Vol. 1, No. 1. February 24, 2008

Welcome to our Newsletter, addressed to all our friends and colleagues with an interest in sustainable communities and the overcoming of poverty, inequality and social injustice. In this first edition we feature the upcoming PolicyLink Regional Equity '08 Summit, in New Orleans.

Dennis Rivers, Editor

first community design center in the nation. Anthony is working on a new book, *The Earth, The City, and The Hidden Narrative of Race*, examining the connections between the fields of environmental justice, community development, and the changing face of globalization. (For conference registration info, please visit www.PolicyLink.org.)



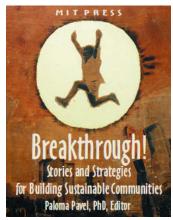
An Award Honoring Carl Anthony Part of Regional Equity '08 Summit Thursday, March 6, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

The first Carl Anthony Award for Regional Equity will be presented to Carl Anthony, a tireless advocate for sustainable, equitable communities. Anthony, a senior Ford Foundation fellow at the University of California, Berkeley, Dept. of Geography, formerly served as acting director of the Ford Foundation Community and Resource Development Unit. Prior to his time at The Ford Foundation, Anthony was an outstanding and passionate advocate for urban social justice and environmental change in the San Francisco Bay Area, chairing the Berkeley Planning Commission and founding and leading the Urban Habitat Group. A trained architect and town planner, Anthony began his career in the mid-1960s in Harlem at Architect's Renewal Committee, the **Breakthrough!**, forthcoming book from MIT Press, documents successful community actions focused on sustainability

Breakthrough! Stories and Strategies for Building Sustainable Communities, edited by Paloma Pavel, PhD, will be published this year by MIT Press, under its new imprint, Sustainable Metropolitan Communities Books. SMC Books provide an exploration of the social and environmental justice dimensions of sustainability within a regional and community-based framework. Addressing issues of race, ethnicity, class, gender, and connection to place are central to the mission and goals of the series. SMC Books is an imprint at MIT Press.

Breakthrough! Stories and Strategies both documents a wide range of metro equity success stories and also embodies the learning action tools of the Earth House Leadership Center. The Compass for Collaborative Leadership model will

be the focus of a leadership training led by Carl Anthony and Paloma Pavel at the March 5 Equity Institute of Regional Equity '08 Summit. (See next item in this newsletter.) This training draws on the facilitators' combined half century experience helping communities generate solutions and creative responses.



Photomontage by Keba Armand Konte

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Breakthrough Communities: Building Leadership Skills for Sustainable Regions

Wednesday, March 5, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Pre-Summit Institute at Regional Equity '08 The Third National Summit on Equitable Development, Social Justice and Smart Growth



The Compass for Collaborative Leadership a model for community change

Facilitators: Carl Anthony & Paloma Pavel, PhD

The Leadership Institute is for organizers/ advocates, public officials, and representatives of professional and philanthropic groups who are moving their organizations towards a regional perspective.

Workshop participants are invited to explore transformative strategies that have been effective in regional contexts throughout the United States:

- 1) The positive power of "Saying No" to destructive land use practices
- 2) Tools for getting grounded in multi-racial communities of the 21st Century
- 3) Reaching for new horizons in just sustainability and regional leadership
- 4) Getting to Yes through framing winning strategies

Through multi-modal approaches (including digital stories, charts and graphs, and interactive exercises) participants will apply lessons learned to their own context and challenges.

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This interactive multi-media workshop is based on case studies featured in the forthcoming publication (2008 MIT Press) Breakthrough! Stories and Strategies for Building Sustainable Communities (edited by Dr. Pavel). Contributing authors are invited to participate. In addition, 20 places are made available to participants in the Advancing Regional Equity Summit on a first come first served pre-registration basis.

Space limited, please register in advance by sending your name, telephone number and organizational info to: Connect@EarthHouseCenter.org

The Latest Research to Make the Case for Regional Equity

Thursday, March 6, 2:15 to 3:45 p.m.

At Regional Equity '08

The increased importance of regions has led to a rethinking of traditional community development. A growing volume of recent research has supported a revised understanding of regional trends around demographics and economics. movement-building, and organizing. This panel draws upon the recent work of innovative leaders. Hear where research is, and should be, headed.

Moderator: Carl Anthony, Senior Ford Foundation Fellow, University of California

Panelists:

Myron Orfield, Executive Director, Institute on Race and Poverty, University of Minnesota: Executive Director, Institute on Race & Poverty

Manuel Pastor, Professor of Geography and American Studies and Ethnicity, University of Southern California; Director, Program for Environmental and Regional Equity

David Rusk, Consultant, Sustainable Metropolitan Communities Initiative, Ford Foundation

Lisa Servon, Associate Professor of Urban Policy. Director of the Community Development Finance Project, Milano the New School for Management and Urban Policy

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Panel Discussion

The New Metropolis: America's First Tier Suburbs and Sprawl

Thursday, March 6, 4:00 to 5:30 p.m.

At Regional Equity '08

The New Metropolis, a three-part documentary series in development for public television, looks at the burgeoning struggle between older and newer suburbs, as seen through people on the frontlines of change. Viewers take a journey across suburban America to hear and see activists, mayors, developers, and civil rights advocates as they try to save their aging communities from losing people and resources to the rapidly growing fringe suburbs. The New Metropolis is a cautionary tale for every neighborhood in America: today's bright and suburban showcases may become tomorrow's forgotten places. Hear a brief introduction from filmmaker Andrea Torrice, followed by a clip of the film and a discussion.

Moderator: Ellen Schneider, Founder and Executive Director, Active Voice

Panelists:

Carl Anthony, Senior Ford Foundation Fellow, University of California at Berkeley

The Honorable Parris N. Glendening, Founder & President, Smart Growth Leadership Institute; Former Governor, State of Maryland

Reverend Cheryl Rivera, community organizer Andrea Torrice, Director, *The New Metropolis*



Photo by Alex Maclean in the Christian Science Monitor

California Caucus

Regional Equity in California, Political Opportunities, Mobilizing Structures and Cultural Framings

Friday, March 7, 7:30 to 8:30 a.m.

At Regional Equity '08

Organizations both inside and outside of California are invited to this California caucus. The state is a mosaic of environmental, economic, and demographic regions with many challenges best addressed at the regional scale. We will explore:

- 1. What are the statewide opportunities and constraints confronting regional equity? Topics include (a) infrastructure bonds, land use, transportation, and smart growth; (b) climate change and implementation of AB32; (c) jobs and the green economy; (d) agriculture and the Farm/Food Bill; (e) environmental health and public safety, etc.
- 2. Who is working on regional equity in the state? Exploration includes organizing networks, civil rights organizations, congregations, labor unions, legal advocacy groups, community colleges and universities?
- 3. How should we frame issues and indicators to link constituencies with statewide opportunities including housing, transportation, public health and safety, prison reform, immigration, etc?

Come prepared to share your work.

Hosted by:

Carl Anthony M. Paloma Pavel, PhD

Earth House Leadership Center E-Mail: Connect@EarthHouseCenter.org

Web: www.EarthHouseCenter.org www.MetroEquity.net

510.652.2425 Earth House Center 510.469.7777 Cell on-site at Summit

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Dialogue with Carl Anthony

Friday, March 7, 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

At Regional Equity '08

An opportunity for informal dialogue about the inner resources for, and outer challenges of, building a movement for regional equity in the 21st century.



Photo courtesy of ANDP.

Background briefing... The Evolution of a Film Series An overview of The New Metropolis

For everyone interested in how to communicate to a larger audience the history and central ideas of equitable regional development, we present below an outline of Andrea Torrice's work in development.

About the New Metropolis Series:

Using the power of personal stories with expert interviews, this three-part series tells the epic tale of the rise and fall of America's first suburbs as well as shows the possibilities for their rebirth.

Each program tackles one of the many consequences government policies and practices which fuel suburban sprawl has on America's aging suburbs: decline, infrastructure decay, segregation and isolation.

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THE NEW METROPOLIS SERIES

Program 1: Divided We Sprawl:

Building better communities together

An African American pastor takes us on an unusual journey and shows us how land use policies and practices that promote sprawl undermine democracy and contribute to the economic demise of older communities. The program also highlights activists, policymakers and developers who call for building more sustainable and prosperous communities through "fair growth" policies in transportation, housing and economic development.

Featuring: Reverend Cheryl Rivera, David Rusk, Jonathan Rose, Angela Glover Blackwell, Bruce Katz and others.

Program 2: The New Neighbors:

Integration in America's First Suburbs

The New Neighbors is the story of two ordinary people, one black, and one white, who made racial integration their crusade to revitalize their first suburban town through a strategy of open community dialogues about race and housing. Coupled with policies implemented by their city council, Pennsauken has become one of the most vibrant and racially integrated suburban communities in the country.

Featuring: Lynn Cummings, Harold Adams, and Angela Gover Blackwell

Program 3: A Crack in the Pavement:

Rebuilding America's First Suburbs

This segment follows the stories of two public officials working with the First Suburbs Consortium of Ohio, as they try to save their first suburban towns from losing residents and business to the new "exurbs." The segment also looks at the Twin Cities model of regional planning and governance as a possible route to revitalization.

Featuring: Tom Moeller, City Manager, Madeira, Ohio, Richard Ellison, Mayor, Elmwood Place, Ohio, and members of the First Suburbs Consortium of Ohio: Myron Orfield, Bruce Katz, Dr. Carla Chifos and Kim Gibson