

Wednesday — Public space and equity: new research on community-led public spaces

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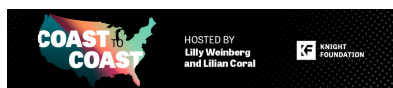
Tune in to "Coast to Coast," live at 3 p.m. ET

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Hello Stephen,

The COVID-19 pandemic prompted a record usage of America's public spaces, underscoring their important role in community resilience. COVID-19 also gave community leaders an unexpected moment of permission: it allowed our cities to innovate and think far beyond the confines of traditional public spaces. How can we leverage this moment in time — as billions of dollars are being released for infrastructure projects — to build more inclusive, equitable public spaces moving forward?

Tomorrow, on Episode 24 of "Coast to Coast," we'll unpack findings from forthcoming research from Knight and Gehl, which will be released on Wednesday. This research and our conversation will explore community-led, equitable public spaces that serve and engage communities in the pandemic and beyond.



EPISODE 24: PUBLIC SPACE AND EQUITY: NEW RESEARCH ON
 COMMUNITY-LED PUBLIC SPACES
 with guests: Tashia Rayon, Alexa Bush, Julia Day



Public space and equity: new research on community-led public spaces

(Wednesday, March 24, 3 p.m. ET)

Julia Day develops projects across design, strategy, and research to demonstrate streets as public spaces and engage people in the planning process. Julia has 15 years of experience working with city agencies and community leaders in New York, Charlotte, Somerville, NW Arkansas, and abroad to create play spaces in communities lacking open space, to develop mobility plans to improve

walking and biking, and to spotlight human experience, stories and evidence that can drive policy and design change.

Alexa Bush is the urban design director of the East Region in the City of Detroit Planning & Development Department, managing a team of planners and designers responsible for planning and implementing neighborhood and economic development projects on the City's east side. She has also been a project lead for Detroit's Reimagining the Civic Commons initiatives, working with a multi-sector team to improve civic engagement, equity and environmental sustainability through reinvestment into neighborhood scale public spaces, co-created with residents. Alexa is a licensed landscape architect and was recently selected as a Knight Foundation and 880 Cities 2020 Emerging City Champion.

Tashia Rayon of the Centennial Parkside CDC has a devoted love for her community. She is currently working on the CPCDC "Black Man's Conference," designed as a day of workshops on the weekend of Juneteenth, developed to support the mental health and daily well-being of Black men. The idea was conceived after the riots of 2020 as a means to address their emotional state and to support, uplift and re-empower men of color. Through her CDC work, she also hosts youth programming, including weekly poetry and writing stipend workshops and financial literacy for adults and teens.

[Click here](#) to register to join us on Wednesday at 3 p.m. ET. Learn more at kf.org/coastshow.

Thanks,

Lilly Weinberg
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