Aesthetic Equity

How to promote social equity for African American Community through landscape design?

Abstract

The population in the neighborhood to the east of the Waldo Rd. in Gainesville is an African American community. A previous class project indicates that the residents in these neighborhoods encounter several challenges related to environmental justice. This study aims to

1. Identify the main challenges of these African American neighborhoods.
2. Review and synthesize the research on environmental justice and social resilience.
3. Improve the quality of life for people through a renovation planning and design for these neighborhoods.

Backstory

For my studio class I had the experience of visiting NE 8th Ave in Gainesville which is an African American community. There are a lot of challenges in the community face. This minority community constantly struggles with issues of lacking access to fresh food, transportation, and employment opportunities. Reliable recreational facilities, navigable infrastructure and so on.

The survey that designers conducted demonstrates the citizens’ desire to establish self-identity. Meanwhile, it is a good opportunity to demand environmental justice for African American communities in Gainesville. As landscape architecture students, we should focus on society’s issue, promoting environmental justice through renovation planning. Design also gives landscape architects, planners, city governments, and organizations a chance to unite.

5! Public services within 1/2 mile of the community, which is less than the city standard

Metrics

- Number of public services within 1/2 mile of the community.
- Number of unique amenities.
- Area of parks that can be used for public events.
- Crime rate
- Number of parks, area of parks, etc. (distinct, but are comparable)
- Number of lights, area of park.
- Amount of outdoor spaces.
- Number of landmarks.
- Number of NGO programs.
- The amount of water can be harvested from roof.
- The number of LID designs.
- Area of native species used.
- Number of NGO programs related to vegetable growth and sustainable development.
- Area of community garden for food production.
- The amount of food that can be produced.
- The value of the food that can be produced.
- The width length of the pedestrian lane, bicycle lane.
- The number of bus stops.
- The number of intersections.

Reference