



WORKSHOP OF DEMOCRACY

AIR QUALITY, WATER AFFORDABILITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE



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WHAT IS ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE?

- The principle that all people, regardless of race, color, national origin, or income, have a right to live, work, and play in safe, healthy, and sustainable environments with equal access to environmental benefits and protection from hazards.

WHAT IS WATER AFFORDABILITY?

- Water affordability is a household's ability to pay for essential water, wastewater, and stormwater services without sacrificing other necessities like food or medicine

WHAT IS AIR QUALITY?

- Air quality measures how clean or polluted the air is in a specific location, indicating the concentration of gases and particulate matter, which may be harmful to human health.

RESOURCES FOR DETROITERS

- **Water affordability**
 - Detroit Water and Sewerage Department's Lifeline Plan
 - Great Lakes Water Authority's Water Residential Assistance Program (WRAP)
 - Wayne Metro's Water Assistance program

PILLARS OF ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

- **Distributive Justice:** Focuses on the fair sharing of environmental benefits (like parks, clean air) and burdens (like pollution, toxic waste) among all groups, regardless of race, income, or class.
- **Procedural Justice:** Ensures that the processes for making environmental decisions are fair, transparent, and allow for meaningful participation from all affected communities, especially vulnerable ones.
- **Recognition Justice:** Acknowledges and values the diverse cultures, knowledge, and histories of marginalized groups, addressing systemic oppression that leads to disproportionate environmental impacts.
- **Restorative/Corrective Justice:** Aims to repair past environmental harms and injustices, often through remediation, compensation, or policy changes, ensuring that communities affected by historical pollution are made whole.

**Wayne County's 24-Hour Environmental Hotline:
1-888-223-2363**

- **Organizations focused on Justice In Detroit**
 - Detroiters Working for Environmental Justice
 - Ecology Center - Clear the Air
 - Great Lakes Environmental Law Center
 - Southwest Detroit Environmental Vision
 - Clean Water Action - Michigan chapter
 - Green Door Initiative - Air quality monitoring

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