

# ENVISIONING INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES FOR PUBLIC HOUSING: THE HISTORY, STRUGGLES, AND FUTURE



Friday, November 19, 2021

8:00 AM to 1:30 PM

2.50 PDH, LA CES/HSW, AIA/HSW, AICP, FL, NY/HSW

This field session will explore the designs of three urban properties totaling almost 200 acres in Nashville and will include a tour of the recently constructed phases of Cayce Place. The tour will include seeing the neighborhood context and experiencing the Five Points area of East Nashville.



In 2019, through HUD's Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) program, Nashville Metropolitan Development Housing Authority (MDHA) completed the conversion of 5,431 of their total housing units on eighteen properties from HUD-owned to MDHA-owned. MDHA is now able to leverage those assets to transform other properties in its portfolio using the model of mixed-income housing.

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- ☑ Learn about the affordable and low-income housing challenges in this growing city
- ☑ Understand the comprehensive public and resident input process
- ☑ Learn about the infrastructure challenges that impacted the designs
- ☑ Experience Cayce Place firsthand to see how the vision for mixed income in public housing is coming to life in Nashville

## SPEAKERS BIOS

Listed in order of presentation



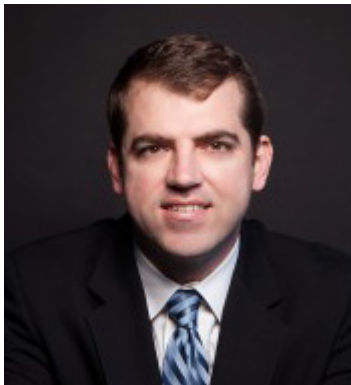
Mary Vavra, PLA, ASLA, AICP  
Senior Landscape Architect/Planner  
Barge Design Solutions

Mary earned her Bachelor's in Landscape Architecture in 1997 from Auburn University and a master's in 2006 from the University of Texas, where she focused on urban design and planning. Her experience includes infill projects, transit-oriented developments, community-wide parks and recreation masterplans, and blueway, greenway, and bikeway masterplans. With each project, she works to incorporate sustainable policies and practices and has a passion for creating places that promote livability. Mary's community involvement includes serving as Mobility Subcommittee Co-chair on Mayor Cooper's Sustainability Advisory Committee.



Alisha Ely, PLA, ASLA,  
Associate  
Kimley-Horn

Alisha has 11 years of experience working with local municipalities across Tennessee on community enhancement projects, specializing in planning and design of parks, greenways, streetscapes, and other important public spaces. Alisha also uses her knowledge of grant funding to assist communities in leveraging dollars to implement their project goals. She serves a wide range of clients and is passionate about enhancing the landscapes in which we live, work, and play. Alisha is a graduate of Ball State University with a bachelor's degree in Landscape Architecture.



Scott Morton, ASLA, LEED AP  
Landscape Architect  
Smith Gee Studio

As a champion for urban design and as an Associate Principal, Scott is involved in all aspects of design across Smith Gee Studio's project portfolio and serves as principal in charge of the firm's urban planning team. Scott's focus has long been on communities and placemaking and helping clients' visions come to life in creative and innovative ways. He has a wide range of project experience from large scale urban development to suburban and conservation design, including both public and private sector work. Scott managed MDHA's Envision Cayce Master Plan and oversaw the LEED for Neighborhood Development (LEED ND) application process for The Gulch and Cummins Station, two of the first LEED ND certified projects in the United States.



Will Marth, ASLA  
Partner  
Hawkins Partners

Will Marth is a skilled Landscape Architect, urban planner, and leader with a focus on environmental quality in the built environment. With over 12 years of experience, Will has made a commitment to bettering the community and the environment in which he resides. His experience is highlighted with large-scale urban design projects, green and complete street designs, and rooftop projects. Will is a strong supporter of alternative and public transportation, and an active participant in Nashville's walking and biking community. Will holds a Bachelor of Landscape Architecture from University of Georgia.

