

The Black Community Needs Equitable Economic Development in Miami-Dade County

Signatories

Individuals

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Barron Channer	G. Eric Knowles	H.T. Smith
Jaret L. Davis	Willie Logan	Yolanda Strader
Albert E. Dotson Jr.	Beatrice Louissaint	Carole Ann Taylor
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Ron Frazier	Kevin V. Michael	Katrina Wright

Pastors

Pastor Johnny Barber, Mt. Sinai MBC
Pastor Charles Dinkins, Hosanna Community Baptist
Elder Kenneth Dukes, New Jerusalem PBC
Pastor Richard Dunn, Sr., Faith Community Baptist
Pastor Alfonso Jackson, Jr., New Shiloh MBC
Pastor Alphonso Jackson Sr., Second Baptist MBC
Pastor Theo Johnson, Sweet Home MBC
Rev. Danny Morales, New Covenant Presbyterian Church
Pastor Carol Nash-Lester, Bethel Apostolic Temple
Pastor Benjamin Parrot, Christian Fellowship MBC
Pastor Walter T. Richardson, Retired
Pastor Gaston Smith, Friendship MBC
Pastor R. Joaquin Willis, Koinonia Worship Center & The Collective
Empowerment Group of South FL

Organizations

79th Street Corridor Initiative
Florida State Minority Supplier Development Council
Miami-Dade Chamber of Commerce
OneUnited Bank
Urban League of Greater Miami

Black Americans make up nearly 20% of Miami-Dade County's population, yet we participate in less than 2% of its governmental economic engine.¹ Each day that we are left out of the economic engine, our community gets poorer while others prosper.

Enough is enough.

Black Miamians deserve equitable economic development now.

As we have all become more aware of the racial wealth gap and the need to address social justice, Miami-Dade County and its various cities need to embrace equitable economic development today!

Equitable Economic Development:

- Eliminates barriers and expands opportunities for Black residents and Black owned businesses.
- Creates quality jobs and increases our wealth.
- Provides access to business contracts, job training, career paths, and quality housing.
- Respects or revitalizes, instead of replaces or erodes, Black culture.

To achieve equitable economic development, transformation is needed:

1. From race-blind to race-conscious procurement, supported by a disparity study
2. From "trickle-down" to "trickle-up" community wealth generation
3. From trophy projects to projects that connect the Black community to the regional economy
4. From unreasonably costly deals to attract businesses to growing local and Black-owned businesses
5. From offering any jobs to offering jobs with livable wages for various education levels
6. From prioritizing the attraction of new wealth to giving equal weight to increasing wealth, prosperity, and the living standards of local residents
7. From behind closed-door dealmaking to transparency and public accountability

WE CALL ON: ALL ELECTED OFFICIALS TO SIGN ON TO THE TRANSFORMATION TO EQUITABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND OUTLINE SPECIFIC ACTIONS TO ENSURE THE BLACK COMMUNITY ACHIEVES OUR FULL POTENTIAL. TOGETHER WE CAN WORK TO CLOSE THE RACIAL WEALTH GAP IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY.

1. 2015, Miami-Dade County disparity study