

Chapter One

Official Plan & Legislation Team

- Jeff Cantos, Manager
- Kyle Fearon, Senior Planner
- Liam O'Toole, Planner (Strategic Initiatives)

Confronting Anti-Black Racism

Advisory Committee

February 9, 2024



Questions for Committee

1. Has the draft Chapter 1 language captured or addressed the Committee's mandate of helping to eliminate barriers faced by Black communities?
2. As the City Planning Division continues to review and update the Official Plan, what are the best approaches to keeping connected with Black communities?



Agenda

1. Objective
2. Process to-date
3. Draft Outline
4. Next steps
5. Committee Input



1. MAKING CHOICES

1.1 TORONTO OFFICIAL PLAN – INTRODUCTION

Toronto is a great city! It has evolved into a special place that people are about to design. It is a wonderful city in which to live, offering a diversity and richness of urban life that nurtures creativity, entrepreneurial spirit and a concern for each other and for future generations. Together, these characteristics have shaped a city that attracts people from every corner of the world.

What kind of city will Toronto be in the 21st century?

This is an important question affecting us all. Toronto faces a complex and challenging future and the decisions we make today will shape the kind of city we will live in tomorrow.

This Official Plan is about making the right choices and shaping Toronto's collective future. The Plan is about getting the fundamentals right. It is about having a clear vision for the City – grounded in durable principles that secure a successful future.

Successful cities are key to a healthy future. They are the cities that will attract investment with their high quality of life. As Canada's largest city and Ontario's capital, Toronto's future prospects are of national and provincial significance.

Building a successful Toronto means that we have to make sustainable choices about how we grow. We have to see connections and understand the consequences of our choices. We have to integrate environmental, social and economic perspectives in our decision making. We have to meet the needs of today without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs.

There is no such thing as an isolated or purely local decision. Each of us makes choices every day about where to live, work, play, shop and how to travel. They seem like small choices, but together and over time the consequences of these choices can affect everyone's quality of life. That's why planning matters.

Toronto will grow. Our choice is not whether we grow, but how well we grow. Making Toronto better should always come before making Toronto bigger, but we will get bigger.

This Plan sets its sights on building a consensus around change by painting a picture of the City's future. Building a future for Toronto does not mean changing everything. The Plan's land use designations covering about 75 per cent of the City's geographic area will strengthen the existing character of our neighbourhoods, ravines, valleys and our open space system. These areas are not expected to accommodate much growth, but they will mature and evolve. Most of the new growth



Council's Strategic Plan and the Official Plan

The vision and goal statements in Council's Strategic Plan are the broadest expression of the type of city we envision for the future. The Strategic Plan expresses sustainability as a central concept.

Sustainability is based on three pillars: economic, environmental protection, good governance and the building. The concept of sustainability helps us to broaden our vision by considering economic, environmental and social implications together, rather than seeing a single perspective. It encourages decision making that is long range, democratic, participatory and respectful of all stakeholders.

Sustainability means focusing on long term horizons (such as 30 years ahead) instead of the short term (such as the next term of Council).

Sustainability is not a new concept and in the context of city-building is recognized in the Planning Act, which requires that Official Plans contain "goals, objectives and policies established primarily to increase and enhance the quality of life of the community, and to protect the natural, economic and cultural environment".

This Plan is about creating an attractive and safe city that evokes pride, passion and a sense of belonging – a city where people of all ages and abilities can enjoy a good quality of life. A city with:

- vibrant neighbourhoods that are part of complete communities;
- affordable housing choices that meet the needs of everyone throughout their life;
- attractive, tree-lined streets with shops and housing that are made for walking;
- a comprehensive and high quality affordable transit system that lets people move around the City quickly and conveniently;
- a strong and competitive economy with a vital downtown that creates and sustains well-paid, stable, safe and fulfilling employment opportunities for all Torontonians;
- a healthy natural environment including clean air, soil, energy and water;
- infrastructure and socio-economic systems that are resilient to disruptions and climate change;
- a connected system of natural features and ecological functions that support biodiversity and contribute to civil life;
- green spaces of all sizes and public squares that bring people together;
- a wealth of recreational opportunities that promote health and wellness;
- a nature system that offers wilderness, respite, recreation, beauty and a link to our past;
- a spectacular waterfront that is healthy, diverse, public and beautiful;
- cultural facilities that celebrate the best of city living; and
- beautiful architecture and excellent urban design that astonish and inspire.

Today's Ch. 1 (Making Choices)

1. Introduction

2. Principles for a Successful Toronto

3. Implementing the Plan

4. Organization of the Plan

5. How to Read the Plan

1.2 PRINCIPLES FOR A SUCCESSFUL TORONTO

This Plan is about the basics of successful city-building. Holistic and integrated thinking is a fundamental requirement for planning a modern city like Toronto. Integrated thinking means seeing, understanding and accounting for all the connections as we go about our decision making. Sometimes it means thinking differently about solutions. Always it means searching for outcomes that demonstrate integration, balance and interdependence and that earn social, environmental and economic rewards.

A successful city is one with a competitive advantage over others locally, nationally and internationally. It has a quality of life that will attract and retain people who have capital, skills, knowledge, ingenuity and creativity. A successful city with an enviable quality of life is diverse, equitable and inclusive. It caters to all its human-made and natural beauty; it thrives on making connections and it inspires great leadership and stewardship. Toronto has these attributes now. We will have to consolidate and build on these strengths as we grow. Success will come by seeing new opportunities based on these principles.

A City of Diversity and Opportunity

Toronto is an interesting and cohesive city that offers a dynamic mixture of opportunities for everyone to live, work, learn and play. In nature, diversity is key to our social, cultural and economic life. Diversity is our strength because it means vibrancy, opportunity, inclusiveness and adaptability – it is a fundamental building block for success. To be successful, our future must also be diverse, inclusive and equitable. Our future is one where:

- housing choices are available for all people in their communities at all stages of their lives;
- ecological diversity is conserved and nurtured for future generations;
- multiculturalism is celebrated and cultural diversity supported;
- a variety of jobs is available to people with a range of education and abilities that creates and sustains well-paid, stable, safe and fulfilling employment opportunities for all Torontonians;
- people have equitable access to a range of leisure and recreational opportunities;
- people with special needs are supported to live in their communities;
- public transit is universally accessible and buses and streets are an attractive choice for travel;
- diverse employment areas can adapt to changing economic trends



- and are poised to capture new business opportunities;
- well-being is measured by how well we provide for our children and the most disadvantaged among us;
- no person pays more than they can afford for shelter;
- educational opportunities are available for people of all means and abilities;
- children and youth find their surroundings safe, stimulating and inspiring;
- the elderly can live comfortably and securely;
- people enjoy freedom of conscience and religion and opportunities for such enjoyment are supported;
- adequate amounts of safe, nutritious, culturally acceptable food are available to all; and
- communities are supported by equitable access to opportunities, resources and services.

A City of Beauty

All successful cities astonish with their human-made and natural beauty. People choose to live and businesses choose to invest in beautiful cities. People also want to live in cities that understand their past and push their creative limits. Toronto's future must be one where:

- nature is within easy reach throughout the City;
- the City's waterfront is a vital, healthy and beautiful asset;
- public art graces streets and open spaces;
- heritage buildings and features are conserved, archaeological resources are protected and lost heritage is commemorated;
- the City's natural features are protected, enhanced and restored;
- quality and excellence are hallmarks in the design of public spaces and buildings;
- individuals and communities actively participate in decisions affecting them;
- communities share responsibility for their children and youth;
- innovative implementation solutions are embraced;
- everyone takes responsibility for the natural environment;
- the volunteer sector is thriving;
- people are inspired to become involved in affecting positive change;
- all levels of government recognize their mutual dependence and work together;
- people are engaged and invested in city living and civil life;
- the private sector marshals its resources to help implement public objectives;

A City of Connections

A connected city recognizes that all aspects of our daily lives are linked and that we have to understand relationships and interdependencies to ensure future success. The choices we make about where we live, how we travel, where we work, shop and play all impact on and are affected



by the choices of others. Everything is connected to everything in some way. Toronto's future is one where connections are understood and where:

- we meet the needs of today without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs;
- people understand the environmental, social and economic consequences of their individual choices;
- the City's natural features and watercourses are protected and regenerated, forming a vital and integral part of the urban landscape;
- a connected green space system links our parks and open spaces;
- there is a fast, convenient and high-quality transit system linking areas of housing and employment and also providing access to goods and services, health care, education and recreation;
- mixed use is seen as the best way to "move less";
- City services are delivered efficiently through a growth-supportive infrastructure system; and
- we each think globally and act locally.

A City of Leaders and Stewards

A city of leaders and stewards is fundamental to success. Leadership and stewardship in the successful city are not confined to elected officials, but include everyone, from the volunteer in a grassroots community organization to the CEO of our largest corporation.

Implementation of this Plan needs the participation of all segments and sectors of the City. The City of Toronto cannot do it alone. We need leaders in the public and private sectors with the courage to take risks, develop proactive solutions and then follow through. Great leadership makes it safe to do the right thing – make the hard choices and reap the quality of life rewards. Toronto's future as a city of leaders and stewards is one where:

- individuals and communities actively participate in decisions affecting them;
- communities share responsibility for their children and youth;
- innovative implementation solutions are embraced;
- everyone takes responsibility for the natural environment;
- the volunteer sector is thriving;
- people are inspired to become involved in affecting positive change;
- all levels of government recognize their mutual dependence and work together;
- people are engaged and invested in city living and civil life;
- the private sector marshals its resources to help implement public objectives;

- we are all advocates for a sustainable city-region; and
- the City's capital spending priorities support the growth strategies of this Plan.

1.3 IMPLEMENTING THE PLAN

This Plan is about the big picture. It spells out a clear direction for Toronto. It is the road map to our future, providing the basis for building a city-wide consensus around change. It is about vision and while the details of the Plan's implementation may vary from time to time, the vision and the core principles upon which it is based will remain constant.

Toronto is a big, complex and fully urbanized city. Its future is about re-urbanization and its continuing evolution will involve a myriad of situations and decisions. This Plan provides a general guide but it cannot encompass or even imagine every circumstance. Further implementation plans and strategies dealing with important components of the City are needed to bring the Plan to life. These include: a municipal housing strategy; a transportation strategy; community service and facilities strategies; parkland and watercourse acquisition strategies; to name a few. Some areas of the City identified for growth will also need more detailed guidance than this Plan provides, in which case Secondary Plans, area studies and urban design parameters will be needed.

There are also important implementation linkages to be made outside of the Official Plan. Other City plans and strategies complement the Plan and will help to implement its city-building goals. Council's Strategic Plan is the broader expression of the Plan of the City as it is by Council in the future, serving as a framework document to guide other major initiatives throughout the City. Other plans and strategies, such as the Social Development Strategy, the Economic Development Strategy, the Environmental Plan, the Culture Plan, the Water/Water Management Master Plan, the Senior Citizens Plan, a Public Art Master Plan, the Archaeological Master Plan, the Food and Hunger Action Plan, the Cycling Master Plan, a Pedestrian Master Plan and a Tourism Strategy, are a means to implement the vision in Council's Strategic Plan, but they are also vital to implementing this Official Plan. What is key is that all these plans and strategies inform and support one another and the vision for city-building set out in this Official Plan.

1.4 ORGANIZATION OF THE PLAN

The Plan is organized into seven chapters.

Chapter One articulates a vision for our future and outlines the principles for a successful city upon which the Plan is based.

Chapter Two sets out the urban structure of the City, develops the strategy for directing growth, vision the structure and sets out policies for the management of change, through the integration of land use and transportation.

Chapter Three contains policies to guide decision making based on the Plan's goals for the human, built, economic and natural environments.

Chapter Four contains the land use designations which apply across the City, which together with the land use maps implement the strategy for managing change set out in Chapters Two and Three.

Chapter Five sets out a general approach to implementing the Plan, including the policies to guide local planning in the City.

Chapter Six contains the Secondary Plans.

Chapter Seven contains site and area specific policies.

1.5 HOW TO READ THE PLAN

This is not a conventional Official Plan with individual, stand-alone chapters devoted to specific topics. In successful city-building, "everything is connected to everything" and so it is with the Plan. While the Plan is organized into various chapters, it is a comprehensive and cohesive whole.

The Plan consists of the policies, maps and schedules as indicated in Chapter Five under interpretation of the Plan. The Plan also consists of non-policy textual components (unlimited text and addenda) to make the Plan more accessible and to make the content and intent of the policies more readily understandable. The non-policy textual components are not to be afforded any independent status in interpreting the Plan and it is to be taken as meaning only as an explanation of the policies, maps and schedules. The Plan is an integrated document. For any individual part to be properly understood, the Plan must be read as a whole.

Proposed Ch. 1 Outline

1. Indigenous Planning Perspectives
2. Planning for Toronto's Future
3. Our City's Priorities
4. Our 2051 Vision
5. Our Principles
6. Implementation
 - a. How This Plan Will be Implemented
 - b. How This Plan is Organized
 - c. How To Have Your Say in this Plan

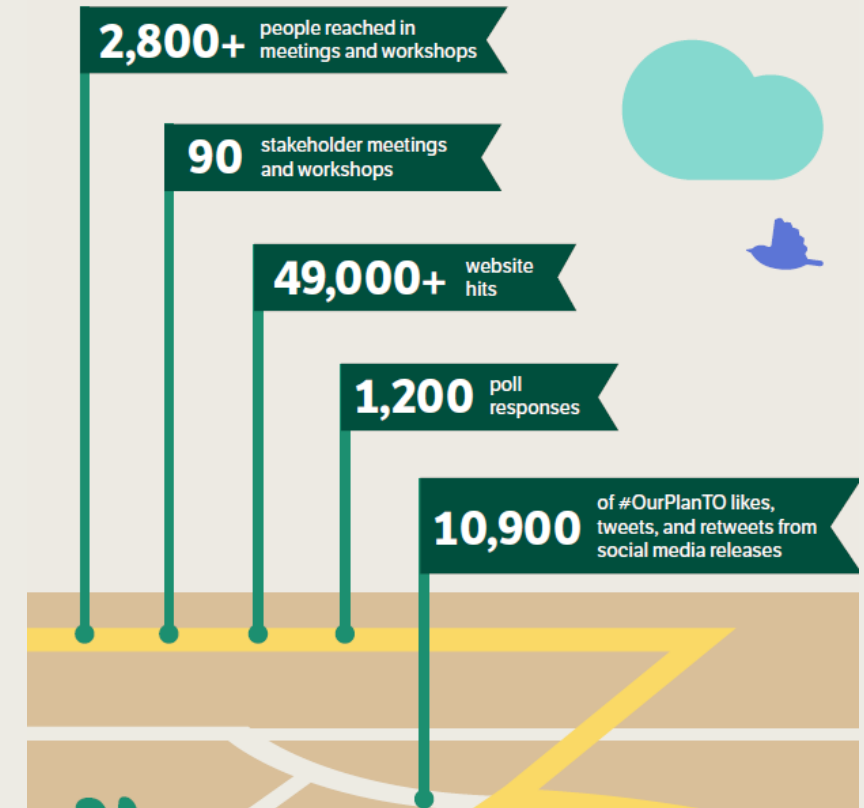


Our Plan – Journey Map

- Chapter 1 review concurrent with MCR
- Applied equity and reconciliation lenses and connected with several groups, including:
 - Community Leaders' Circle (CLC)
 - Accessibility advocates
 - Seniors' roundtables
 - Confronting Anti-Black Racism committees
 - Youth groups
 - Treaty Rights Holders
 - Urban Indigenous organizations and businesses
 - Aambe Circle of Indigenous staff
 - City Committees (standing and special)
 - Businesses, BIAs, other representatives
 - Other municipalities
 - Resident and tenant associations
 - Development industry representatives (BILD)
 - Other Torontonians.



Engagement by the Numbers



Chapter One Components



Indigenous Planning Perspectives

Value Statement: The Official Plan reflects our commitment to reconciliation

- Page one will emphasize
 - Planning together, incorporating Indigenous perspectives and principles
 - The rights of Indigenous communities to self-determination, self-governance, land stewardship, and access to land and water
- **Sidebar:** Land Acknowledgment



Land Acknowledgment

The City of Toronto acknowledges that we are on the traditional territory of many nations including the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnabeg, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee and the Wendat peoples and is now home to many diverse First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples.

Planning for Toronto's Future

Value Statement: The Plan should provide readers clarity on what an official plan is and why it matters

- Our Plan reflects our shared values for the future growth of the City of Toronto
- **Sidebar:** Policy-led planning system



Our City's Priorities

Value Statement: The Plan should clearly articulate the City's priorities, vision and principles for achieving a successful City.

- Advancing reconciliation
- Taking action on climate change and its impacts
- Addressing housing affordability and economic prosperity amid population growth
- Reducing inequities experienced by Torontonians and Indigenous Peoples



Planning Act S.16.1.a

The Official Plan shall contain goals, objectives and policies established primarily to manage and direct physical change and the effects on the social, economic, built and natural environment.

Our 2051 Vision

Value Statement: The City we want in 2051 achieves these goals

- Complete communities that eliminate disparities
- Climate resilience and net-zero emissions
- The most inclusive city in the world



Our 2051 Vision – Eliminate Disparities

Value Statement: Complete communities can help to eliminate disparities for all Torontonians

- The City will plan for complete communities that enable all residents to conveniently access the necessities of daily living, including housing, sustainable transportation, amenities, and community services.
- **Sidebar:** Complete Communities

Complete Communities

Complete communities are neighbourhoods where residents can easily access all the necessities for living. Components of complete communities include places where people can live, work, shop, and access services all without needing a vehicle.



Our 2051 Vision – Climate Action

Value Statement: The City will continue its efforts to be climate resilient and generate net-zero emissions

- The Plan will advance sustainability and climate action by taking measures to reduce emissions by 2040 through integrated land use and transportation planning and investment, such as
 - expanding transit and cycling infrastructure
 - preserving biodiversity
 - prioritizing Indigenous views on land protection



Our 2051 Vision – Inclusive City

Value Statement: Diversity will continue to be Toronto's strength and requires intentional planning to remain so

- The Plan will provide and identify opportunities and universal accessibility for Torontonians, regardless of their age, ability, or circumstances
- **Sidebar:** Inclusive planning
- **Sidebar:** Universal accessibility

Inclusive planning

An approach that recognizes and accommodates the differences among individuals' circumstances and backgrounds.

Universal accessibility

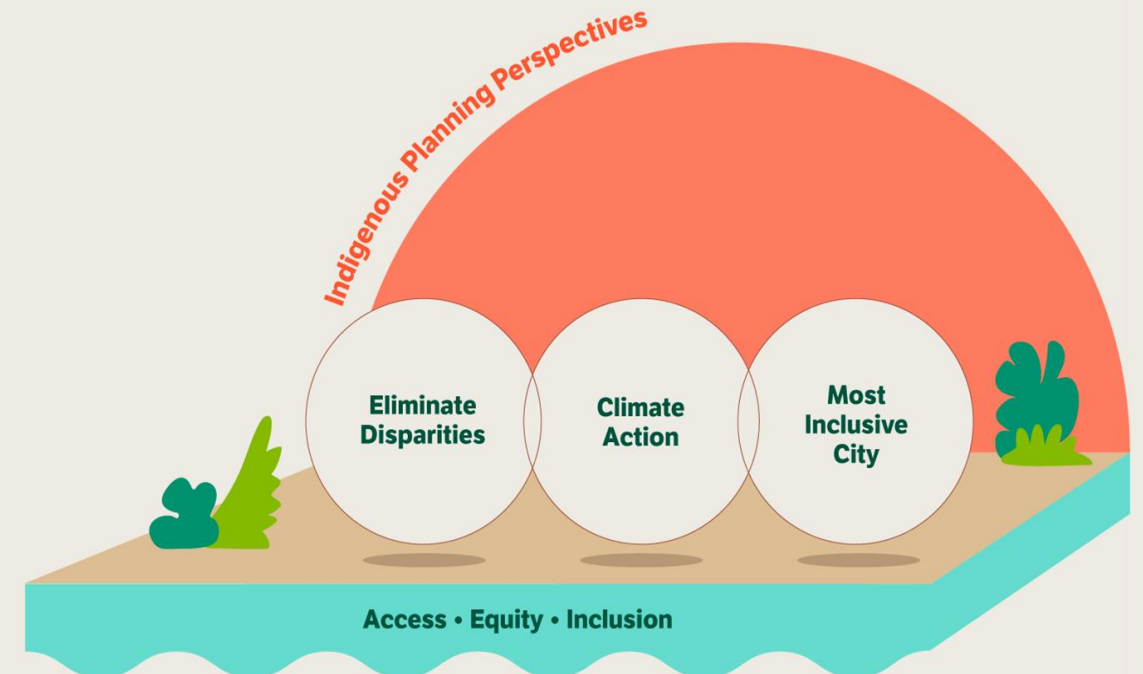
An important consideration in all land use planning matters that ensures all individuals – of all ages and abilities – can access daily needs safely with independence and spontaneity.



Our Principles

Value Statement: Applying these four principles to land use planning will help us address our priorities and pursue our vision as a city

1. Reconciliation
2. Access
3. Equity
4. Inclusion



Our Principles - Reconciliation

Value Statement: Reconciliation in land use planning is about repairing relationships and partnering with Indigenous groups

- The Plan will seek to:
 - be developed and reviewed with recognition for the inherent rights of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Peoples to be self-determining and self-governing
 - support and foster meaningful and early engagement, co-development, partnership, respect, and reciprocity with Indigenous communities
 - take steps to move beyond land acknowledgements and toward tangible and meaningful action
- **Sidebar:** Reconciliation Action Plan



Reconciliation Action Plan

Toronto's first Reconciliation Action Plan will guide its actions to advance truth, justice and reconciliation from 2022 to 2032. It builds on the City's existing commitments to Indigenous Peoples and takes them even further through 28 meaningful actions across five themes:

- Actions to restore truth
- Actions to right relations and share power
- Actions for justice
- Actions to make financial reparations
- Actions for the Indigenous Affairs Office

Our Principles - Access

Value Statement: Everyone should have access to what they need to flourish in their day-to-day lives

- The Plan will help ensure that land use decisions enable everyone (regardless of age, income, ability, ethnicity, gender, or any other attribute) to have access to:
 - affordable housing among a range of types, forms, and tenures
 - public amenities like transit, parks, and community services
 - private amenities like grocery stores; and
 - employment and educational opportunities
- **Sidebar:** Planning for Seniors



Planning for Seniors

Designing for the needs of our most vulnerable residents ensures that everyone's needs are met. Through this plan, seniors should be enabled to age in place, independently access services, and maintain an active and engaged lifestyle.

Our Principles - Equity

Value Statement: It is important to address inequities that create barriers for Toronto's most marginalized and vulnerable residents

- The Plan will help ensure that:
 - decisions prioritize equity and that equity is not static and will evolve over time
 - services are equitably distributed and accessible throughout the city, particularly for the most vulnerable
 - the positive impacts of growth and development are shared equitably; and
 - new investments are focused on traditionally under-funded communities.
- **Sidebar:** Removing Systemic Barriers for Indigenous and Black Torontonians



Removing Systemic Barriers for Indigenous and Black Torontonians

Not all populations experience inequality in the same way due to bias. Through this plan, communities should be designed to target removal of systemic barriers to improve the lives of Indigenous Peoples and Black people and benefiting all equity-deserving groups and Torontonians.

Our Principles - Inclusion

Value Statement: Social cohesion is about creating a safe and inclusive city for all Torontonians and those yet to arrive

- The Plan will help ensure that:
 - all Torontonians have a voice in how our city changes and be actively encouraged to engage in the land use planning process
 - all neighbourhoods are welcoming of everyone; and
 - everyone feels safe to walk, cycle, and take transit throughout our city



Implementation

Value Statement: The Plan's policies, Secondary Plans and SASPs and other implementing planning instruments (Zoning By-laws, CPPS, others) will guide future growth while applying the Chapter 1 priorities, vision, and principles.

- Chapter 1 will provide further guidance for readers, including a call-to-action for continued engagement in planning the City's future
 1. How This Plan Will be Implemented
 2. How This Plan is Organized
 3. How To Have Your Say in Implementing this Plan



Next Steps

1. **First Quarter 2024:** Writer + Editor to finalize draft Chapter 1
 2. **First Quarter 2024:** Committee Presentations
 - CABRAC
 - Accessibility Advisory
 - Indigenous Affairs Office
 - 2SLGBTQ+
- April/May 2024:** Final Report to PHC



Questions for Committee

1. Has the draft Chapter 1 language captured or addressed the Committee's mandate of helping to eliminate barriers faced by Black communities?
2. As the City Planning Division continues to review and update the Official Plan, what are the best approaches to keeping connected with Black communities?



Thank you

