



2012 Highlights

Regional Equity Atlas

[The Regional Equity Atlas](#) is an ambitious project to support a stronger, more prosperous region. The Atlas assesses how well different populations across the four-county Portland metro region can access key resources necessary for meeting their basic needs and advancing their health and well-being. By illuminating the region's geography of opportunity, the Atlas is a powerful tool for promoting greater regional equity.

A key goal for the new Atlas is to develop an interactive, user-friendly online mapping tool to assist a wide range of users to develop customized maps to support their work addressing equity issues. We are nearly done with this process: the list of indicators to map has been finalized; voluminous data has been integrated into the online mapping tool; and project partners Portland State University and Metro are currently working with the CLF team to ensure the tool is complete and accessible to online users. There will also be a new definition of Equity, developed by the Equity Atlas Project Advisory Committee.

We anticipate that the Regional Equity Atlas will be launched by summer 2013.

Regional Livability Summit



The 10th Annual CLF [Regional Livability Summit](#), held in October, centered on the state of equity in the Portland-Vancouver Region. Keynote speaker Angela Glover Blackwell of PolicyLink opened the day with remarks on how our region can and is leading the nation's equity conversations. During the Lunch Plenary Session, local activists provided a progress report on the region's equity efforts, and breakout sessions provided the opportunity for community members to discuss local projects and policies. Preliminary maps from the Regional Equity Atlas were available for public viewing.

Institutionalizing Equity

CLF serves as a lead partner in discussions and the development of tools and initiatives geared toward institutionalizing equity in government policy, process and practice. Highlights include:

- CLF helped the City of Portland successfully create the [Office of Equity and Human Rights](#), which will work with community partners and provide guidance to city bureaus to promote equity and reduce disparities within City government.

- CLF has been participating in the Partners for Equity working group, led by the Urban League of Portland. The group created a [Racial Equity Strategy Guide](#) that can be utilized by leadership and staff throughout the City of Portland. The Guide was released in July 2012.



- CLF serves as an advisor to [OMSI](#) on their new sustainability exhibit, launched in the fall of 2012. In large part because of CLF's role on the project, an "equity lens" was used throughout the development of the exhibit materials and content.
- CLF is serving as a partner on the [Cully Park](#) project, a coalition effort led by Verde to build a park and create economic opportunity for low-income people in the Cully neighborhood, a predominantly low-income neighborhood that the first Regional Equity Atlas highlighted as having the smallest amount of parkland per resident of any neighborhood in Portland.

Transportation

- As a leading voice on a [Columbia River Crossing Freeway Mega-Project](#), CLF advocates for a project that demonstrates the best thinking on healthy communities, environmental protection, social equity, and fiscal responsibility. In 2012, CLF initiated federal litigation represented by Lewis and Clark Law School's [Earthrise Law Center](#).
- CLF is bringing issues of neighborhood stability, affordable housing, and transportation options to the forefront in Metro's [Climate Smart Communities](#) plan, an effort to integrate land use and transportation planning to reduce climate emissions. CLF recently partnered with Metro and Coalition of Communities of Color on a workshop to develop measures for assessing the equity impacts of the planning scenarios and to jumpstart diverse and responsive community involvement. This workshop brought together 35 diverse community leaders, leading Metro to consider how to more deeply address equity in climate planning.
- CLF has become a resource on transportation equity, helping design policies to support a transportation system that is designed to meet the daily needs of everyone, focusing on communities that are disproportionately impacted by the burdens of the transportation system without receiving an equal share of the benefits, including people of color, people experiencing poverty, people with disabilities, and people who experience language barriers. CLF has provided input into the development of [Safety, Health, and Equity Credits](#) for a national transportation planning framework; Oregon Department of Transportation's process to develop a methodology for assessing the [full cost of transportation](#) plans and projects, and several local Transportation System Plans.