DENVER REGIONAL EQUITY ATLAS

MAKING THE CASE: EMPOWERING PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES TO ADDRESS A CHANGING REGION

denverregionalequityatlas.org

Rocky Mountain Land Use Institute Conference: March 13, 2015
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PLACES WITH EQUITY ATLASES

As of February 2015


L.A. County

Portland

Denver

New York City

Atlanta
DENVER REGIONAL EQUITY ATLAS 1.0

Released April 2012

Showcase geographic interrelationship between:
- Housing
- Jobs
- Education
- Health
- Transportation Access

Highlight social equity disparities
Tell the story
DENVER’S FASTRACKS
THE OPPORTUNITY & CHALLENGE

- $7.8 billion investment
- 70 new stations
- 45,000 HHs
- 58.1% have less than a bachelors degree
- 40% will earn under 60% AMI

Who Will Benefit?
KEY FINDINGS

1. The region is interdependent.

2. Poverty is a regional issue.

3. New transit service will improve access to opportunity, but gaps will remain.

4. We need affordable housing strategies.

5. This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for the region.
ATLAS 1.0 LIMITATIONS

Jobs

Affordable Housing
Background

The Denver Regional Equity Atlas is a tool to help raise awareness among a wide range of stakeholders about the benefits and opportunities that a robust public transportation network can create. This interactive tool provides users with the ability to create maps that depict the region’s major origins and destinations in relation to the current and future transit network, and also generate reports on demographic, economic, and other data of the region or particular communities. The Atlas emphasizes the need to ensure access to opportunity for everyone in the region, especially improving connections for the region’s most economically disadvantaged residents. The future transit network will better connect people to jobs, healthcare providers, schools, grocery stores, parks and other essential destinations, but there are challenges in ensuring that the people who use and need access to public transportation the most have the opportunity to live, work, learn and play in transit-oriented communities.

The first phase of the Equity Atlas was completed in April 2012 and is available on the Mile High Connects website. This static document captures a snapshot of the region at one point in time (2011). The Equity Atlas is being used by practitioners and community members alike as a tool to explore the relationship between different issue areas (housing, education, jobs and health), guiding investment decisions, grant making and community outreach. The Atlas has received national attention for its innovative approach to visually representing the region’s opportunities and challenges in relation to transit, and several other regions are now considering developing their own equity atlases.

Registered users can view, create, save, and share maps here.
KEY FEATURES

1. Recreate original maps
2. Select specific map layers to display
3. Ability to zoom to a neighborhood scale
4. Select Census tracts or counties for additional statistics
5. Share, embed or print maps
NEIGHBORHOOD SCALE
ADDITIONAL STATISTICS
1. Established formal MOU for stewardship
2. Conducted trainings, including listening and learning from users
3. Outreach to drive people to the site
4. Feedback identified opportunities for enhancements
MOVING FORWARD

1. Launching time series elements/data updates
2. Continue to receive feedback to inform future enhancements
3. Evaluation tool for Mile High Connects and others?
QUESTIONS?

www.denverregionalequityatlas.org
www.drcog.org
www.milehighconnects.org
www.piton.org
www.reconnectingamerica.org

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