You can’t just provide housing. You should also have workforce developments.
- Affordable housing cannot be supplied for free.

- At the Changing Neighborhood Summit, they mentioned that hotels can't hire low income residents because employees don't live close and take the bus or can't even afford to park their own car.
- Nashville is rigged for businesses.
- Past zoning practices allow for crazy development.
- There are lots of new construction poorly built with no foundation, because of limestone.
- Landmark @ Glenview Reserve in the Briley area by Hotel Preston has a concentration of poverty. They have small homes with lots of people living in them.
- The area from Murfreesboro out toward Nashboro is rich & nice.
- Nashville has pockets of poverty, it is not really segregated.
- Micro-demographics should be tracked.
- Having a home doesn't mean they can afford it.
- There needs to be network services so that nonprofits can know who and where to help people in need. Metro Social Services is working on this idea for homelessness.
- For people to work together they need to focus on solving the problem and check the egos at the door.
- People want the house or the job but they have a hard time waiting, finding, and maintaining stability.
- Metro Buses are done running at 12:00am.
- Community members are dealing with the struggles of relocation vs. housing profit.
- There is a large Muslim, Somali & Kurdish population living in the Brentwood and Woodbine area.
- A Hijab was ripped off of a woman's head in Antioch about a 1 year ago.
- Nolensville Road is the easiest place to "put them" for housing, food, temples. But is it safe from gentrification?
- A woman who looked like the girlfriend of a gang member was attacked, but the police didn't believe her. She was discriminated against by the criminal justice system. She and her kids had to stay in the place she was attacked for a year because of a limited amount of housing and slow bureaucracy.
- Seniors are being pushed out of their houses and becoming homeless.
- Seniors apply for disability so that they can be protected after selling homes.
- There is lots of discrimination against ex-offenders.
- There is a good school in Gallatin. But at the school closer to Hendersonville, the kids have more behavioral issues. There seems to be some type of school segregation in that area.
- Food deserts are a problem in the Gallatin area and in the Nations.
- Perishable food day at St. Luke's in The Nations had to end because St. Luke's could not afford to pay for law enforcement supervision.
- There was knife wielding and fistfights over receiving fresh produce.
- People are using Uber or carpooling together to get services and food from St. Luke's.
- Ride sharing helps get resources to seniors.
- In the Nations community, 29 seniors were lost to death or relocation.
- Turnaround time for development from community owned to developer built properties depends on the education (bachelor vs. 8th grade). The less educated succumb to predatory targeted attacks from developers.



- The Nations has had a multi-generational renter culture. Renters who had been renting a house for 37 years had to move and the landlord never told the tenants that the property had been sold. They found out on the developer's build day. The developer was kind enough to delay the build 3 months to help the old tenants' transition.
- The Exit Clause is iron clad. Tenants are given 60 days after an eviction notice is given to leave. TN's laws are not renter friendly.
- The housing market in the Nations is slowing down. A year ago there were no "For Sale" signs. Houses were being bought before they were built, but now there are "For Sale" signs.
- The price of the new houses has lowered a bit.
- Those who bought the new houses cannot afford their mortgages and are going to need social service assistance down the road. Their loans are not exactly, but pretty much interest based loans with \$0 down.
- Some neighborhoods have been deprived of outside investment and support.
- A way to reduce crime is by improving community infrastructure and increasing community "buy-in".
- Many seniors or disabled residents are on a fixed income and thus priced out of their own neighborhoods as property costs rise. They are then forced to find more affordable housing outside the county in some cases and commute into the city.
- A disproportionate number of African-Americans are subject to discrimination and displacement in this way.
- One idea is to work with Metro to slow the growth of property tax rates in Davidson Co.
- A solution is to establish more community-based organizations via neighborhood coalitions to engage potential commercial developers about the needs and preferences of the community in which they will be developing.
- People in North Nashville are discriminated against by race and color.
- To address the crime issue, all those paying Davidson County property taxes should have equal access to Metro city services. This woman lived too far north in North Nashville to be considered part of the urban services district, so she has to pay separate fees for additional services like trash pickup.
- The presence of rock quarries and constant construction in my North Nashville neighborhood is a kind of environmental hazard. We are also in a food desert.
- There are very few sidewalks which makes travel to grocery stores very difficult for some residents without reliable transportation.
- I am also frustrated about the seclusion and difficulty in getting to the public transit stops in my neighborhood. Bus stops are dimly lit and shabbily constructed, and I believe that this harms community perception of public transit and increases the likelihood of criminal activity in those areas.
- Veterans have a difficult time finding affordable housing. There is a continuum in which many veterans returned from service with various disabilities, which affected their ability to hold gainful employment and thus kept them on a fixed income or in a cycle of poverty.
- A solution is to reach out to property managers and landlords to educate them on affordable housing issues and improve access to housing for people with different backgrounds. This work can be done in tandem with local non-profits seeking to improve housing access for veterans.



- Zoned schools in resident's neighborhood have older instructional materials and outdated resources when compared to other magnet schools or schools in other clusters.
- Also concerned about the lack of employment opportunities within walking distance in most parts of my neighborhood. There are no sidewalks on most of the major roads, and people without reliable transportation would not be able to walk to most of the jobs that are closest to their residences.
- Developers contact the Codes Department as a way to put pressure on homeowners who resist offers to purchase their property.
- A solution is to increase affordable housing options in new housing developments in the city.
- Homeowners should have access to information about selling practices and dealing with developers as well as access to new affordable housing options so they don't have to leave the city to find housing.
- Police officers are prioritizing the protection of people in newer and more affluent homes.
- A solution is to engage local government about police protection and monitoring norms to ensure that all citizens are entitled to equal protection and safety.
- Gentrification and displacement are exacerbated when new property developers are not from the Nashville area, and thus do not have a relationship with the community.
- Lawmakers should work together to prioritize new building permits to be issued to Nashville-based or local businesses. Local developers would be more inclined to take resident concerns into consideration, thus cutting down on displacement.
- Nashville's public transit, as it exists today, is in such a state of disrepair and unsightliness that it deters potential users and makes transit stops a more likely place for crime.
- Encourage Metro to provide better security accommodations for public transit.

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*Woodbine Community Organization, April 13, 2017*

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- Murfreesboro Rd. area off 40 close to downtown is a very poor area.
- A lot of seniors live in the public housing towers in income-based units and are not close to resources.
- Seniors living in the towers don't have cars or drive due to physical issues, so many are isolated.
- Even having to walk 1-3 blocks from the bus can be a problem for residents with low mobility.
- Benches at the bus stops are helpful but there are not enough of them.
- There are a lot of veterans in the public housing towers, and they can get kicked out for drug/alcohol or mental health issues. They don't have case management.
- Even if you have access to the bus it's still a long ride to the grocery store. Residents have a hard time carrying bags because there's several steps in the process to unload and take up groceries.
- Disabled residents can't get to church either.
- Primary areas of concentrated poverty are in North Nashville but some in South Nashville.
- The significant concentration of poverty is due to what residents can afford. They can't get ahead.
- With many new homes in the city, seniors have difficulty keeping homes due to code notices in North, East Nashville, and Madison.
- Fixed-income residents don't have the knowledge to apply for rebate or property tax freeze programs.
- When you can't hold on to your property, it's a strike to your pride and creates depression.

- Living in senior towers can be depressing. An ambulance comes every night and people are found dead in the apartments. It's bad for morale.
- In general, if there is no support system, seniors can go downhill quickly although the senior population will continue to grow.
- Retirement is not enough to live on and there are not enough jobs available for seniors.
- Are there programs in schools for children with special needs like autism?
- In the past, I lived in Antioch and my child was bused to a high poverty area. I didn't care about the school itself because the teachers were good. I just hate that people that live in those areas have to see drugs and prostitution every day.
- Children can act out because of trauma. They need help to process and recover.
- Even if there are after-school programs like at the YMCA, how do kids access them?
- Barriers to housing can include language, area of town you live in, education, and not being able to pass a background check.
- Transportation is also a barrier because you can't get a job or move to a different area.
- Even with a job, increasing rent and expenses, it gets to a point where you ask "why work?" if you can use other resources.
- If you have kids and you work, you can end up getting less assistance for kids. So there's a sliding scale between keeping assistance for your kids or making more money to support your family.
- Whole segments of the population are getting pushed into a corner.
- When you put food on one side of the wall and people on the other, a revolution will arise to get the food.
- Code enforcers ride around looking for violations to report. People can't bring their homes up to code and lose them.
- The resurgence in the tax credit program could help build affordable housing.
- Criminal and income background checks are the most limiting barriers.
- Access ride is \$3.40 one way and one stop only for elderly and disabled. It's too costly.
- Our management company's selections are based on the application itself and not on an individual. They aren't barred due to race even if income-eligible.
- Maybe some discrimination but the trend is towards more diverse clients.
- Housing market can still be difficult for African-American, single mom with three kids. Possibly due to disparate impacts related to race.
- City should offer front-end abatements and tax incentives on the back-end.
- New THDA rules have limited tax credit options. More and more developers may question those policies and create better answers to the issues. If you limit incentives, you're not going to meet needs.
- A lot of times refugees and immigrants choose to live in clusters, it's a choice.
- I really wonder if they stay in place because they would face discrimination if moved out to other areas because of national origin issues. Even if they have income to move elsewhere.
- There is lack of access to food resources in public housing towers and developments. Public housing developments are a bit more mobile than in towers.
- No "big" grocery store or healthy food options.
- Landfills near communities and soccer fields need to be cleaned out in the Metro Center area.

- Metro Center is in danger of evacuation if spill happens. The City needs to communicate with the community of these dangers.
- Overcrowding, substandard housing and slum lords are a problem.
- At the Metro Center Teacher Tower lighting struck the front door. It took over a year to fix. Anyone could come on the property such as prostitutes, etc. The garbage chute broke and it took forever to fix.
- Bugs are a common problem in the towers.
- We need better community management over slumlords.
- Because rents go up yearly, you can become cost burdened even if you start in an affordable unit.
- I don't feel I have been discriminated against personally. I'm glad that you all are reaching out and trying to find ways to fix issues for those that are.
- In a perfect world, I would like to see more fulltime or part-time employment opportunities for these seniors and disabled residents.
- Identify companies willing to hire them and not just as a trainee.
- Offer all kinds of job experiences.
- Mobility issues hamper those that want to work, even with job training such as computer class.

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*Martha O'Bryan Center, April 15, 2017*

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- There's nothing I like right now at Cayce.
- It's hectic, but we are about to get new housing.
- There are shootings and fighting here.
- There are new lights & cameras but I don't know if the cameras work to prevent crime.
- Cops come to pick up criminals after they have done a crime, but I don't know if they are actually working to stop crime.
- You will get targeted for retaliation if you don't have support on the property.
- The people visiting the area and guest are causing the trouble. It's the guests' guests' guests.
- Residents feel a need to be mindful of what they say to management about a problem. There is a lot of fear of retaliation for filing complaints.
- After 5'o clock, when the MDHA doors are closed, everything is different.
- Martha O Bryan is there for us.
- The property managers don't understand that this is not the suburbs. You can't handle things in Cayce like it is the suburbs.
- I'm an advocate for other residents and I tell them about the meetings.
- I help people get daycare, ahead of time, so they can attend the meetings.
- It was calmer here when I moved here 15 years ago. Times and the people have changed.
- I try to make sure people are reading their leases.
- Residents need help reading through the lease to know about late fees and late charges.
- Late fees need to be explicitly explained to residents up-front.
- There are people here who can't read and don't know what's in their leases.
- The cut off deadline for rent is changing and people are finding out about it through word of mouth. Even if it is written down, some of them can't read their notices.
- I can't walk outside early in the morning anymore, and I'm worried.

- In 2004 there used to be a mental health site on the Cayce property, but nothing now.
- Some churches & family members take in the homeless.
- The community is segregated. People in Nashville don't know that the Cayce neighborhood is here.
- You can just drive along Shelby Ave without having to acknowledge the Cayce neighborhood.
- In Cayce you have to learn how to live, you have to learn how to deal.
- I even have to convince people it's okay to be here at Martha O Bryan.
- Even my relatives are afraid to visit me. I was robbed in 2004.
- Getting people to live outside of Cayce is a great thing to aspire to. However, if the residents don't have stability and some backing to transition out of Section 8 and public housing, they will end up back in Cayce.
- Most of the residents don't know how to pay for rent, lights and water. They just pay rent.
- There needs to be finance classes for "fashionistas" who have only had to pay \$50 for housing.
- I could move out of here, but they can't.
- I moved to Sumner County because of the high school my son was zoned to in East Nashville.
- Public housing residents are isolated and have no support. The kids only see the row they live on.
- The high school is known for its drug and crime culture.
- Some of the information about the high school was made known to me by other parents, only because I am a school counselor. Some of these things are not public knowledge.
- Residents at Cayce are afraid to meet each other, but neighbors are very supportive once they get out.
- Parents came together more in the past.
- Mentally ill clients are evicted because they break terms of the lease for reasons related to their mental illness.
- In the past, it was easier to sort out the situation. Or if the resident had to leave, the eviction process was done in a way that allowed the resident to transition successfully.
- In the last few months management has been less understanding, even after the resident's status of mental health is explained.
- A woman I know missed a court hearing because of delusions. Did she really have to be evicted?
- We should consider interventions to help clients understand why it would be good to share their mental illnesses.
- If they have to be evicted, is there a graceful way of doing it?
- Managers need training for where to refer clients with mental illness after eviction.
- More conversations about renters with mental illnesses should be had.
- Because even I, as a social worker, have a hard time thinking of what solutions could be formed.
- More resources should be made available to those with mental disabilities.
- It's difficult trying to get other community members to be invested. Is it apathy, fear, or both?
- There are mostly people with disabilities here.
- I dislike the bad things that are done in the community by outsiders.
- We recently had a meeting with the police department. I told them to bring more police on bicycles to patrol streets and alleys. They did and crime was reduced.
- There are a lot of dark areas in the neighborhood. We need better lighting.
- Police on motorcycles is a good idea. It gives the police more access to prevent and stop crime.

- The youth can jump fences and outrun the police. Motorcycles give the police an advantage.
- Neighborhood watch would not work here because those involved would be labeled as snitches.
- The neighborhood is tired. When you try to be nice you can get a target on your back.
- The Jocques Clemmons shooting an uproar related to Black Lives Matter is ruining our efforts to bring the community together.
- Jocques shooting ruined trust for police in neighborhood.
- The Black Lives Matter people come into Cayce and want the police task force to go. They get mad at me because I want the police to stay.
- But Black Lives Matter people aren't from the neighborhood and the police are wanted.
- There is some harassment from the police force. They need better training.
- Some task force members wanted residents to snitch on their neighbors.
- Even I have been harassed by the police, I am for the task force.
- Residents need to know what to do about bug prevention when you're moving in to the new developments.
- The neighborhood is in a food desert.
- Food deserts are a problem. We asked for a grocery store, we got a Family Dollar.
- S. 4th & S. 8th apartments are infested with roaches, bedbugs, mice, and water bugs.
- The new Woodland Street apartments have the pest problems of the old apartments.
- Maintenance tries hard to keep up with the problem but it's 4 men vs. 716 units.
- I'm all for the apartments to come down.
- They took out the Shelby L bus route because they said there was low ridership.
- There are 716 units and even more people living in them. There are people who need to ride the bus.
- The lack of bus routes hurts the disabled and families most.
- There is only one bus stop at the bottom of the hill, which is a physical challenge.
- Martha O Bryan supplies a bus at 10:00 am to Walmart once per week.
- Martha O Bryan also has a new caseworker for the neighborhood.
- Even without crime, transportation is lacking. And because of crime, there are no Cabs, Uber, food deliveries, and there are no ambulances that enter with sirens on.
- Trust is a big issue here.
- If we are already reporting and there are cameras, let us know we are being heard by checking the cameras and following up.
- Sometimes when we report, they see the person on camera and ask us the name. But we don't know everyone in our neighborhood and then they say they cannot do anything without a name.
- The criminals are related to non-criminals, so they do not know who they might accidentally upset by talking about the crime in the neighborhood.
- The neighborhood is mostly women, children and disabled. How can we protect ourselves?
- Secret Indictment is not secret.
- We need greater cooperation amongst service providers.
- How are mentally disabled people supposed to know the new people that are trying to move them?
- Residents don't come to community meetings because they don't feel like it matters.
- MDHA and the powers that be, are going to do whatever they want anyways, so why bother?

- Isolation is felt among the senior citizens and disabled.
- If Martha O Bryan wasn't here, what would the Housing Agency do?
- We need a mental health co-op and support services. Some residents go unmedicated.
- Mental health co-op use to be at Cayce.
- We need a translator. People feel hopeless because of the language barrier.
- Sudanese and Indian people are here. More are moving in with no language help.
- People don't know how to save money. We need finance classes.
- There used to be a senior man who lived here who didn't speak English, so we made up a sign and brought him to meetings at Martha O Bryan to make sure that he got to socialize.
- We need help for people to pay their expungement fee.
- We need help for those who are former criminals.
- There needs to be education about the consequences of pleading guilty.
- Old arrest records are hindering people, especially young single mothers trying to leave abusive partners.
- Victims of abuse can't get services and have to go back to abusive partners or depend on a new men.
- We need an empowerment center to bring back hope.
- "Positive Attitudes" is a meeting for young girls (11-18yrs) at Cayce. It was formed to encourage them, support their dreams, and educate them.
- We need more education.
- Disabled residents have issues with transportation-related expenses.
- Those issuing the public housing leases are just trying to get you in and get you out. The residents are not reading what they are signing.
- Residents need to be told about the new rules, and rules related to criminal felonies for MDHA.
- Because everyone in Cayce is going to be moved into new housing, they are going to need to know the new lease rules.
- We need education to combat the fear around RAD.
- People are afraid just because everybody said, be afraid.
- Residents are thinking "I won't bring attention to myself in these meetings, because that could cause me to lose my housing and that would endanger myself and my kids".
- We need stronger partnerships between MDHA and community partners, especially for things MDHA can't do.
- People feel helpless when they can't get a job because of a criminal record and can't pay child support.
- There are a lot of services for Cayce residents but more collaboration between organizations is needed.
- Residents in transition from public housing need the most support.
- Care providers should help the residents help themselves.



- There is a vibrant scene here and good food.
- Walkability is an issue.
- The Edgehill and Napier neighborhoods are tight knit. The residents work together to solve problems.
- There is a lack of job growth and job opportunities in our area.
- At Napier the kids and other residents in the community don't seem to know what to do.
- The kids hang out at the community center.
- When it gets warm people go outside and that can foster community, but after that trouble can arise.
- There is nothing to do. There are no close programs or entertainment.
- Napier residents are concerned that they will be displaced during MDHA's envisioning process.
- No access to downtown, it is a hike to get there.
- I live in Clarksville, and it feels nice to be in a slower paced neighborhood. But a negative is that it is a largely transient community.
- My husband is a teacher and he finds it hard to get buy-in from the parents because they are migrant workers.
- I work in the Fall-Hamilton School area, and the parents like the local resources that are available.
- Fall Hamilton partners with Family Services, churches, and other organizations so kids can get resources like swimming lessons, spring break meals, and secondhand uniforms.
- Children have to be taken out of school because their parents cannot afford to live in the area.
- Apartments are being sold out from under tenants and they are only being given 30 days to move out.
- A mom could not find an affordable place to live after being evicted and had to move to the Opryland area.
- At Fall Hamilton, children received food bags, clothing, nurturing, and a family literacy class. After the move, trips to the school changed from a short walking distance to a 45 minute commute.
- She couldn't drop her kids off or attend Fall-Hamilton ESL classes without missing work, so she had to pull her children out of school.
- Immigrants do not know their rights on fair housing.
- They are afraid to get deported in retaliation if they complain.
- I have friends who are undocumented and they are charged twice as much for security deposits and rent as my other friends who are legal, of the same ethnicity, same family size, and same type of people.
- This is the only place where landlords do not require social security numbers. But you get charged a lot more if you don't have a social security number.
- Many Hispanic families live here. It's nice to eat food that is familiar and you can get an apartment without having to provide a social security number. This all enables the segregation.
- People live together to save money because they have such low incomes, not because it's a part of our culture.
- They all help pay rent but this does not help them save money because they earn so little.



- There is a lot of moving around. If you hear that the landlord across the street is only charging \$250 instead of \$300, they move. But all this moving also changes numbers for services and resources.
- My friends live in a complex where a family of 8 lives in a 1-bedroom apartment.
- Crime rates have increased in Antioch area.
- The ratio of police to population is off.
- The police are getting to crime scenes late.
- I live in Melrose and I like that we have more coffee shops and restaurants.
- We need walkable streets. People are standing in turning lanes to cross the street.
- How do service providers make sure families can stay in the neighborhood & benefit from the services in the area?
- People are moving from South Nashville to Madison, LaVergne and Smyrna because they can no longer afford to live here.
- The Spanish and Kurdish populations need things in their languages.
- There is segregation all over Nashville because of both cultural affinity and cost of living.
- Main barrier for high minority concentrated areas is affordable housing because people don't have high paying jobs.
- Rent prices are set at much higher rates for undocumented immigrants because they do not have a social security number.
- People in this neighborhood are mostly renters because of a lack of documentation. There is no path to citizenship.
- We have no intention of investing in purchasing a home. What if you got deported next week? What would happen to the house?
- There is a "Hispanic side" of Antioch.
- In Antioch, there is less availability of affordable housing than elsewhere, partly as a result of predatory pricing tactics employed by landlords.
- Segregation can be positive when you're surrounded by your community and cultural resources.
- Crime is attributed to the culture and is not addressed.
- It's too crowded in Antioch.
- It took the city 3 years to build one sidewalk in our neighborhood.
- The Latinos don't trust the incoming black population.
- There has been an increase of displaced black people and an increase in crime in the neighborhood.
- People are equating black people to crime.
- Another problem in these immigrant communities is the availability of after-school youth programs.
- There is ample land and public facilities in Antioch to conduct services at little or no cost.
- A lot of abuse is given to newcomers of any race in Antioch.
- There are old houses, dirty roads, and poor lightening.
- Undocumented persons need to be aware of their legal rights and have access to resources about what to do when those rights are violated.
- This could be in the form of a website, school bulletins or newsletters, or public service announcements on the television, radio, or a concerted social media campaign.

- Many undocumented persons experience housing discrimination when they are coaxed into signing a lease agreement without fully understanding the stipulations of that agreement.
- Shortage of services for undocumented persons is especially true of less common immigrant groups, such as Somalians and Ethiopians
- Old and dilapidated public and commercial housing stock is an issue.
- National origin is a factor for people finding suitable housing.
- Maybe the houses are run down because renters do not care for their houses like owners do.
- The lack of home investment is because the rent is too high to maintain property at all.
- There is an under investment in facilities here, especially dilapidated schools.
- The lack of accessible programs and services leads to lower school enrollment, lower attainment and grades, and more poignant things like increased hunger.
- The City is not doing its part to take care of everything else.
- There is no maintenance of roads and parks. But if you cross the road into the Cane Ridge area, the scenery changes.
- White people, and affluent Egyptians and Hispanics live in Cane Ridge. In that neighborhood the smallest rental house price is \$1600/month.
- In Napier, African Americans with lower incomes are segregated.
- Lately, white people seem to be moving into the surrounding areas.
- The African Americans are afraid of displacement where generations of their families have lived in Napier.
- They stay because of either their familiarity with the neighborhood or a cycle of poverty.
- There are certain areas of the city that are developing faster/slower than others.
- University areas are getting more revitalization efforts.
- Those are places where college students are coming in from out of town. Why are outsiders getting more resources than locals?
- Low income people and black people are being pushed out and are unable to enjoy the improvements to their former communities.
- The Nolensville Pike area has had a history of immigrants since the 80's.
- The neighborhood is now known as the "International District / Multicultural District" and it is comfortably disconnected from the rest of Nashville culture.
- There is a concern about equity and access to resources.
- Even if residents can pay all their costs, 60-70% of their income for rent is not livable.
- People have to live in crowded scenarios just to be able to afford the rent.
- Culturally, people want to live in the same neighborhood as their family, but they do not want to have to live in the same apartment.
- People are leaving Antioch because they do not want to live in a place that is known for its immigrants.
- They do not want to be found by ICE.
- Students feel the impact of poverty and that affects their success at school.
- Parents want to live close to good schools, but they cannot afford it.
- There are really old schools in Antioch, but not in Brentwood or Franklin. Why the difference? How are they separating funds for schools?

- Conexión Américas offers homeownership classes with opportunities for alternative forms of credit. It has been very popular but lately in the current political climate, families are dropping out and are no longer interested.
- SE Nashville has lots of resources for the residents of Antioch, Madison and Goodlettsville.
- When people have to move, the resources aren't there.
- People move because of housing needs and then everything else gets affected.
- Schools don't have translators.
- The lack of language options has led to poor grades.
- The parents can't help students do homework because it's in English.
- Jobs are found through word of mouth, not through the internet.
- The job options are not great. There're mainly housekeeping and landscaping jobs with wages like \$8/hr. That is not livable wages.
- People would rather work close to home than spend time in traffic and spend money on car expenses and gas.
- A lot of residents came from their countries with only a 6th grade education.
- Access to reliable transportation is appalling.
- Public transit availability is disproportionately tilted towards more affluent neighborhoods or neighborhoods with fewer minorities.
- Families can't even afford the gas that goes into the one car.
- If a family only has one vehicle, they can't have access to available resources.
- A spouse can't go to a parenting class because the husband needs the car for work.
- There is a stigma on riding the bus that riding the bus is for poor people.
- As a result of improvements and consistency in public transit options, a "culture of walking" could be formed in these immigrant communities.
- People who have to travel to their jobs from these neighborhoods often have to wait inordinate amounts of time at these bus stops, sometimes 3-4 hours in between stops.
- Bus schedule always changing, sometimes 20 mins, 2 hours, 4 hours.
- People walk and bike everywhere, not because of health, but because of a lack of transportation.
- The neighborhood by Harding Place toward the exit for I-24 has no sidewalks, no street lights, and speeding problems.
- Kids have to walk to school in these conditions with no sidewalks or street lights.
- Wrap-around services for students are integral to both child development and fair housing concerns.
- These services should be focused on literacy and financial empowerment.
- We need trauma specialists who serve as case workers for recently displaced students or those suffering particularly bad economic hardships.
- Extracurricular events aimed at increasing immersion, multi-cultural understanding, and community engagement through literacy events are good ideas.
- Newcomer Academy teaches classes in Spanish and is a great resource for new immigrants and migrant workers.
- Many students are very smart but struggle in school because they don't speak English.
- Charter school options give families more choices but they can't get there without public transportation.

- The kids get food at schools which is good but it's not healthy food. It's juice, potato chips, and dried macaroni and cheese.
- Grocery store food is changing and it's not good.
- Community gardens would be nice and would teach children and parents the process of growing foods and help develop healthy eating habits.
- Conexión Americas is building a Farmer's Market through the Promise Zone Points.
- Residents are being taken advantage of because of their Limited English and their Immigrant statuses.
- The residents are excited to have a place to live, so they don't read their leases, they just sign them.
- They don't know what to do when their rights have been violated.
- A lot of these houses are not worth what they are being priced.
- Many homes are unsanitary and have bed bugs.
- In Antioch, LaVergne and Smyrna, residents are being given discriminatory rent prices.
- People who satisfy the housing requirements are being denied because of their skin color.
- People are given only weeks to move out, without knowing their rights.
- Residents are not buying houses out of fear of deportation.
- The current political climate has scared away those who were considering purchasing a house.
- There has been discrimination in the provision of community resources.
- In Edmundson Pike Park there is a large population of African, Hispanic and Arabic people, and they like to play soccer.
- The park had no lights and no water so people would use their cars' headlights to play at night. Eventually the soccer goals were removed from The Edmundson Pike Park and a new park was made.
- The new park has lights and water. Club sports teams from out of town play there regularly.
- The people who get to play at this new park are white and are not from the neighborhood, they are from Brentwood.
- This new public park is locked from the public, and you have to get permission to use it.
- Why did people have to be pushed out to build someone else's park?
- If people in a community do not have anywhere to go, especially in the warm seasons, there can be an increase in crime, gang activities and vulnerability.
- Parents tend to make housing decisions based on schooling options in that area. One solution is incorporating a "community schools initiative" into a broader Davidson County schools budget.
- Encompassed in the budget would be expenditures for improved public facilities for students, transportation options, access to non-profit community programs, etc.
- Residents need a place to make anonymous reports.
- Because of the political climate people are afraid to report discrimination.
- We need a phone line to report substandard housing.
- There are no street lights here. It's so dark and that makes it easy for criminals to hide.
- We need housing inspections.
- People need to know about affordable housing options and what they qualify for without having to move out of the neighborhood.

- Small businesses need affordable options to keep their businesses in the community maybe in the form of land trusts.
- In the past, Spanish-speaking radio stations have been an effective tool for spreading awareness.
- People usually find out about things through social media (Facebook) and key trusted people.
- Short social media videos raising awareness on “What you need to know before renting”?
- We need consistent law enforcement and crime prevention. If I know where the drugs are, the police should know too.
- As a result of substandard housing in the form of cost-burdened rentals, many undocumented persons and persons of low-income are forced into situations of overcrowding.
- Several families are often grouped into two bedroom apartments, which bring more bug and rodent infestations. This kind of discrimination is believed to be a result of national origin.
- Lack of documentation can lead people to have no reliable credit lines, which negatively impacts homeownership rates and forces people to continue to live in cost-burdened situations.
- There is some notable success with undocumented persons who have “pseudo-status”, undocumented but pay income taxes to the government.
- Conexión could work with undocumented persons to help them achieve this “pseudo-status”, which could improve homeownership rates among immigrants.
- Those minority and immigrant workers who are lucky enough to own businesses are often affected by predatory practices by potential developers and construction companies.
- Since these minority business owners often have less access to credit for maintenance and upkeep, their businesses can fall into disrepair and they can lose them as a result.
- Developers will identify a property that they are interested in acquiring, and then call the Codes department to report any infringement that could get the owner in legal trouble.
- The main form of discrimination against these minority and undocumented persons is the inequitable distribution of public resources.
- Minority communities often have no sidewalks, inadequate lighting in public areas, no parks or sites for recreation, or reliable public sanitation.
- Faith-based partnerships aimed at improving nutrition and understanding of proper health and wellness practices have been successful in smaller communities.
- These programs can act as a supplement to public nutrition such as school lunches.
- In addition to a high Hispanic community, we have a lot of Ethiopians, Somalis and Kurdish in the community. We need more translators.
- Tusculum Elementary School is very old. Money is not distributed equally in this County. Who determines who gets more, why?

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*Urban League of Middle Tennessee, April 22, 2017*

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- Everything is within walking distance near Parthenon Towers; restaurants, buses, and hospitals. The views from the building are great and building management is wonderful.
- I would rather live in Parthenon Towers than in Section 8 housing.
- The pipes in the building are bad. They gurgle and suddenly start overflowing out of nowhere. My toilet overflowed all by itself.

- I'd love to move to Nashville next year when I go to law school but it will be too expensive, so I'll probably move back in with my parents.
- There are lots of opportunities here. There is diversity and inclusion. It's the opposite of East Nashville, which was historically predominantly white and is now more diverse. North Nashville was historically predominately Black and is now more diverse.
- You can see that in the Kroger nearby that serves everything from chitlins to caviar. There is a lot of economic development in the area.
- We need a Master Plan. We need to be more intentional with all this economic development, like they did in the Gulch.
- The African American community pays more for housing in terms of a higher purchase price and all related services.
- African-Americans don't know their rights or where to go if they experience housing discrimination or if their rights have been violated.
- I know there are a lot of services and literature about this but the community doesn't understand the relevance.
- They do not trust the system or the process. If there were more community services to support them, that would help build the trust.
- People in North Nashville do not want to be left with the aftermath of development.
- North Nashville infrastructure is outdated.
- The sidewalks in the neighborhood are in disarray compared to more affluent neighborhoods. Here there is a sidewalk with a telephone pole right in the middle of it, but not the case in more affluent areas.
- North Nashville has an outdated sewer system. We need to educate the communities about storm systems, so residents don't put yard waste into the system.
- The storm drain system needs to be cleaned and public works is working on it.
- It takes 30 minutes to go 7 miles and that ain't right.
- There is worry that Parthenon Towers will be sold and destroyed.
- Parthenon Towers is diverse but West End is upper-case white.
- My therapist says "The residents at Parthenon give the community its flavor, they would never move it".
- People move to the other side of the street if they see Parthenon residents walking by.
- Some residents at Parthenon Towers hide out at their homes because of the stigma against them and people with mental disabilities.
- You may see 20-30 people out and about at Parthenon Towers per day. Where are the rest of the residents? Are they homebound?
- New apartment building in West End has one bedrooms for \$1500 per month that are about the same size as units at MDHA. Will Parthenon be sold or demolished because the area is booming?
- Construction work has damaged and cracked the concrete on the sidewalks making travel hard for those in wheelchairs.
- Poverty is poverty but I see opportunity in these so-called concentrated areas of poverty. It's where we've chose to live, or it's where we were allowed to live.



- Parthenon Towers has 300 apartment units and only 7 washer and 7 dryer. They are not in a great condition and they have no upkeep.
- Not all of the Parthenon Towers residents can travel to another laundromat.
- North Nashville has always been segregated, by force and by choice.
- Gentrification is a nice way to talk about segregation.
- Seniors are getting flyers every day asking to sell. Rosa Parks Blvd is the dividing line of where people have been pushed out and where people are being pushed out to.
- Homeowners don't have power. If they don't sell to developers the increasing property taxes can push them out.
- Seniors are selling their property and then they can't find anywhere else to live. I couldn't even afford to buy my own house in this market.
- The City could look into expanding the property tax freeze to a sliding income scale.
- There has been a disparity in rezoning efforts. A land owner tried to get her land rezoned and she couldn't, but the complex next to her could.
- Parthenon Tower residents can't afford West End area. Many just go to McDonald's, liquor store, and convenience store all within two blocks. It seems like things are sectioned off between the haves and the have nots in the area.
- The stores that are within walking distance are inadequate. Piggly Wiggly is there for groceries but it's overpriced and understocked.
- At Parthenon Towers the heating and cooling system is inadequate, especially for those with respiration disabilities.
- We should have the poor and the rich live together.
- I'm discouraged that I cannot qualify for the new MDHA housing developments. The required income on the qualification form is a minimum of \$1200/month at Uptown Flats. I'm on SSI, I can't afford that.
- A lack of options for elderly and disabled is discouraging because they might not live long enough to receive benefits.
- I would like to see poverty broken up. It's alarming that we associate poverty with crime. The poor do not have anything that can be stolen. Crime happens in the rich neighborhoods.
- There is a greater tendency for police to make arrests when it's black-on-black crime.
- I would like to see more diversity, less crime and poverty, and areas where you can go to parks.
- Picking up trash is an easy fix for increasing neighborhood price and beautification.
- West End is known as a very nice majority white area. There is a narrative of nice things being associated with white people and bad things being associated with black people.
- We as a culture need to be more self-aware and reflective especially regarding race.
- Is high security at stores in West End really necessary for safety? Or are they trying to keep certain types of people away?
- I thought it was a waste when MDHA spent all that money years ago on neighborhood beautification projects like signage and neighborhood branding in North Nashville, but then I came to realize the importance of taking pride in one's neighborhood.
- More actions need to be made on both the large and small scale like sending Public Works to clean things up in the neighborhoods.



- I don't want to label the Promise Zones as poverty areas.
- The people in Parthenon Towers are very resilient.
- There are not many job options available, outside of food service jobs
- “It is hard to keep employment if you have a mental illness. So people tend to lay low and not try because people aren’t going to work with you.
- Some people can lose their health insurance if they work.
- People are not going to work for daycare and they are not going to work for transportation.
- Employers want nonprofits to provide a work force, but employers have to be able to provide livable wages for their incoming employees
- In the South there are two types of transportation, those with a car and those without.
- Residents have a hard time getting around with public transportation, even before kids are added into the equation.
- Employers want people to travel 22 miles for \$11/hour. That only pays childcare.
- A solution is increasing access to certifications and tech work. Urban League has teacher and nursing certs, for example.
- Bus transport requires residents to go to the downtown hub to transfer, and that’s not feasible for residents who live farther out.
- Employers should bear some of the burden regarding transportation for employees.
- Children have to deal with unbelievable struggles and trauma.
- Community-based schools allow resources from the community into the schools.
- Gra-Mar has partnered with Whirlpool to provide washing machines in the building so kids don’t have to worry about smelling bad/looking dirty while trying to focus on school work.
- It’s not about collecting more bonus points for funding for schools districts.
- Some kids might not have a high GPA but they have a support structure with community-based schools.
- Some kids come out of abusive homes and drug abuse and both parents and kids need basic needs met.
- Charter schools are just a product. Public schools need to improve their product.
- Food stamps aren’t enough to afford healthy food.
- I-40 killed North Nashville and now with the connector and developers coming, what’s going to happen with putting in rails?
- Will more transportation infrastructure really help us or hinder us in North Nashville?
- Housing is overcrowded as in unit density per lot and buildings per block.
- We’re demolishing too much housing stock in Nashville.
- There are no design standards in the new developments.
- The developers focus on getting money per building and aren’t concerned about the quality.
- Resident wants the same thoughtfulness and care to be taken in North Nashville as there was in the Gulch’s redevelopment. MDHA is good at that kind of master planning.
- Black people do not know where to report or get help with discriminatory housing.
- Builder said, “Oh, I thought you were white” when resident was advocating for other residents in North Nashville.
- Prejudice is now subtle and stealth. You can hear a difference in tone of voice.

- Black people are being passed on for renting opportunities that their white counterparts receive. They are offered higher rates for rent.
- Resident says that there is a need for housing and financial literacy. Intervention should start in middle school and high school.
- Some residents think that financial literacy is only for those who are very wealthy.
- Advanced Financial stores are everywhere. Communities are often victims of check cashing and pay-day lenders.
- Developers will call Codes Department on you and essentially force you out that way if you won't sell.
- Pretty soon, all of Nashville is going to look the same and there will be no diversity, no genuine neighborhoods.
- Maybe students are not being educated about housing and finances because they want to keep poor people poor.
- Residents need time and help understanding rental lease and contracts.
- Parents and kids do not want to sign up for Opportunity Now because of the belief that they might lose their housing and benefits because of the student's income.
- Private businesses are installing inadequate ramps just so they can meet codes.
- Parthenon Towers elevators have problems.
- I wish a bus ran 24/7 like in bigger cities. It's stressful to get to the bus stop before the last time.
- We can only use the front entrance at Parthenon Towers. The other three entrances are locked, so you have to walk all the way around the building from the bus stop.
- The walk around the building is discouraging if the weather is bad or if you have groceries.
- Parthenon Towers is not currently handicap accessible. I'm still waiting for a wheelchair-accessible unit that I applied for over two years ago. I can't roll up to the bathroom sink and I run into the cabinet.
- Is it possible to make resident's unit accessible? Management didn't mention this was an option.
- Management passed out maps for evacuation procedures at Parthenon.
- Parthenon Towers has strict access rules. Residents have to go down to the lobby to receive their family members or to pick up prescriptions.
- You can't regulate your own apartment temperature at Parthenon. It's always on 65.
- The former MDHA Executive Director didn't like the look of window units at Parthenon Towers, so we got a new HVAC unit but only one company in Nashville can repair it.
- If you work, you risk losing health insurance and can't keep your social security insurance.
- Many residents of Parthenon Towers use Access Ride because the bus stop is right there, but it's not enough. It's hard to keep track of the different times and routes.
- I wish there was a van we could access 24/7.
- My building was remodeled 6 or 7 years ago so it's accessible. We have about 20 handicapped accessible rooms.