

**Brandwine/TB, Southern Region**  
*Neighborhood Coalition*

sponsored membership of the  
**BRIDGE**  
FOUNDATION

C O M M U N I T Y

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*Neighborhood Coalition* sponsored membership of the  
**BRIDGE**

COMmUNITY

- *Thank you...* on behalf of  
Brandywine community and myself  
we extend our gratitude in your  
reaching out to engage with the  
Brandywine Community.



COMMUNITY

- Communities are asking for the creation of a Public Participation Policy that includes a Public Engagement Strategy along with a Public Engagement Guide.
- Logos, slogans, and mascots help make memorable “outreach” campaigns mainly driven by Nonprofit Environmental Groups and Big Greens agendas.
- Of all the Agencies in our Title VI settlement only one Agency officially enacted an Environmental Justice Public Participation Policy the PSC making changes within MD COMAR for which there has been much misguided focus.
- (Reference WEJAC 30MAR21\_MtgComments\_FinalRev01a, Link in the Chat).

# COMMUNITY

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COMMUNITY

- Nationally communities which includes Brandywine expect that their State Agencies whom have the legal, and moral authority of duly serve the people with our legislatures whom are to “serve” within there “service” to its constituents whom elected them as public servants.

### Philanthropy Buzz Words

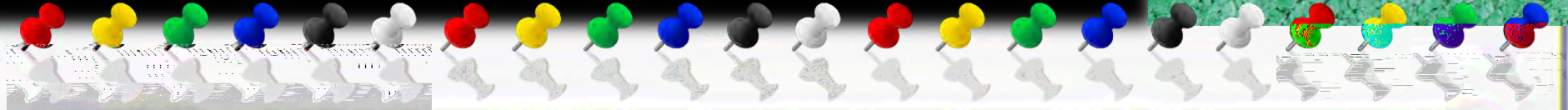
- 1. Outreach = Campaigns
  - 2. Cumulative Impacts
  - 3. Equity
  - 4. Diversity
- You cannot give anyone “Equity”, and we need to be very clear on this! Laws such as the Civil Rights Act of 1964 provide equality, while policies such as affirmative action provide equity.



# COMMUNITY

- 2Bridge CDX as community practitioners our Public Engagement develops and maintains partnerships focused on solutions to challenges facing rural and underserved communities and connects those communities to the education, tools, and resources available to them through programs and initiatives. We facilitate partnerships and offer education and resources to foster hope and opportunity, wealth creation, and asset building in rural and underserved communities.
- Brandywine, MD expects that MDE understand that community fosters a more informed decision-making process, that focuses on the change community members want to see. Not guided by outsiders' agendas.

# COMMUNITY



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COMMUNITY

- Our asks of MDE and CEJSC is that of
  1. **Solution** - Implementing Communities revitalization Programs, ie. Supplemental Environmental Projects
  2. **Work with Communities as lead** and Community practitioner organizations that utilize a range of community bottom-up engagement activities that are community lead bottom-up on how residents are thinking and feeling about their neighborhoods, driven by their Local Registered Community Organizations not top-down "agenda" driven. Community has to trust that a positive difference can be made within their community? Not just complaint in protest, rubble rousing STOP, DON'T etc.





COMMUNITY

- Our asks of MDE and CEJSC is that of facilitating and developing;
  1. A common theme among communities that both promote health and sustainable communities and equitable distribution of benefits for all in being treated fairly and develop and implement actions, laws, regulations and policies that reflect this equity.
  2. Finally, that affected population have a right and afforded the opportunity to participate in the decision-making process from the beginning of the process.



COMMUNITY

- **Healing is a process, one day at a time**, community transforms from one thing to another. All communities, our neighborhoods are starting to open up more. We acknowledge there are problems with working together, and with “all” is key everyone has a place at the table with community as center.
- **2Bridge CDX** advances social equity & economic empowerment by nurturing and creating communities’ opportunities for residents to live in, and actively shape, their neighborhoods by choice through bottom-up civic engagement strategies to support there direction.

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COMmUNITY

• *Thanks for listening...*

Kamita Gray

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