



Local Progress National Convening

July 12 -- 15, 2018

Hilton Minneapolis

1001 Marquette Avenue South,

Minneapolis, MN 55403

Thursday, July 12 (Pre-Conference)

8:00am – 2:00pm: Women’s Caucus Training (Female Local Progress members, Hilton Minneapolis, Conrad B)

2:00pm – 5:00pm: Minneapolis City Tours (Meet at Hilton Minneapolis 11th Street Entrance)

6:00pm – 8:00pm: Women’s Caucus Reception (Ruth's Chris Steakhouse: 920 2nd Avenue South, Suite 100)

Friday, July 13

8:00am Breakfast and Registration

Symphony I, II, III

9:00am – 11:00am: Plenary - Cities Rising, Local Governments in the Lead - Reflections on 2018 (City Hall)

- **Council President Lisa Bender**, Minneapolis, MN
- **Councilmember at-Large Helen Gym**, Philadelphia, PA
- **Councilmember Brad Lander**, New York, NY
- **Brian Elliott**, Executive Director, SEIU Minnesota State Council
- **Veronica Mendez Moore**, Co-Director, Centro De Trabajadores Unidos En Lucha

10:45am: Group Photo

11:30am – 1:00pm Breakout Sessions

- **Governance: Beyond Progressive Policy - Maximizing the Power of Your Office to Advance Change** **Conrad A**
- **Policy: Disrupting the Deportation Machine** **Marquette III**
- **Policy: Inclusive and Thriving Communities - Overcoming Challenges and Pitfalls in Organizing and Communicating About Affordable Housing** **Conrad B**
- **Policy: Protecting Local Democracy - How to Build State Power from Our Cities** **Conrad C**
- **Policy: Why Being Pro-Public Education is a Progressive and Necessary Stance** **Conrad D**

1:00pm – Lunch

1:30pm – 2:00pm: Plenary - Building our Network Strategy on Affordable Housing

Symphony I, II, III

- **Vice-Mayor and ACCE Organizer Melvin Lee Willis, Jr.** Richmond, CA
- **Dr. Tiffany Manuel**, Vice President of Knowledge, Impact and Strategy, Enterprise Community Partners
- **Dawn Phillips**, Executive Director, Right to the City Alliance
- **Councilmember at-Large Robin Kniech**, Denver CO (Facilitator)

2:00pm - 3:15pm: Plenary - Equity and Inclusion - Our Pursuit for a More Perfect Union

Symphony I, II, III

- **Opening Remarks: Mayor Melvin Carter**, St. Paul, MN
- **Mayor Ravi Bhalla**, Hoboken, NJ
- **Councilmember Phillipe Cunningham**, Minneapolis, MN
- **City Treasurer Tishaura Jones**, St. Louis, MO
- **Greisa Martínez-Rosas**, Deputy Executive Director, United We Dream
- **Councilmember Wes Bellamy**, Charlottesville, VA (Facilitator)

3:15pm – 3:45pm Break

3:45pm – 5:15pm Breakout Sessions

- **Policy: Adapting to Our New Reality: Localities Building Resilience to Climate Change** **Marquette III**

- **Governance:** Getting Your Story Told – Comms 101 **Conrad A**
- **Governance:** Participatory Democracy: How Localities are Engaging Residents in Co-Governance **Conrad B**
- **Network Strategy Session:** Protecting Renters in the Age of Evictions **Conrad C**
- **Network Strategy Session:** What Do We Do About Amazon? **Conrad D**

6:00pm Evening Reception **Gallery**

- Join us in celebrating the leadership of Local Progress members

Saturday, July 14

8:00am Breakfast **Symphony I, II, III**

9:00am – 11:00am: This is What a 21st Century Economic Justice Movement Looks Like **Symphony I, II, III**

- **Opening Remarks: Keith Mestrich**, President, Amalgamated Bank
- **County Supervisor Cindy Chavez**, Santa Clara, CA
- **County Supervisor Marcelia Nicholson**, Milwaukee, WI
- **Closing Remarks; Heather Conroy**, Executive Vice President, SEIU
- **Tefere A. Gebre**, Executive Vice President, AFL-CIO (Facilitator)

11:00am – 11:30am Break

11:30am – 1:00pm Breakout Sessions

- **Governance:** Building a Progressive Governance Ecosystem **Marquette III**
- **Network Strategy Session:** Just and Accountable Policing **Conrad A**
- **Governance:** Planning for the Next Two Decades: A Minneapolis Case Study **Conrad B**
- **Network Strategy Session:** Rebuilding the Middle Class **Conrad D**
- **Policy:** Saving Our Democracy from the Ground Up **Conrad C**

1:00pm – Lunch

1:30pm – 3:00pm Plenary: Reclaiming Government by the People **Symphony I, II, III**

- **Opening Remarks: Congressman Keith Ellison**, Minnesota
- **Mayor Marita Garrett**, Wilkesburg, PA
- **Ady Barkan**, Local Progress Founding Director and Campaigner, Center for Popular Democracy
- **Jennifer Epps-Addison**, Network President and Co-Executive Director, Center for Popular Democracy
- **Councilmember Brad Lander**, New York, NY (Facilitator)

3:00pm – 3:30pm Break

3:30pm – 5:00pm Breakout Sessions

- **Policy:** Building Power for the 50 Million People in Retail, Care Work, and Hospitality **Conrad A**
- **Policy:** Criminal Justice - Moving from Policy Reform to Holistic Transformation **Conrad B**
- **Governance:** Government Budgeting- A Reflection of Your Values (bring personal device) **Conrad C**
- **Network Strategy Session:** Immigrant Protections **Conrad D**

5:00pm – Closing Reception **Conrad Foyer**

Sunday, July 15 (Post-Conference)

8:30am – 1:00pm Minnesota Elected Officials Meeting (for MN local elected officials only)

****Land Stewardship Project (821 E. 35th Street #200 Minneapolis, MN 55407)**

Detailed Agenda

Thursday, July 12 (Pre-conference)

8:00am – 2:00pm Women’s Caucus Training (Female Local Progress Members Only) – Hilton Minneapolis **Conrad B**

This year we will build upon our initial work on the Women's Caucus at Local Progress by offering a half day training and hosting an evening reception where women members of Local Progress will gather to network with each other and partner organizations, hear about shared issues, and discuss solutions that come from the leadership of women. We will hear from allied groups, experts and leading Local Progress members. Members will have the opportunity to share issues they would like to address and resources they would like to receive that support their work as progressive women in local elected office. This gathering is a highlight, lifted up by those who have attended before as a highlight of the convening, and this year members will have more time together, opportunities to strategize, share frustrations, obstacles, personal successes and policy victories.

2:00pm – 5:00pm Minneapolis City Tours (Meet at Hilton Minneapolis 11th Street Entrance at 2:00pm to Depart)

6:00pm – 8:00pm Women’s Caucus Reception (Ruth's Chris Steakhouse: 920 2nd Avenue South, Suite 100)

Friday, July 13

8:00am – Breakfast and Registration

Symphony I, II, III

Is this your first LP convening? If so, please join some of your peers at breakfast to learn more about the organization.

9:00am Meet at Hilton Minneapolis’s 11th Street Entrance to Walk / Bus to Minneapolis City Hall (350 S. 5th Street, Minneapolis MN 55415)

9:30am – 11:00am: Cities Rising, Local Governments in the Lead - Reflections on 2018 (Minneapolis City Hall Rotunda)

In cities, towns and counties across the country, progressives are organizing and winning governing power. Local governments are advancing policies to protect immigrants, guarantee equal justice for all citizens, and create good jobs and thriving communities. Local Progress was founded based on a simple idea that by starting at the local level, we can innovate policy and build a democracy and government that works for everyone, not just the wealthy few. The need for leadership at the local level is more true today than ever. Our opening plenary will share our work over the last year and highlight the most innovative policy victories from members of our network. We are thrilled to kick off this year's convening at Minneapolis City Hall where we will hear from organizers and elected officials about their vision for Minneapolis.

- **Council President Lisa Bender**, Minneapolis, MN
- **Councilmember at-Large Helen Gym**, Philadelphia, PA
- **Councilmember Brad Lander**, New York, NY
- **Brian Elliott**, Executive Director, SEIU Minnesota State Council
- **Veronica Mendez Moore**, Co-Director, Centro De Trabajadores Unidos En Lucha

10:45am – 11:00am – Group Photo

11:00am – 11:30am – Return to the Hotel

11:30am – 1:00pm Breakouts

Governance: Beyond Progressive Policy: Maximizing the Power of Your Office to Advance Change **Conrad A**

In a national moment that calls on each of us to lead in every way possible, how are local elected officials going beyond their policymaking role and using all of the powers of their offices (formal and informal) to advance change? In this session we will hear from elected officials and allies, sharing examples of how to effectively advance change on issues when you are governing from a minority position, how to use oversight hearings to elevate issues you lack the ability to regulate and creative strategies to support worker organizing efforts as an elected official.

- **State Representative Faith Winter (CO)**
- **Councilmember Ritchie Torres**, New York, NY
- **Bob Master**, Communication Workers of America

Policy: Disrupting the Deportation Machine**Marquette III**

With the election of Donald Trump to the White House, and known racist Jeff Sessions' ascension to the Department of Justice, anti-immigrant sentiment in our country has risen to an unprecedented level. More than ever, local elected officials can use local policy and their budget to ensure that immigrant communities are protected. This policy based interactive discussion will focus on what local government can do to protect its immigrant communities. We will delve into case studies on limiting police collaboration with ICE, the expanding use of 287(g) contracts, providing universal legal access and more.

- **Commissioner Marion Greene**, Hennepin County, MN
- **Councilor Eric Covey**, Winooski, VT
- **Councilmember at-Large Lorena González**, Seattle, WA
- **Councilmember Greg Casar**, Austin, TX
- **Magaly Arteaga**, Legal Services Trainer, National Partnership for New Americans
- **Shiu-Ming Cheer**, Senior Staff Attorney and Field Coordinator, National Immigration Law Center
- **Judy Greene**, Justice Strategies
- **Marc Serra Solé**, Deputy Mayor's Office of Human Rights, Participation, Immigration and Refugees, Barcelona City Council (Spain)
- **Angie Junck**, Immigrant Legal Resource Center (Facilitator)

Policy: Inclusive and Thriving Communities - Overcoming Challenges and Pitfalls in Organizing and Communicating About Affordable Housing**Conrad B**

Across the country, cities are facing a crisis in access to safe and affordable housing. Local elected officials are advancing policy and budgetary measures to produce and preserve affordable housing, to address the growing homelessness crisis in our cities and to protect tenants from displacement and eviction. However in order to successfully advance a strong affordable housing agenda, elected officials need to effectively communicate, organize and win public support around housing and development issues. This session will give elected officials the opportunity to share successes and challenges they face when advancing affordable housing initiatives, hear recently released messaging research from Enterprise and discuss the intersection between communications and organizing.

- **Councilmember Teresa Mosqueda**, Seattle, WA
- **Dr. Tiffany Manuel**, Vice President of Knowledge, Impact and Strategy, Enterprise Community Partners
- **Councilmember at-Large Robin Kniech**, Denver, CO (Facilitator)

Policy: Protecting Local Democracy - How to Build State Power from Our Cities**Conrad C**

American cities and counties have become centers of innovation across an array of policy areas that advance inclusion, equitable opportunity, and social justice. In recent years however, state legislators have become measurably more aggressive in their efforts to preempt local lawmaking, overturn ballot initiatives, limit local anti-discrimination efforts, perpetuate racial and economic inequality, and systematically strip local governments of their power. It's a tactic that threatens not only local policy-making, but the very heart of local democracy. Local Progress members are on the front lines of protecting local democracy, creating innovative policies to set standards that protect the health and well-being of their communities and reflect the views and values of their citizens. Join us for a deep dialogue about preemption, its impact on our communities, and how Local Progress members can engage in a multi-layered effort to stop preemption and protect local democracy.

- **Kim Haddow**, Director, Local Solutions Support Center
- **Chris Conry**, Strategic Campaigns Director, Take Action Minnesota
- **Francesca Menes**, Local Progress Florida State Coordinator (Facilitator)

Policy: Why Being Pro-Public Education is a Necessary and Progressive Stance**Conrad D**

The privatization of education in the United States (and elsewhere) is by no means a new phenomenon. The first iteration of publicly-funded, private education in the US, came in response to the Supreme Court decision in Brown v Board of Education (1965), in which the court struck down the principle of "separate but equal" and ordered the desegregation of public schools. Southern states intent on maintaining racial segregation in schools introduced legislation creating "tax-subsidized tuition grants" - today called vouchers - that were granted only to white students to allow (and pay for) them to attend private, racially segregated schools. With the advent of neoliberalism in the 1980's, policies adopted under the Reagan Administration that were fundamentally rooted in competition and choice, sought to weaken the teachers' unions and undermine the notion of public education. Modern forms of education privatization really took root with the introduction of voucher programs in the 1990s, and with charter schools having expanded rapidly since then. Today, the movement is well funded by anti-democratic corporate interests that seek to undermine the public education system, community input, and public schools in particular. It is imperative for local

elected leaders to understand the full scope of this industry and their important role as advocates for strong, locally led public education as a cornerstone of our democracy.

- **Councilmember at-Large Helen Gym**, Philadelphia, PA
- **School Board Vice Chair Lisa Willner**, Jefferson County Public Schools (KY)
- **Kendra Brooks**, Education Activist and Consultant, 215 People's Alliance (Philadelphia, PA)
- **Rukia Lumumba**, Founder and Legal Director, People's Advocacy Institute
- **Rhea Martin**, Deputy Director, Education Justice Campaign, Center for Popular Democracy (Facilitator)

1:00pm – Lunch

Symphony I, II, III Foyer

1:30pm – 2:00pm: Building Our Network Strategy - Affordable Housing

Symphony I, II, III

Since Local Progress's founding, our members have prioritized supporting thriving and inclusive communities where everyone has access to a home. Nationally, residents of our cities face a crisis in access to safe, affordable housing. In our largest and economically strongest communities, we face a shortage of housing at all levels - especially for low and moderate-income families and for those experiencing homelessness. In emerging and struggling communities, the lowest income families are facing a shortage of homes or struggling with a substandard, crumbling quality of housing. At the same time, the over-production of luxury housing and other urban redevelopment trends have accelerated the displacement of low-income residents and communities of color. This session will introduce members to partners and resources to support their work on housing, and begin a network-wide conversation about tenant protections that will be a focus area in 2018. For those interested in learning more, there will be a breakout session immediately following this session to further discuss a collective network strategy on tenant protections.

- **Vice-Mayor and ACCE Organizer Melvin Lee Willis, Jr.** Richmond, CA
- **Dr. Tiffany Manuel**, Vice President of Knowledge, Impact and Strategy, Enterprise Community Partners
- **Dawn Phillips**, Executive Director, Right to the City Alliance
- **Councilmember at-Large Robin Kniech**, Denver CO (Facilitator)

2:00pm – 3:15pm Plenary: Equity and Inclusion: Our Pursuit for a More Perfect Union

Symphony I, II, III

Although new movements have gained traction over the last few years, communities of color, religious minorities, LGBTQ+ and immigrants and refugees are still being attacked by long established systems of oppression embedded in our courts, administration, justice system, and communities. Just as in progressive spaces, and in our policies, there are still disparities deeply rooted in race in municipalities across our nation. How do we as elected leaders have the uncomfortable conversation around historic injustices caused by implicit bias and structural/institutional racism that allow for us to move forward towards a just and equitable society.

- **Opening Remarks; Mayor Melvin Carter**, St. Paul, MN
- **Mayor Ravi Bhalla**, Hoboken, NJ
- **Councilmember Phillipe Cunningham**, Minneapolis, MN
- **City Treasurer Tishaura Jones**, St. Louis, MO
- **Greisa Martinez-Rosas**, Deputy Executive Director, United We Dream
- **Councilmember Wes Bellamy**, Charlottesville, VA (Facilitator)

3:15pm – 3:45pm Break

3:45pm – 5:15pm Breakouts

Policy: Adapting to Our New Reality - Localities Building Resilience to Climate Change

Marquette III

With the current federal administration rolling back progress on environmental justice and denying climate science, it is all the more urgent for cities and localities to lead on adaptation to our new climate reality. In both frontline communities and in cities far from the eye of the storm, all of us will be affected by our changing climate. In this session, Local Progress members will discuss how localities can prioritize adaptation to the effects of climate change while still prioritizing mitigation. We will hear from local elected officials leading on climate action from across the country and then facilitate a peer-to-peer discussion of how localities can center equity in their climate resilience plans as well as how to balance the need for adaptation with the ongoing fight to mitigate carbon emissions.

- **Councilmember Cam Gordon**, Minneapolis, MN
- **Supervisor Nancy Metayer**, Broward County Soil & Water Conservation District
- **Russ Stark**, Chief Resilience Officer, City of St. Paul, MN
- **Soil and Water Supervisor Danielle Adams**, Durham County & Local Progress Southern Coordinator (Facilitator)

Governance: Getting Your Story Told - Comms 101**Conrad A**

This training will help equip Local Progress members to better tell the story of their legislative priorities and the communities they represent. We will review the nuts-and-bolts of media relations, including how to better earn media coverage, build relationships with reporters, and do TV/radio interviews with ease. We will also explore the basics of social media, looking at how to build a presence for yourself on Twitter and Facebook and move smoothly between platforms.

- **Asya Pikovsky**, Director of Media Relations, Center for Popular Democracy
- **Joanna Klonsky**, Media Strategist, Joanna Klonsky Communications Strategies

Governance: Participatory Democracy - How Localities are Engaging Residents in Co-Governance**Conrad B**

Local governments have the unique opportunity to engage community members directly in governance. Whether through expanded and innovative community engagement initiatives, programs that give residents the ability to direct budgetary decisions or ballot initiatives which allow direct access to democratic policy making, Local Progress members and allies are innovating new methods for participatory democracy. This session will give participants the opportunity to hear about new and experimental efforts to grow participatory democracy at the local level, and to discuss and envision new ways that elected officials can engage with community members around policy, budgeting and governance.

- **Alderman Carlos Ramirez-Rosa**, Chicago, IL
- **Rukia Lumumba**, Founder and Legal Director, People's Advocacy Institute
- **Marc Serra Solé**, Deputy Mayor's Office of Human Rights, Participation, Immigration and Refugees, Barcelona City Council (Spain)
- **Michelle Tremillo**, Executive Director and Co-Founder, Texas Organizing Project (TOP)
- **Mercedes Fulbright**, Local Progress Texas State Coordinator (Facilitator)

Network Strategy Session: Protecting Renters in the Age of Evictions**Conrad C**

Renters make up 36% of the population in the United States, and there are now more than two dozen cities that are majority renter. And in 2016, 1 in 50 renters faced an eviction judgment. In cities large and small, renters are facing pressures ranging from displacement due to rising rents and new development to substandard housing to landlords who harass and intimidate tenants. Housing instability wreaks havoc on our families and neighborhoods, with a disproportionate impact on low-income communities and communities of color. Cities are responding with policies ranging from ensuring a universal right to counsel in housing court to limiting unpredictable and destabilizing increases to rent to increasing housing code enforcement efforts and prohibiting source of income discrimination. This session will begin by hearing from four elected members advancing renter protections in a diverse array of local contexts and then we will discuss work happening across our network and identify opportunities to coordinate and support our work collectively as a network. With:

- **Commissioner Chloe Eudaly**, Portland, OR
- **Councilmember Bill Henry**, Baltimore, MD
- **Councilmember Anne Mavity**, St. Louis Park, MN
- **Vice-Mayor Melvin Lee Willis, Jr.** Richmond, CA
- **Dianne Enriquez**, Co-Director of Community Dignity Campaigns, Center for Popular Democracy (Facilitator)

Network Strategy Session: What Do We Do About Amazon?**Conrad D**

Two hundred and thirty-eight jurisdictions from all over North America submitted bids for Amazon's second headquarters, promoted as one of the biggest development opportunities in decades with the potential to bring 50,000 jobs to the winning city. Yet many criticized the company for facilitating a public bidding war, where cities competed against each other to see who could offer the biggest tax incentive package to one of the world's most valuable companies. Others have raised questions about community benefits, gentrification, and job quality relating to the HQ2 deal. Increasingly, Amazon plays an outsized role in the economic development of our cities and towns, as it expands its supply chain footprint, e-commerce dominance, and brick and mortar presence while altering the makeup and workforce of the retail industry. This session will bring together local elected officials to discuss a central question: what are we going to do about Amazon? Attendees will reflect on the Amazon HQ2 bidding war and the challenge of aligning regional or national collaboration among cities, as well as discuss municipal policy ideas for ensuring communities do not lose out as Amazon grows bigger and bigger.

- **Councilmember Greg Casar**, Austin, TX
- **Councilmember Lisa Herbold**, Seattle, WA
- **Maurice BP-Weeks**, Co-Executive Director, Action Center on Race and the Economy
- **Mariah Montgomery**, Campaign Director, Partnership for Working Families

6:00pm – 7:30pm Evening Reception

Gallery

Please join us for a cocktail reception to celebrate the work of our members and network.

Saturday, July 14

8:00am – Breakfast

Symphony I, II, III

9:00am – 11:00am - Plenary: **This is What a 21st Century Economic Justice Movement Looks Like**

Symphony I, II, III

We have all heard the distressing statistics and headlines about our rigged economy that favors the super wealthy at the expense of working people. The greatest wealth and income inequality since the Gilded Age. Declining real wages even as productivity soars. Supreme Court and state legislature aided billionaire attacks on unions and collective bargaining. Working people, through unions and collective action, built the middle class, attacked inequality, and demanded a seat at the table. To do the same in 2018, our only option is to rebuild unions and enshrine new protections for working people to rebuild our communities and take back our democracy. In cities, towns, and counties across the country, local legislators are working hand-in-hand with unions and community to fiercely defend the historic progress we have made, win new and innovative victories to support organizing, and reimagine a broad-based movement to rebuild the middle class and unrig our economy.

- **Opening Remarks: Keith Mestrich**, President, Amalgamated Bank
- **County Supervisor Cindy Chavez**, Santa Clara, CA
- **County Supervisor Marcelia Nicholson**, Milwaukee, WI
- **Governing Board Member Patrick Morales**, Tempe Elementary School District, AZ
- **Closing Remarks: Heather Conroy**, Executive Vice President, SEIU (*Closing Remarks*)
- **Tefere A. Gebre**, Executive Vice President, AFL-CIO (*Facilitator*)

11:00am – 11:30am Break

11:30am - 1:00pm Breakouts

Governance: Building a Progressive Governance Ecosystem

Marquette III

City Councilmembers are only one part of a full ecosystem for progressive governance at the local level. During this session, participants will hear from a range of speakers focused on progressive governance from a variety of perspectives: prosecutors, school board members, city attorneys, appointed members of boards and commissions, and city staff. Speakers will particularly focus on how to develop strategies for governance grounded in racial equity and in training and growing public leadership in communities typically underrepresented in government. We will explore how complementary partnerships between groups focusing on a variety of strategies for progressive governance can create greater impact, and discuss the role of elected officials in advancing a comprehensive progressive governance strategy.

- **School Board Member Raaheela Ahmed and Manager at New American Leaders**, Prince George’s County Public Schools, MD
- **Commonwealth’s Attorney Stephanie Morales**, Portsmouth, VA
- **Charly Carter**, Founder, Step Up Maryland
- **Ariel Guerrero**, Race, Equity and Leadership Manager, National League of Cities
- **Jill Habig**, Founder and President, Public Rights Project
- **Ludovic Blain**, Executive Co-Director, California Donor Table Fund (*Facilitator*)

Network Strategy Session: Just and Accountable Policing

Conrad A

Ongoing violence at the hands of police is something that continues to dominate the national narrative, but requires action at the city and county levels. Local Progress members identified this as an area of work that they wanted to coordinate closely together to design a plan of action that centers local elected officials at the center of driving that change in police departments across the country. In this session, we will be reviewing and strategizing about our recently unveiled police reform “report card” toolkit that will allow members to evaluate policing policies and practices in jurisdictions across the country. Our focus will be on discussing the metrics included (training, use-of-force policies and statistics, diversion, civilian oversight, civilian complaint/accountability, transparency, etc.) and how we can creatively engage the public with our findings and set the state for policy reforms.

- Led by **Silvia Fabela**, Local Progress Campaigns Director and **Kumar Rao**, Senior Staff Attorney for Racial Justice, Center for Popular Democracy
- **Local Progress Police Reform Steering Committee: Councilmember Dorcey Appllys** (Albany, NY), **Alder Megan Green** (St. Louis, MO), **Mayor Pro-Tem Jillian Johnson** (Durham, NC)

Governance: Planning for the Next Two Decades: A Minneapolis Case Study**Conrad B**

The City of Minneapolis is currently in the process of finalizing its comprehensive plan, a document that will shape the physical geography of the city for years to come. As cities experience growing housing and environmental crises and a continuation of racial disparities that are the result of decades of exclusionary and racist housing policies, long term plans offer the opportunity to envision a more equitable and sustainable future. This session will look in-depth at Minneapolis's planning and capital budget processes and discuss how cities can take a long-term approach to planning development, growth and the city's physical infrastructure with a particular focus on repairing historic inequities.

- **Council President Lisa Bender**, Minneapolis, MN
- **Councilmember Jeremiah Ellison**, Minneapolis MN
- **Heather Worthington**, Director, Long Range Planning, Minneapolis Department of City Planning
- **Dianne Enriquez**, Co-Director of Community Dignity Campaigns, Center for Popular Democracy (Facilitator)

Network Strategy Session: Rebuilding the Middle Class**Conrad D**

Cities, towns, and counties - led in no small part by Local Progress members - have been the leading edge of progressive change on issues of economic justice in recent years. This network strategy-focused conversation will look to build on that momentum by creating space for members to workshop and discuss ongoing economic justice campaigns as well as the challenges they face. Join us in designing a shared national strategy to advance policies that both ensure good, dignified jobs and build organized power for working people and strong unions.

- Facilitated by **Ari Schwartz**, Local Progress Campaigns Organizer
- **Local Progress Steering Committee: County Supervisor Marcella Nicholson** (Milwaukee, WI), **Bob Master** (CWA), **Becky Wasserman** (SEIU), **Tefere A. Gebre** (AFL-CIO)

Policy: Saving Our Democracy from the Ground Up**Conrad C**

As we approach the 2018 election, our democracy is at a crossroads. In many states, the right to vote and participate is actively under assault by state legislatures. In others, arcane barriers disproportionately impact the participation and representation of communities of color, women, low-income communities and young folks. Meanwhile, across the country, the flow of money has distorted who can run for office, who wins and what interests are represented. Local elected officials have been leading the resistance and they have a critical role to play in ensuring that voters in their jurisdiction can participate and that communities voices are represented. With the 2018 elections fast approaching, come discuss strategies for local elected officials to expand voter access and to reform elections to elevate the voices of residents and not corporations and the wealthy few. We will explore innovative policy reforms and tools for city, county and school officials to expand the voice of residents in local democracy.

- **Councilmember Nick Komives**, Toledo, OH
- **Jon Green**, Senior Advisor for Strategic Initiatives, NYC, Office of the Mayor
- **Delvone Michael**, Senior Political Strategist, Working Families Organization
- **Emma Greenman**, Director of Voting Rights and Democracy, Center for Popular Democracy (Facilitator)

1:00pm – Lunch**Symphony I, II, III Foyer****1:30pm – 3:00pm Plenary: Reclaiming Government by the People****Symphony I, II, III**

Increasingly, powerful actors with economic wealth are concentrating rule-making power and authority in our democracy. This has resulted in, and contributed to, the steady destruction of institutions. We have seen challenges to the efficacy of government agencies, undermining public trust in government and supporting privatization. Attacks on unions and community organizations. The co-optation of our court system. The systematic suppression of the voting rights of low-income communities and communities of color. This is no accident - it is an intentional effort decades in the making. Together, we must fight back against this effort - by organizing and engaging people in the democratic process, by building faith in our government and institutions, and by supporting organizing in our workplaces and our communities.

- **Opening Remarks: Congressman Keith Ellison**, Minnesota
- **Mayor Marita Garrett**, Wilkesburg, PA
- **Ady Barkan**, Founding Director, Local Progress and Campaigner, Center for Popular Democracy
- **Jennifer Epps-Addison**, Network President and Co-Executive Director, Center for Popular Democracy
- **Councilmember Brad Lander**, New York, NY (Facilitator)

3:00pm - 3:30pm Break

3:30pm -5:00pm Breakouts

Policy: Building Power for the 50 Million People in Retail, Care Work, and Hospitality

Conrad A

More than 50 million people work in what is sometimes labeled the service sector of our economy. They check us out at the store. They cook and serve us our food. They care for our families. The majority of people working in these jobs are women and a majority are people of color. They are also much less likely to be members of a union. In order to reverse the historic levels of inequality and wealth disparity in our country, we will need to go beyond policies that raise standards in these industries; we will need to help service workers build organized power to win lasting change and good, family-sustaining jobs. This session will explore several novel strategies to build power for workers in service industries and will provide space to strategize on how to bring those efforts to our localities.

- **Councilmember Teresa Mosqueda**, Seattle, WA
- **Councilmember Elissa Silverman**, Washington, D.C
- **Chelsie Glaubitz Gabiou**, President, Minneapolis Regional Labor Federation, AFL-CIO
- **LaQuita Honeysucker**, Legislative Director, UFCW
- **Raymond Ortiz**, Lead Barista, Fast Food Justice
- **Elizabeth Nicolas**, Staff Attorney for Worker Justice, Center for Popular Democracy (Facilitator)

Policy: Criminal Justice - Moving from Policy Reform to Holistic Transformation

Conrad B

For far too long, and in far too many ways, our criminal legal system has targeted and harmed people of color on both individual and structural levels. Whether in the form of over-policing, state violence, budgetary disinvestment, disparate legal treatment, or mass incarceration, the U.S. justice system has denied our communities the ability to prosper and be safe. Local policy reforms have been effective at making some changes to these systems, but much more is needed. In this session, we will discuss how a range of justice stakeholders, including prosecutors, local elected officials, and those most directly impacted, can transform our criminal justice system. We will examine a broad array of local policies and interventions that can reshape and redefine public safety away from criminalization and towards a vision for secure and thriving communities.

- **Mayor Svante Myrick**, Ithaca, NY
- **Treasurer Tishaura Jones**, St. Louis, MO
- **Commonwealth's Attorney Stephanie Morales**, Portsmouth, VA
- **Kumar Rao**, Senior Staff Attorney for Racial Justice, Center for Popular Democracy (Facilitator)

Governance: Government Budgeting - A Reflection of Your Values

Conrad C

Fiscal management is a key responsibility for elected officials and the budget is the most important financial document as it reflects the priorities of local jurisdictions. Elected officials and progressive leaders in our communities play an important role in their local budget process. This session will help members familiarize themselves with public budgeting as well as the budget development process and policies. Topics will include: the context for budget decisions, what is a budget, basic budget documents, rules of the budget process, the operating budget and the capital budget.

- **Supervisor Cindy Chavez**, Santa Clara County, CA
- **Peter Hamilton**, Chief of Staff for Councilmember Don Rocha, San Jose, CA

Network Strategy Session: Immigrant Rights

Conrad D

The unique moment we face, one in which increasingly hostile anti-immigrant sentiment is rising and reinforced by our federal government, calls for increased creativity from local elected officials to protect immigrant communities. In 2017, Local Progress members organized together to strengthen local immigrant protections in dozens of local governments across the country. This action-oriented conversation will focus on how we can use our collective power in the year to come. We'll cover everything from escalating our demand to #Abolish ICE, advancing policy in our cities and schools, supporting community members and immigration activists who are targeted for deportation, intervening in the increasing workplace and community raids, to shifting messaging and public narrative and using our budgets and more. Join us to design a coordinated strategy to amplify our values and tactics to demonstrate that we will not sit idly by while immigrants are scapegoated and criminalized.

- Facilitated by **Silvia Fabela**, Local Progress Campaigns Director
- **Local Progress Immigrant Rights Steering Committee: Councilmember Helen Gym** (Philadelphia, PA) , **Councilmember Greg Casar** (Austin, TX), **Councilmember Colby Sledge** (Nashville, TN), **President of the Board of Supervisors Dave Cortese** (Santa Clara County, CA).

5:00pm – Closing Reception (Cash Bar)

Conrad Foyer

Sunday, July 15

8:30am – 1:00pm Minnesota Elected Officials Meeting (for MN local elected officials only)

Land Stewardship Project: 821 E. 35th Street #200 Minneapolis, MN 55407

The current environment in the state legislature is hindering the progressive values which Minnesota has lifted historically. On issues ranging from economic justice to racial equity to fighting climate change, cities and counties in this state have consistently been the source for bold policy proposals that have moved the state to be more just and equitable. And cities in Minnesota have a strong track record of working together to push back against state attempts to limit the ability of localities to adopt innovative policies. This meeting of Minnesota elected officials will build on incredible work already happening in the state to connect local elected officials from different regions of the state to one another and help build a shared progressive vision with local labor and community partners. We will work to set the foundation for deeper work in the state and to engage municipal and county officials in pushing for more transformative policies at the state level that will enable municipalities and counties to take power back.