

AGENDA

Reimagining the Affordable Housing System in the US

CONCURRENT SESSION

Thursday May 29th • 1:30 – 3:00pm ET

Description: HPN staff will describe HPN's Reimagining the Affordable Housing System project and seek input from session participants on the key issues that the project will tackle moving forward.

Background: In 2024, HPN initiated a project to reimagine the affordable housing system in the US, which was identified as a key task in HPN's strategic operating plan. We began by listening to our members and convened national organizations that are engaged in affordable housing policy. We heard that while numerous organizations were doing important tactical policy work focused on immediate challenges and opportunities, there was a need to look beyond the tactics of the moment and begin developing bold, sector-changing solutions. We received feedback that HPN's non-partisan, practitioner-driven view is well-suited to the task. HPN has developed a draft framing document that was provided as a pre-read for this session.

The goal of HPN's Reimagining the Affordable Housing System project is to incubate policy proposals and industry practices that allow us, as a sector, to more effectively provide stable, affordable housing to everyone in this country. HPN seeks to frame a conversation about the future of the affordable housing sector by producing a series of "solutions briefs" on specific issues. These briefs will fall into four broad categories: Increasing Supply; Addressing Demand; the Role and Structure of the Federal Government; and Opportunities for State and Local Policy.

Welcome, Introductions and Overview of the Reimagining Project: Noel Poyo, HPN

Discussion:

Facilitator: Noel Poyo, HPN

Do you agree there is a need to Reimagine the Affordable Housing System in the US? Why or why not?

What aspects of our affordable housing system are fundamentally working (even if they could be improved)? How do we avoid "throwing the baby out with the bathwater?"

What big ideas should HPN address in a Reimagining Project solutions brief? Examples we have heard:

- Restructuring how the federal government is organized to implement housing policy
- Emergency rental assistance 2.0 and sensible eviction prevention policy
- A human-centered approach to housing
- Narrative change about housing and housing affordability
- Liquidity for housing finance through CDFIs

Wrap-Up and Next Steps:

- HPN Symposium | Reimagining the Affordable Housing System | Thur. July 17th in DC

Additional Resources:

- Read Ahead – An Introduction to HPN's Reimagining the Affordable Housing System Project