



ZERO WASTE EQUITY LIAISON

Darryl Franklin

NEIGHBORHOOD

North Fairmount

A Word from Darryl Franklin, Zero Waste Equity Liaison

I am Darryl Franklin, Community Liaison with the Green Cincinnati Plan (GCP) on the Zero Waste Focus Group. My time with the GCP has been a unique and eye-opening experience. I have been allowed to peek into the machinations of administrative planning and I can assure you that we are in good hands.

As community liaison I was at first overwhelmed by the new terminology, new faces, and the overall planning environment. It was difficult to relay ideas and proposals to my community due to my elementary understanding of the system and its processes. After attending more focus group meetings than I can count, I realized that GCP had gathered a diverse group of committed people dedicated to addressing our climate and environmental challenges.

My interaction with the Office of Environment and Sustainability (OES) was enjoyable and educational. I met highly efficient and effective public servants who were knowledgeable and professional, but also likeable and friendly. Through these meetings I have encountered many kindred spirits working toward climate resiliency. The data gathering, analyzing, and organizing of information into coherent, and sensible talking points, made for some lively discussions and some consensus.

The emphasis on equity in the process gives the GCP the chance to redefine the equitable distribution of resources to reflect their ability to improve the environmental climate of neighborhoods previously neglected and in the most need of remediation. This is an opportunity to include all the diverse citizenry of our region in this epic challenge.

The “plan,” containing ambitious goals and strategies, can be accomplished using the systematic approach of OES and the GCP. They are gathering and developing the people, tools, and technology necessary to create an inclusive, forward-thinking, motivated workforce, inspired by the many possibilities that lie ahead. Environmental resiliency is more than just an aspirational pursuit. There are measurable steps we can take to help create a clean, livable planet. This is an opportunity for everyone to work together to make the world a better place.

Looking forward,

Darryl Franklin