



Caucus Tips

What is a Caucus?

An assembly of people with shared concerns; a group sharing a belief or cause; a gathering.

The purpose of a caucus is to share ideas, solutions, challenges and strategies and to assemble around a theme and engage in collaborative problem solving. The conversations will be open and varied with participants sharing and developing ideas to elevate housing as a local, regional and state priority.

Caucuses allow for **INFORMAL discussion and feedback** rather than formal presentations.

Choose from two breakout sessions:

Caucus I - Regulatory and Programmatic Solutions

Moderator: Susan Pigg, Executive Director Tri County Regional Planning Commission

Experts: Mary McCurdy, Sarah Lucas, Trudy Galla, Shannon Guzman

Topics include how to move the needle on state and local policies that remove barriers, incent mixed income / mixed density communities, finance equitable housing development, and level the playing field.

Caucus II - The Heart of the Matter: Housing Equity

Moderator: Rex LaMore, MSU Center for Community and Economic Development and MAP Board VP

Experts Victor Rubin, Brett Lenart, George Galster, Dave Bulkowski

Topics to include: the benefit of "housing for all", equity arguments and economic value; reducing NIMBY and BANANA; promoting the virtues of density and inclusive housing best practices.

Caucus Format: What to Expect

- The moderator will open the conversation by asking for audience reactions to presentations, their professional experiences, challenges they are having. Attendees are encouraged ask additional questions; engage and challenge each other; suggest specific topics not yet addressed.
- The invited speakers will reinforce messages from earlier in the day, impart their perspectives and knowledge; suggest alternatives and remedies; share success stories; and generally add value and expertise to the conversation.
- The moderator will lead the conversation to keep things moving, to connect ideas and themes, and to help us think more deeply so that we can act more intentionally.
- A roving microphone handler will make sure all voices are heard and a note taker and will capture ideas and solutions that will be shared later.

Rules of Engagement:

Keep your comments short | Don't interrupt | Share the "floor" | Be respectful of others and their viewpoints | Actively listen



Key Qualities of a Caucus

Informal

Emphasis on Discussion

Audience Plays Active Role

