



On July 14, 2020 the Asheville City Council passed a [resolution supporting community reparations for Black Asheville](#). In an effort to repair the harm done by decades of discrimination, staff has recommended a 3 phase process that includes (1) Information Sharing and Truth Telling; (2) Formation of a Reparations Commission; and (3) Finalize and Present the Report.

The first phase, Information Sharing and Truth Telling is intended to:

- Provide a better understanding of policy impacts and where those impacts occurred
- Identify and understand current disparities and areas that need focus
- Identify barriers to addressing generational wealth
- Inspire our community to identify collaborative opportunities to create a more equitable Asheville

A speaker series of local and national leaders will provide an opportunity to share information and facilitate a discussion with the community about past policies and practices, present trends and disparities and future initiatives. The series will take place over 3 separate events highlighting the following topics:

Event 1: Past - June 3, 2021: Explore the history of Asheville by identifying policies and actions at the federal, state, and local level that have created or advanced disparities. Identify locations within the community where impacts occurred.

Event 2: Present - June 10, 2021: Highlight current trends, data and disparities that exist in Asheville and Buncombe County.

Event 3: Future - June 17, 2021: Futurist/visioning process to discuss and identify the potential for Asheville related to possible key focus areas, current efforts, initiatives and trends to help stimulate thought about what changes are needed and are possible.



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**Definitions of Reparations:**

*"The action of repairing something"*

*"The making of amends for wrong or injury done"*

*"The making of amends for a wrong one has done, by paying money to or otherwise helping those who have been wronged"*

The resolution calls for the city manager to, "establish a process within the next year to develop short, medium and long term recommendations to specifically address the creation of generational wealth and to boost economic mobility and opportunity in the black community."

In an effort to repair the harm done by decades of discrimination, the city manager and city staff have recommended a 3 phase process that includes (1) Information Sharing and Truth Telling; (2) Formation of a Reparations Commission; and (3) Finalize and Present the Report.

**Phase 1: Information Sharing and Truth Telling:**

*May 2021 - June 2021*

A Series of Local and national speakers will come together to share information and facilitated discussions with the community members about past policies and practices, present trends and disparities and future initiatives to:

- Provide a better understanding of policy impacts and where those impacts occurred
- Identify and understand current disparities and areas that need focus
- Identify barriers to addressing generational wealth
- Inspire our community to identify collaborative opportunities to create a more equitable Asheville



## **Phase 2: Formation of the Reparations Commission:**

*July 2021 - August 2021*

The Reparations Commission will be empowered to make short, medium and long term recommendations that will make significant progress toward repairing the damage caused by public and private systemic racism.

- 11-13 Representatives from neighborhoods and areas that were impacted by policies and practices that created disparities
  - Neighborhoods/area selected will be informed by phase 1
- 10-12 Broad Community Sector Representatives
  - Appointed by City Council and County Commission
- Commission will address disparities based on key focus areas:
  - Housing
  - Economic Development
  - Public Health
  - Education
  - Public Safety and Justice

## **Phase 3: Presentation of Report from the Reparations Commission**

*January 2022 - April 2023*

The Reparations Commission will present recommendations to the City Council and the community that:

- Advance key strategies in a timely manner
- Align with the City and County budget process
- Develop funding and implementation strategies
- Schedule for Commission deliverables:
  - Short term recommendations: January 2022
  - Medium term recommendations: July 2022
  - Long term recommendations: January 2023
  - Final report March/April 2023

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**Find more information here:**

<https://publicinput.com/X5652>

You can also scan this QR Code with your camera phone to be taken directly to the Public Input website.

