

Promoting Successful Mixed-Income Housing Development
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SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Victor Rubin

Victor Rubin is Vice President for Research at PolicyLink, a national nonprofit institute for policy change. He has been an urban planning researcher, teacher, and consultant for more than 30 years. He is the author of "Retail Development in Changing Neighborhoods: New Markets, New Investments, and the Prospects for Mixed Income, Racially Diverse Populations" a chapter in *Public Housing and the Legacy of Segregation* (2008, Austin, Popkin and Rawlings, editors) and "The Roots of the Urban Greening Movement," a chapter in *Growing Greener Cities: Urban Sustainability in the Twenty-First Century* (2008, Birch and Wachter, eds.) He has also written several recent reports documenting the evolution of efforts across California to improve community health through a focus on the built environment.

Victor joined PolicyLink in 2000 after serving as Director of the HUD Office of University Partnerships. Rubin served as Director of the University-Oakland Metropolitan Forum, a partnership for community revitalization based at the University of California, Berkeley. He is a member of the California Planning Roundtable and was formerly Adjunct Associate Professor of City and Regional Planning at the University of California, Berkeley. His masters and doctorate are in City and Regional Planning from UC Berkeley.

Mark Joseph

Mark Joseph is an Assistant Professor at the Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences at Case Western Reserve University and a Faculty Associate at the Center on Urban Poverty and Community Development. Mark was formerly a Principal with Community Development Associates, a consulting firm based in New York and Chicago, which provides strategic planning and research support to community-based initiatives around the country. He also worked for several years at the Chapin Hall Center for Children at the University of Chicago on research on comprehensive community-based initiatives.

Mark's general research interest is urban poverty and community development. His current research focuses on mixed-income development as a strategy for addressing urban poverty, with particular attention to transforming public housing developments. He received his Ph.D. from the Harris School of Public Policy at the University of Chicago. His undergraduate degree is from Harvard College and he was a Visiting Scholar at Oxford University.

Fred Blackwell

Since August 2007, Fred Blackwell has been Executive Director of the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency (SFRA), where he oversees housing, economic development, and infrastructure investments in the City's eight major project areas. Before joining SFRA, he was the Director of the Mayor's Office of Community Development (MOCD) where he oversaw the City's Community Development Block Program focused on economic and service focused strategies to meet the needs of San Francisco's low-income families and neighborhoods.

Prior to MOCD, Fred was the Director for the Annie E. Casey Foundation's Making Connections Initiative in Oakland, a multi-year, multi-million dollar comprehensive neighborhood revitalization project aimed at improving outcomes for children and families in East Oakland. Before joining the Annie E. Casey Foundation, Fred worked at The San Francisco Foundation, where he was a Fellow in the Foundation's Neighborhood Community Development program, the Urban Strategies Council, an Oakland-based community-building intermediary focused on reducing poverty, Children Now, a statewide child policy and advocacy organization, and the Children's Defense Fund in Washington, D.C. He holds a graduate degree in City Planning from U.C. Berkley and an undergraduate degree in Urban Studies from Morehouse College.