# Housing for All

- Housing for All is the equity component of the Zoning for Housing Program.

- Historically, as heard here and as history reflects, past laws and covenants have precluded groups of color, religion and nationality access to safe, decent, affordable housing and to holistic communities.

# Zoning for Housing

- 2020, the City initiated the Zoning for Housing Program to:
  - Expand the City's toolbox of programs to help increase the supply of market rate and affordable housing to meet Alexandria's current and projected need as described today;
  - Identify/remove, if present, exclusionary zoning provisions within the City's Zoning Ordinance that may be creating barriers to housing production, affordability and/or equal access for some groups.
  - Utilize the City's wider toolkit of resources (Education, Health, Economic Development, CIP, Alexandria Mobility Plan)  to help ensure communities reach par in terms of quality of life factors and safety which are important to All Alexandrians and to all communities.
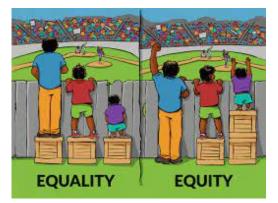
# Government Alliance for Race and Equity

- City of Alexandria participated in the Metropolitan Washington Council of Government's inaugural year-long Government Alliance for Race and Equity (GARE) training with approximately 10 other jurisdictions: 2019-2020

- Alexandria's cohort consisted of an interdepartmental group: P&Z, TES, AHD, APD, Fire/EMS, Housing, CMO, RPCA, & ACPS

- Post the year-long GARE Training: The Cohort later formed the Housing for All Subcommittee from the City's Interdepartmental Equity Core Team

- Cohort adopted Zoning for Housing as a Project and initiated Housing for All as the Equity Component

# GARE Philosophy & Housing for All

- The **Government Alliance on Race and Equity (GARE)** is a national network of governments working to achieve racial equity and advance opportunities for all. (Source: GARE Website).

- Housing for All is Alexandria's program to research and understand the extent of past discriminatory housing policies and to research their continued impact, especially on people of color and/or low-income.



**Graphic – Interactive Institute for Social Change illustrating Equity vs Equality**

# City's Housing for All Subcommittee

- Alexandria City Public Schools
- Alexandria Health Department
- Alexandria Police Department
- City Attorney's Office
- City Manager's Office & Office of Race and Social Equity
- Courts/Court Service Unit
- Department of Community and Human Services
- Department of Fire/EMS
- Department of Information Technology Services
- Department of Planning & Zoning
- Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities
- Department of Transportation and Environmental Services
- Office of Historic Alexandria
- Office of Housing
- Office Human Rights
- Office of Performance Analytics

# Housing for All Subcommittee Continues work of GARE Cohort

- Researching historical laws, policies and practices of housing discrimination.
- Researching historical communities of color – African American Alexandria historical communities:
  - Where were the communities?
  - What was the quality of life like?
  - Do they still exist today and if not why not?
  - What role did the residents of those historic African American communities play in Alexandria's quality of life and what happened to those residents of generations ago?
- Researching the impact historical policies and laws may have on communities of color today.
- Developing Equity Impact Statements for Zoning for Housing Initiatives
  - Incorporate measures as part of Zoning for Housing initiatives to ensure fairness and equity in housing access, types, and choice and affordability
  - Leverage related City tools to support building, sustaining and strengthening holistic communities throughout Alexandria – Housing, Education, Economic Development, Sustainability, Multi-modal transit, Health and other Neighborhood Services
  - Incorporate metrics to gauge progress

# Visit the Housing for All Webpage: Housing for All Subcommittee

- [Housing for All | City of Alexandria, VA (alexandriava.gov)](alexandriava.gov)
  - A Courageous Journey: A Guide to Alexandria's African American History (Source: Office of Historic Alexandria and VisitAlex)
  - A list of Alexandria African American Neighborhoods and Oral Histories on the Office of Historic Alexandria's webpage: *List developed in response to the Housing for All Subcommittee Research*
  - A Timeline of African American Housing History in Alexandria (Research of communities and restrictive housing programs): *Research developed in response to the Housing for All Subcommittee*

# Vist the Housing for All Webpage (Continue)

- An expanded African American Historical Neighborhoods Map (Sources:  Office of Historic Alexandria, VistAlex, City of Alexandria and Dr. Krystyn Moon):  *Expanded map and research in response to the Housing for All Subcommittee*

- *Equity Emphasis Map (Sources:  MWCOG and The Office of Professional Analytics), Map and research in response to Housing for All Subcommittee*

- *Restrictive Covenant Report:  (Source:  Research by Dr. Krystyn Moon response to  the Housing for All Subcommittee)*

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# Next Steps

- Continued Housing for All's equity component research will help set metrics, if/as appropriate, for Zoning for Housing initiatives

- Continued research on ways to leverage Zoning for Housing work by other Departments and Community Groups to help improve and strengthen the quality of life for all communities in Alexandria and access to housing choice throughout Alexandria.

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