

The American Planning Association-Indiana Chapter (APA-IN) is intensely pained and incensed at the recent killings of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbury, and Dreasion Reed. APA-IN sends their condolences to the families of these victims and stands firmly against the discrimination of the BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color) community.

APA-IN is an organization of planning professionals both in the public and private sector practicing and/or living in Indiana. APA-IN advocates good planning for making great communities. APA-IN stands in solidarity with the BIPOC community and those who are systemically oppressed.

Historically, community planning issues have disproportionately impacted BIPOC communities. Issues such as food systems, education, healthcare, crime, access to recreational amenities, environmental protections, and other planning issues have disenfranchised and systemically oppressed BIPOC communities. It is our responsibility as planners to rectify these historical wrongdoings and create inclusive communities for all.

As a further response to the civil unrest and racial inequalities that plague our communities, APA-IN has developed a Diversity, Equity and Inclusivity Committee (DEI). We want to welcome, Dominique D. Edwards, M.A. as the Chair of the APA-IN DEI Committee. The mission of this committee is to lift the voices of those in marginalized communities, support the BIPOC planning community of APA-IN, and foster the next generation of BIPOC planners practicing and/or living in the state of Indiana. Some actions this committee will work toward are education, racial equity training, youth engagement, additional conference sessions on racial equity and more. We are looking for others to join Dominique as we aim to create and foster a more inclusive atmosphere at APA-IN.

As an organization, we must do more to fight against systemic and institutionalized racism in our communities, offices, and everyday lives. In our profession, we have the opportunity to make change and increase equity and inclusivity in Indiana; let's start today.

Below are resources to explain how racially unjust practices have historically influenced planning and anti-racist strategies to advance equity, diversity, and inclusion in our profession.

American Planning Association - [APA Statement on Righting the Wrongs of Racial Inequality](#)

APA Planning and the Black Community Division - [A PBCD Commitment](#)

APA Food Systems Division - [A Message of Solidarity from the Food Systems Planning Division](#)

Indianapolis Redlining Video - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kX\\_W\\_XRNHJ4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kX_W_XRNHJ4)

APA Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion - <https://planning.org/diversity/>