



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, D C

CENTER FOR LATIN AMERICAN & LATINO STUDIES

**American University's Annual Latino Public Affairs Forum:
Inclusive Communities, Welcoming Neighborhoods? Urban Planning for
Latinos in Changing US Cities**

March 1, 2019
1:00 pm – 5:30 pm

Abramson Family Founders Room, AU School of International Service
Co-sponsored by American University's Center for Latin American & Latino Studies and its
Metropolitan Policy Center.

This fifth Annual Latino Public Affairs Forum will convene AU faculty, together with nationally recognized scholars of urban diversity and Latino life in US cities from around the country and directors of Latino-serving non-profits, to address the promise and challenges of building more inclusive cities for Latino residents. With attention to urban policy and planning in the District of Columbia, in dialogue with small and medium sized cities nationwide experiencing significant growth of their Latino populations, the Forum will assess steps now being taken and alternatives for making often rapidly changing communities and neighborhoods more welcoming to Latinos.

12:30pm-1:00pm: Arrival and coffee

1:00pm-1:15pm: Welcomes

Eric Hershberg, Director, Center for Latin American & Latino Studies, American University

Derek Hyra, Director, Metropolitan Policy Center, American University

1:15pm-2:30pm: Panel I: Urban Planning for Latinos: Housing, Schools and Small Business

Panel description: Affordable housing and access to community anchor institutions are important sources of belonging for established residents and of integration for newcomers, supporting social cohesion. They are also critical to efforts by cities to address such challenges as minority

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wealth accumulation, changing neighborhood identities, the displacement of long-term residents, and increased ethnic segregation. As the demographics of US cities continue to evolve, how are they meeting the needs of established and new Latino residents?

Panelists:

Katherine Donato, Director, Institute for the Study of International Migration, Georgetown University

Chenoa Flippen, Associate Professor of Sociology, University of Pennsylvania

Marla Bilonick, Executive Director, Latino Economic Development Center, DC

2:30pm-2:45pm: Break

2:45pm-4:00pm: Panel 2: Latino Perceptions of and Access to Local Public Services

Panel description: Research indicates that Latinos are often the demographic group that is least likely to take advantage of available public services. Latinos also express high levels of fear around such services as policing. As cities seek to engage their communities, how can processes of urban planning, decision-making and outreach become more responsive to the problems and priorities of Latino residents? And how might Latino community representatives and advocates become more central to planning processes that pursue improved services and more equitable urban growth?

Panelists:

Willow Lung-Amam, Assistant Professor, School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation, University of Maryland

Diego Uriburu, Executive Director, Identities, Inc., Montgomery County, MD

Fernando Burga, Assistant Professor, Humphrey School of Public Affairs, University of Minnesota

4:00pm-4:15pm Break

4:15pm-5:30pm Panel 3: Place Making and the Present and Future of Urban Planning for Latinos

Panel description: To make cities more hospitable to residents, planners often seek to create public or green spaces, and undertake efforts of place-making. But different minority groups vary in their conceptions of public space, suggesting the need to rethink approaches to place-

making as linchpins of community development. How do Latinos use public spaces and what is the relative visibility of Latinos as participants in urban life? What are consequences of the addition or loss of public spaces, their relationship to social inclusion, and efforts to make Latinos the subject of place-making or diversity marketing campaigns?

Panelists:

Clara Irazabal-Zurita, Professor of Planning and Director of the Latino/a Studies Program, University of Missouri-Kansas City

Johana Londoño, Assistant Professor, Latin American, Caribbean, and U.S. Studies, SUNY-Albany

Sakina Khan, Deputy Director, Citywide Strategy and Analysis, DC Office of Planning

Sonya Grier, Professor of Marketing, Kogod School of Business, American University

5:30pm-5:40pm Concluding Remarks

Eric Hershberg, Center for Latin American & Latino Studies, American University