



Housing Policy Leadership Academy: Accelerating Inclusive Housing Solutions

Join regional leaders and influencers in learning how to advance policies to produce housing for all.

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Course Overview

The Housing Policy Leadership Academy (HPLA) is an 8-week intensive learning opportunity open to leaders and influencers who want to understand how to advance policy solutions to increase the supply and availability of affordable housing. Offered in a dynamic learning environment, the course brings together people from different backgrounds and disciplines to examine issues and solutions from multiple perspectives and apply their learning to current housing policy challenges.

The course is grounded in the HPLA 5Ps framework, which provides a foundation for examining the physical and social aspects of a healthy housing ecosystem.

HPLA 5Ps FRAMEWORK



“HPLA provided space to have conversations with people who have different perspectives, experiences, and ideas about how to provide more housing. We need more spaces like this where people can talk through issues and reach agreement on how to move forward.”



RODERICK HALL
Former Director of
Organizing, Abundant
Housing LA

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Each week, participants fulfill course learning objectives by taking part in lectures and panels, individual reflection, small and large group discussions, and activities:

- Learn the fundamentals and nuances of housing policy and development.
- Develop a common set of facts and language for discussing your region’s housing supply and affordability crisis.
- Analyze the structural and socioeconomic complexities of the local and regional housing markets.
- Build local networks and shared understanding across sectors.
- Collaborate with peers on a policy-focused group project to be presented during the final class session.

CURRICULUM

- HPLA Foundations and Overview
- Framing the Housing Crisis: Issues and Interconnectivity
- Federal, State, and Local Housing Policy and Planning
- Market Rate Housing Development
- Affordable Housing Development
- What Works to End Homelessness and Why
- Protecting Tenants and Preventing Displacement
- The Path Forward

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Each session runs 3 hours with breaks, and participants should expect to spend 1-2 hours each week on reading, individual reflections, and group projects. Participants must attend a minimum of 6 of the 8 sessions to earn a certificate of completion.



Alumni Experience

“Housing Policy Leadership Academy has made me a more thoughtful decision-maker on housing policy, more aware of available resources, and better informed about the financing hurdles and risks that developers must take when working with government on a project.”



CONSUELO MARTINEZ
Deputy Mayor,
City of Escondido



STEPHANIE PARK
Project Management,
Abode Communities

“HPLA offers a unique opportunity to learn about the building blocks of housing policy while simultaneously hearing on-the-ground perspectives of how policies get implemented, how communities respond, and what changes we can make to improve the housing ecosystem.”

“HPLA is a vital resource for government staff. The quality of the presenters and the knowledge of your cohort means there is always new information to learn, especially in light of the State’s ambitious housing policy agenda. I highly recommend this course to my colleagues in the public sector.”



SETH LITCHNEY
Environmental Policy and
Infrastructure Program
Manager, City of San Diego

Solutions Designed for Scale

PEOPLE



Engaging leaders and influencers from different sectors, roles, and perspectives to ensure housing for all.

PROCESS



Providing an inclusive, structured learning environment that fosters a shared understanding of issues and solutions and opportunities to apply that knowledge to real world situations.

RESULTS



Preparing local leaders and influencers to engage in regional and local planning and advance transformative change at the local, regional, state, and national levels.

Advanced Leadership and Facilitation Training

HPLA also offers leadership opportunities for individuals with prior experience in one or more areas of housing policy. These individuals serve as small group facilitators, guiding peers through discussions and activities during class. Participants will receive one day of additional training in adult learning and facilitation on the following topics:

- Creating Environments for Adult Learning
- Valuing and Sharing Lived Experience
- Basic and Advanced Facilitation Techniques

Small group facilitators will also be expected to spend an additional hour each week preparing for class and debriefing with HPLA faculty.

“HPLA was a transformative experience, providing me the historical, quantitative, and economic foundation to understand housing and homelessness policy. Since graduating, I have regularly referred back to my HPLA lessons in deliberating policy at city council, SCAG, and Tricity Mental Health. This course is an absolute must for anyone serious about the housing space.”



JED LEANO
Mayor Pro Tem for
the City of Claremont



Faculty and Lecturers



JENNIFER LESAR
CEO and Founder, HPLA



CRAIG ADELMAN
Senior Principal, LDC



HELMI HISSERICH
Senior Principal, LDC



GABRIEL SPEYER
Senior Principal, LDC



JESSICA RIPPER
Principal, LDC

Jennifer brings more than three decades in community and real estate development, investment banking, eco-system change management, and organizational strategy to support clients in achieving scalable solutions to address our global housing affordability and homelessness policy challenges.

Craig has 25 years working in community and real estate development, lending, CDFI and government sectors. Prior to joining LDC, he served as Managing Director for the Low Income Investment Fund's SPARCC initiative, and worked for the San Francisco Mayor's Office of Housing, AF Evans Development, and Bank of America.

Helmi is a distinguished leader in housing policy and development with a robust track record of scaling sustainable solutions and aligning the interests of diverse stakeholders. She excels at aligning the interests of advocates, government agencies, philanthropic, and private capital investors.

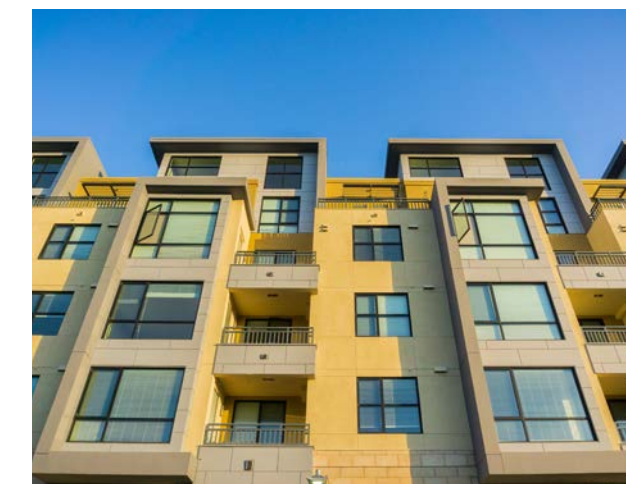
Gabe is a high performing affordable developer overseeing all aspects of numerous new-construction and rehabilitation projects including entitlements, design, finance, construction and lease-up.

Jessica specializes in building bridges across the public, nonprofit, and philanthropic sectors to advance policy and systems change through strategic planning, community outreach and education, and interactive trainings and workshops.

About the Housing Policy Leadership Academy

There are many factors contributing to the housing crisis.

The market is failing to produce housing at prices most people can afford. Increasing land and construction costs, exclusionary zoning and land use regulations, and tight lending standards have stifled the development of middle-income housing. Social, technological, political, and economic trends have resulted in housing costs rising faster than incomes, intensifying concerns that building new housing will displace people from their communities and increase homelessness. Many communities are also grappling with how to address racial inequities and the impacts of climate change. These market and socioeconomic conditions require deeper community interventions to ensure a healthy housing market.



Developing effective solutions requires both a deeper understanding of the barriers to development and robust cross-sector collaboration.

HPLA convenes people with different perspectives to develop a shared understanding of root causes and best practices and provides ongoing support to alumni as they work to eliminate barriers and forge lasting solutions to local and regional housing needs.

Learn more about sponsoring an HPLA in your region or talk with us about developing a customized course for your community or organization by sending an email to info@gpla.co.

Sign up to learn more about upcoming HPLAs in your area at gpla.co.



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