

City of Bridgeport  
Plan of Conservation and Development  
Stakeholder Interview  
Housing Organizations  
July 24, 2018

**Attendees:**

- Kathy Hunter – Supportive Housing Works
- Raymond Colette – Bridgeport Housing Authority
- Sherylyn Garner – Bridgeport Neighborhood Trust
- Terri Brown – YMCA
- Phoebe Greenfield – Bridgeport Housing Authority

**The statements below are a summary of the opinions expressed by those interviewed. The statements do not necessarily reflect City policy or objective facts.**

The City of Bridgeport has great amenities that are currently undervalued and underdeveloped, such as opportunities for housing stock development that are not sufficiently funded. The city's centralized location and waterfront create a unique environment for convenient, transit-friendly and affordable housing. However, Bridgeport is extremely segregated, and the regional concentration of low-income housing in the city causes the economy to suffer and increases cyclical poverty. The city should increase partnerships with key agencies and invest in schools and youth-focused programs to end the poverty loop and create upward mobility.

**Vision for Bridgeport:**

- Desegregation of neighborhoods
- More youth opportunities and investment in youth-focused programs so they do not end up in loop of poverty and public housing
- Establish a way to increase the tax base without hindering development
- Bridgeport needs to build partnerships throughout the city and market its services and amenities
- Strengthen regional housing system to open areas of opportunities
- City should locate and tax out-of-town landlords
- Establish an effective parking authority
- Establish parkway and gateway plan
- Create a buzzing downtown environment and create foot traffic that will benefit businesses
- Current amenities in Bridgeport can be developed to create a resort or conference destination

