

# Lexington Parks Accelerator

Community Partner Introduction and Information Session



# Background

## The Trust for Public Land

“The Trust for Public Land creates parks and protects land for people, ensuring healthy, liveable communities for generations to come.”



## TPL's Park Equity Community of Practice

## 10-Minute Walk Campaign

October 10th — TPL Pledge to Walk to a Park Day

[www.tpl.org](http://www.tpl.org)

[www.tpl.org/10minutewalk](http://www.tpl.org/10minutewalk)

[www.tpl.org/national-walk-to-a-park-day](http://www.tpl.org/national-walk-to-a-park-day)





# Background

## TPL ParkScore©





# Background

## 10-Minute Walk Park Equity Accelerator


- Lexington 1 of 6 cities chosen to participate in 12-18 month inaugural pilot





# Background




## City Survey Results



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### PLACES

*Top 5  
Things to improve*

-  Walking and Hiking Trails
-  Nature Parks
-  Neighborhood Parks
-  Bike Trails
-  Indoor Swimming Pool




### PROGRAMS


*Top 5  
Things to improve*


-  Adult Fitness and Health
-  Summer Concerts
-  Programs for Adults (Age 50+)
-  Nature Programs
-  Pet Exercise (at Dog Parks)

### ACTIONS

*Top 3  
Things needed*

-  Upgrade Current Parks
-  Build New Walking and Biking Trails
-  Buy Land for Future Parks

952 Households 



“We want a city full of people-friendly, community-building parks ... safe places for children to play and adults to gather and exercise”

2018

<https://www.lexingtonky.gov/index.php/about-parks-and-recreation-master-plan>



# Background



Mayor's Commission for Racial  
Justice & Equality

Report to Mayor Linda Gorton

Co-chairs: Roszalyn Akins  
Dr. Gerald L. Smith

October 23, 2020

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“Require sidewalks  
and green space in  
every  
neighborhood.”

2020

<https://www.lexingtonky.gov/boards/commission-racial-justice-and-equality>



# Background



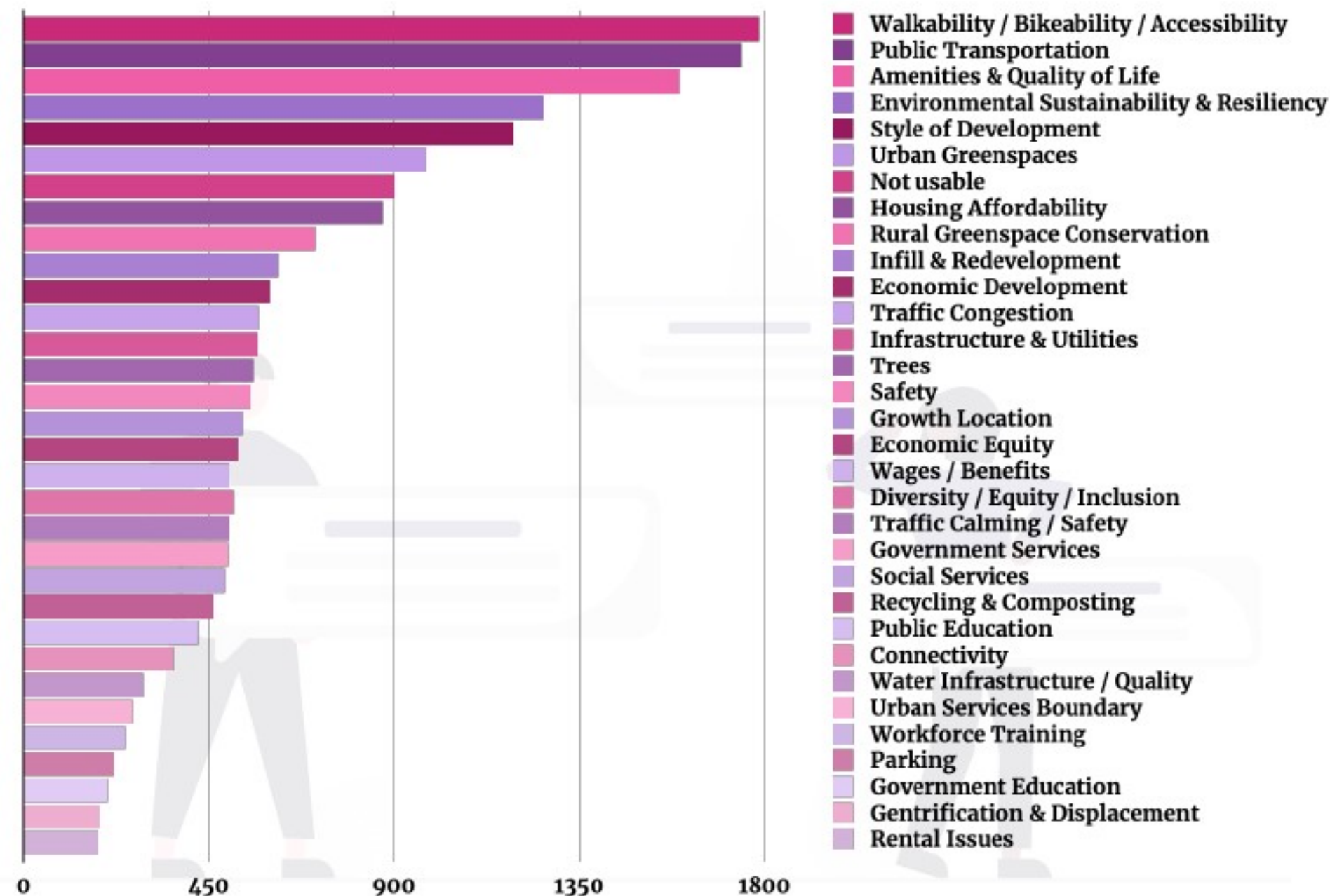
“Incorporate adequate greenspace and open space into all development projects, which serve the needs of the intended population.”

2018

<https://imaginelexington.com>



# Background



"I would love to be more connected to nearby parks like McConnell Springs or the one across Versailles Road. The parks are so close but they are completely closed off to our neighborhood."  
- Cardinal Valley Resident

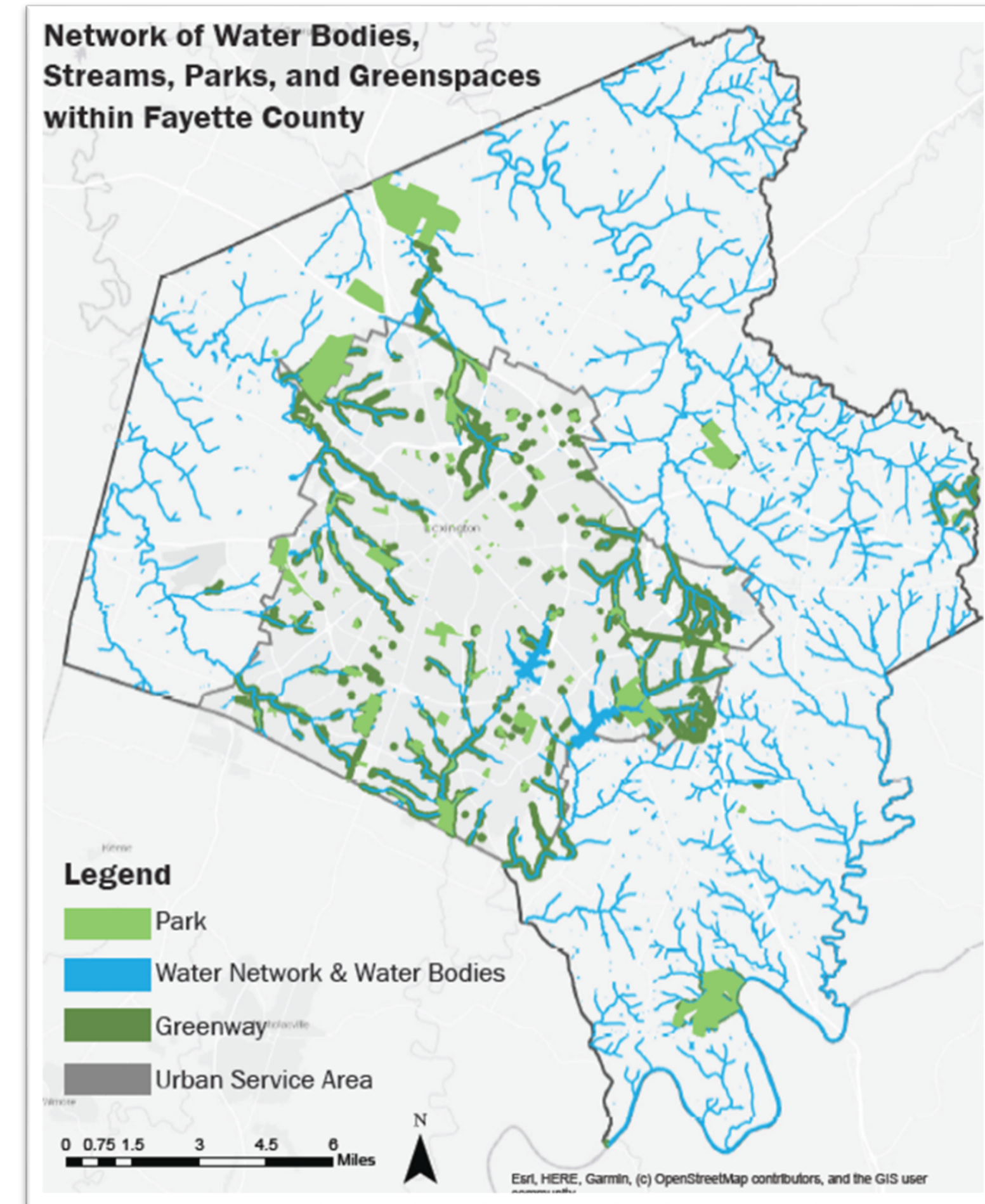
2022

<https://www.ottlex.org/>



# Background

**Greenspace equity is not only equitable distribution of resources but equitable access to decision-making.**





# Background

## Challenges to Greenspace Equity

### Existing Neighborhoods

- Redlining, disinvestment
- Distribution of parks and amenities
- Green gentrification

### New Development

- Lack of access to parks and greenspace

### Existing Process for Public Input

- Confusing, unwelcoming, non-accommodating





# Background

## Opportunities for Greenspace Equity

### Existing Neighborhoods and New Development

- Research, understand, acknowledge and address how past and current local policies have led to inequitable community outcomes across urban and suburban neighborhoods.

### Existing Process for Public Input

- Connect residents most impacted by park disparity with the information and capacity to envision and advocate for policy change.





# Timeline at a Glance

*Phase One: Research  
Summer/Fall 2022*

Build community coalition; examine current local policies; hear from residents about their experiences.

*Phase Two: Education  
Winter/Spring 2023*

Host community education workshops; policy process training & input gathering; marketing campaign.

*Phase Three: Transformation  
Spring/Summer 2023*

Launch demonstration projects; deploy new policy processes.



# Participants

## *Confirmed & Compensated Participants:*

SHARE Center

Woodhill Community Center / International Market

Casa de la Cultura

Kentucky Refugee Ministries

## *Confirmed & Non-Compensated Participants:*

LFUCG Greenspace

Commission

Lexington Health Department

Trees Lexington!

Fayette Alliance

Urban Forest Initiative

Common Good

Tates Creek Presbyterian Church

## *Unconfirmed Participants:*

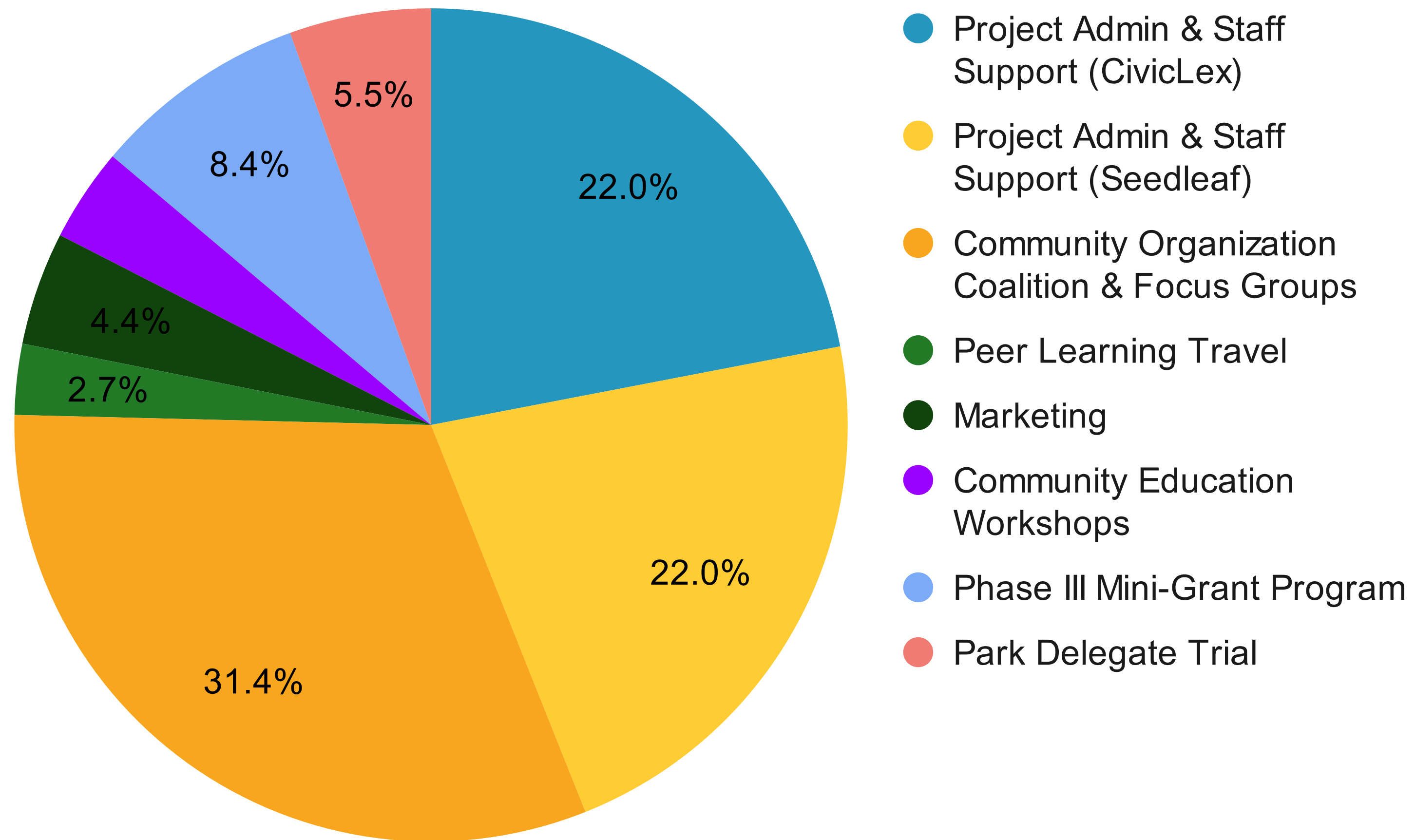
Carter G. Woodson Academy

West End Community Empowerment Project

BUILD / Open Door Church



# Where is the Money Going?





# Questions?

