



From the Flats to the Future

An open house for West Siders and the descendants of displacement on the West Side Flats

Dear Julia,

Did you or your family grow up on the West Side Flats? Or are you a West Sider who has been displaced from the neighborhood? You're invited to join us for "From the Flats to the Future," an open house where we'll listen to stories of the past, identify how displacement is continuing in the present, and envision a future where West Siders are able to stay and grow in the neighborhood for generations to come.

Space is limited, registration required. Selected participants will receive a small stipend.

[Apply today!](#)



Celebrate a Summer of Connection!

This summer, WSCO's Action Circles will be meeting regularly— join in and help us organize for positive change in the neighborhood! Our regular monthly Voices Forum meetings will be on hold until the fall, so these events are a great way to stay connected:

West Side Tenant Union: Join us at our next meeting to keep building renter power. Text RENTER to (651) 800-9618 to learn more or [RSVP here](#).

Land Use Committee: The Land Use Committee is a group of West Side neighbors who meet to plan and solve problems related to the built environment of our community. We weigh in on existing projects and issues, and also address long-term, proactive planning. Join us! [Learn more](#).

Community Care Block Parties: We know that true community safety comes from strong relationships with our neighbors. Let's grow our relationships this summer and have fun doing it! July and August dates will be posted to our [events calendar](#) soon!

Health and Environmental Justice: Join our action circle meeting at the end of July, date and time TBA. Contact Ellie at elliel@wSCO.org for details!



Join the Scorecard Team

We just launched the application process for West Siders who'd like to join our Equitable Development Scorecard Team!

What you'll do: Team members, led by WSCO's Equitable Development Director, will evaluate potential developments (such as new housing developments, transit lines, or other kinds of urban planning projects) using a tool called the Equitable Development Scorecard, and share their evaluations with West Siders to increase community engagement and power in the local planning process.

Interested in applying? [Learn more here](#) or text SCORECARD to (651) 800-9618.



Juneteenth reportback

West Side Juneteenth was a beautiful community celebration of Freedom Day here at Parque Castillo. Thanks to all who showed up and made it possible!

[Check out more photos here!](#)



Community Announcements

More than a Place: Mixed Blood Theater Meets the West Side: Theatre director Ernest Briggs, playwright Johanna Keller Flores, and spoken word artist Ms. Poetic Justice (Bella Mendoza) have crafted a performance showcasing the many facets of the West Side of St. Paul. Through this performance they hope to shine light on a beautiful, diverse, and complex West Side based on stories collected from west siders and performed by west siders. [Attend in person or virtually](#).

Sign up for solar! Calling all renters and homeowners who want to help the environment while lowering your energy bill: sign up for community solar power! [Learn more](#).

Queer Artist Celebration: Join us on Saturday, July 15th from 12 - 4:00 p.m. on the lawn next to Backstory Coffee (near Wabasha and Congress Streets). Free community art project, yoga classes, and tarot readings, art, and food vendors, live music, and open mic! [RSVP](#)

Medicinal Herb Walk led by WSCO board member Sharri Keller. July 26, 6:30 p.m., meet at the Garden of Good Hearts (Wabasha and Congress Streets). [RSVP](#)

Take action for housing justice: let's strengthen federal renter protections! The Federal Housing Finance Agency is requesting input through July 31 on how the agency can create and enforce renter protections for the 12 million renters living in rental properties with federally backed mortgages. [Submit a public comment](#) (download a [sample comment letter](#) here).



Celebrating 50 Years

WSCO organizes people of West Side to build collective power to advance justice and racial equity in the community for all people. We envision a just, united, self-reliant West Side where all of our people are connected, safe, healthy and successful. [RSVP for our 50th Anniversary Celebration](#) on November 5, 2023, 2:00 p.m. at Humboldt High School.

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