

# Civic Commons Studio #8: Public Space as a Solution

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**October 24-26, 2023**  
Lexington, KY

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*Civic Commons Studio #8 was made possible through support from:*



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## October 24

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6:30 – 8:15 am

*(optional)*

### Exploring Keeneland

Transportation generously provided  
by Lextran.

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Lexington Marriott City Center  
121 West Vine Street  
Lexington, KY

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8:00 – 10:00 am

### Registration

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Kentucky Theatre  
214 East Main Street  
Lexington, KY

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10:00 – 10:15 am

### Welcome & Stage Setting

Bridget Marquis

REIMAGINING THE CIVIC COMMONS | US ADVISORS

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10:15 – 11:15 am

### City Shares

George Abbott

MEMPHIS RIVER PARKS PARTNERSHIP

Paul Bauknight

THE CENTER FOR TRANSFORMATIVE URBAN DESIGN

Lula Defersha

FAIRMOUNT PARK CONSERVANCY

Wade Johnston

TRI-STATE TRAILS

Tonja Khabir

JONES CAFE

Lisa Martinez

L.M. GENUINE SOLUTIONS

Caitlin Murphy

LIVE6 ALLIANCE

Joe Myers

CAMDEN COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

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Dan Rice

OHIO & ERIE CANALWAY COALITION

Kevin Roche

FAIRMOUNT PARK CONSERVANCY

Jason Su

QUADALUPE RIVER PARK CONSERVANCY

Rachel Umana

BIKE WALK MACON

Taqee Vernon

LIVE6 ALLIANCE

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11:15 – 11:35 am

### Introducing Lexington

Lisa Adkins

BLUE GRASS COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Brandi Peacher

LEXINGTON-FAYETTE URBAN COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Richard Young

CIVICLEX

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11:35 am – 12:05 pm

### Pilot as Process

### Splash! at Charles Young Park

Lisa Adkins

BLUE GRASS COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Ethan Howard

TOWN BRANCH PARK

Jill Wilson

LEXINGTON-FAYETTE URBAN COUNTY GOVERNMENT

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*Moderated by*

Lilly Weinberg

JOHN S. AND JAMES L. KNIGHT FOUNDATION

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12:05 – 12:30 pm

### Walk the Town

### Branch Commons

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**October 24** *(continued)*

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Charles Young Park  
215 Midland Avenue  
Lexington, KY

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12:30 – 1:15 pm

**Lunch**

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1:15 – 3:30 pm

**Lexington Walking Workshops**

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**A Downtown for All:  
Parks & Public Spaces**

*Historic Fayette County  
Courthouse Revitalization*

Mary Quinn Ramer  
VISITILEX

Jenifer Wuorenmaa  
LEXINGTON-FAYETTE URBAN COUNTY GOVERNMENT

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*Northeastern Park*

Michelle Kosieniak  
LEXINGTON-FAYETTE URBAN COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Brandi Peacher  
LEXINGTON-FAYETTE URBAN COUNTY GOVERNMENT

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*Phoenix Park*

Anne Donworth  
LEXINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Ramona Fry  
ELEMENT DESIGN

Council Member Hannah LeGris  
LEXINGTON-FAYETTE URBAN COUNTY GOVERNMENT

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*Tandy Park &  
Take Back Cheapside*

Council Member James Brown  
LEXINGTON-FAYETTE URBAN COUNTY GOVERNMENT

DeBraun Thomas  
TAKE BACK CHEAPSIDE

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*Town Branch Park*

Allison Lankford  
TOWN BRANCH PARK

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**East End: Equitable  
Neighborhood Development**

*Artist Studio, Loft & Gallery*

Ken Burney  
ARTIST

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*Community Development in  
the East End: The MET*

Phil Holoubek  
LEXINGTON'S REAL ESTATE COMPANY

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*Isaac Murphy Memorial Art  
Garden & Legacy Trail*

Adrienne Thakur  
LEXINGTON-FAYETTE URBAN COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Scott Thompson  
LEXINGTON AREA METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

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*Northeastern Park*

Michelle Kosieniak  
LEXINGTON-FAYETTE URBAN COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Brandi Peacher  
LEXINGTON-FAYETTE URBAN COUNTY GOVERNMENT

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*The Artists' Village*

Mark Johnson  
ART INC. KENTUCKY | COMMUNITY VENTURES

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3:30 – 5:00 pm

**Afternoon Break**

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**October 24** *(continued)*

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The Cornerstone at  
University of Kentucky  
401 South Limestone  
Lexington, KY

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5:00 – 6:30 pm

**Gather: Evening Reception**

Heavy hors d'oeuvres, wine, beer and  
live local music.

**Mayor Linda Gorton**

LEXINGTON-FAYETTE URBAN COUNTY GOVERNMENT

*With performance by*

**Ben Lacy**

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Gatton Student Center at  
University of Kentucky  
160 Avenue of Champions  
Lexington, KY

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6:30 – 8:30 pm

**The Color of Law and Just  
Action: An Evening with  
the Authors**

Public lecture hosted by Blue Grass  
Community Foundation and University  
of Kentucky.

**Leah Rothstein**

AUTHOR OF JUST ACTION

**Richard Rothstein**

AUTHOR OF THE COLOR OF LAW AND JUST ACTION

*Moderated by*

**Renee Shaw**

KENTUCKY EDUCATION TELEVISION



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## October 25

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Lyric Theatre &  
Cultural Arts Center  
300 East 3rd Street  
Lexington, KY

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8:30 am

### Breakfast

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9:00 – 10:00 am

### Civic Infrastructure for Democracy

Danielle Allen  
PARTNERS IN DEMOCRACY

*Moderated by*

Richard Young  
CIVICLEX

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10:15 – 11:15 am

### Breakout Discussions

*Changing Operations: Creative  
Funding Strategies*

Susan Dalton  
INNOVATE MEMPHIS

Demetrius Lambert-Falconer  
SUMMIT METRO PARKS

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*New Funding Models: Leveraging  
Federal Opportunities*

Bridget Marquis  
REIMAGINING THE CIVIC COMMONS | US ADVISORS

Joe Myers  
CAMDEN COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

Kevin Roche  
FAIRMOUNT PARK CONSERVANCY

*Place Driving Equity:  
Value Capture*

George Abbott  
MEMPHIS RIVER PARKS PARTNERSHIP

Paul Bauknight  
THE CENTER FOR TRANSFORMATIVE URBAN DESIGN

Erin Keller  
NEWTOWN MACON

Jermaine Ruffin  
INVEST DETROIT

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*Robust Engagement:  
Demystifying Local Government*

Jamal Boddie  
BLOOM

Megan Gulla  
CIVICLEX

Dan Rice  
OHIO & ERIE CANALWAY COALITION

Christine Smith  
SEEDLEAF

Adrienne Thakur  
LEXINGTON-FAYETTE URBAN COUNTY GOVERNMENT

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*Storytelling: Strategic Op-Eds*

Leslie Carlson  
IN COMMON AGENCY

Kyle Kutuchief  
JOHN S. AND JAMES L. KNIGHT FOUNDATION

Roger Riddle  
ROGER RIDDLE CONSULTING LIMITED

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11:15 am – noon

### Bus Tour: The Urban Rural Connection

Hal Baillie  
LEXINGTON-FAYETTE URBAN COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Valerie Friedmann  
LEXINGTON-FAYETTE URBAN COUNTY GOVERNMENT

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**October 25** *(continued)*

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Kentucky Horse Park  
4089 Iron Works Parkway  
Lexington, KY

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Noon – 12:45 pm

**Lunch**

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12:45 – 1:30 pm

**Policy and the Public Realm  
A Conversation**

Council Member James Brown  
LEXINGTON-FAYETTE URBAN COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Council Member &  
Vice Mayor Dan Wu  
LEXINGTON-FAYETTE URBAN COUNTY GOVERNMENT

*Moderated by*

Mary Quinn Ramer  
VISITLEX

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1:30 – 4:30 pm

**Explorations: Public  
Space Outings**

*Art & Culture Walk in  
Downtown Lexington*

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*Bike the Legacy Trail*

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*Experience Nature in the  
City at Hisle Farm & Seedleaf  
Community Garden*

*Explore Historic Lexington  
at Ashland, Woodland Park &  
Kentucky Native Cafe*

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*Hike & Refresh at McConnell  
Springs & the Distillery District*

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4:30 – 6:00 pm

**Afternoon Break**

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Pam Miller Downtown Arts Center  
141 East Main Street  
Lexington, KY

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6:00 – 8:30 pm

**Cocktail-Style Dinner**

Heavy hors d'oeuvres, wine and beer,  
music and dance.

Commissioner Chris Ford  
LEXINGTON-FAYETTE URBAN COUNTY GOVERNMENT

*With performances by:*

Blackbird Dance Theatre  
DJ Sly

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**October 26**

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Limestone Hall  
215 West Main Street  
Lexington, KY

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8:30 am  
**Breakfast**

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9:00 – 9:15 am  
**Morning Reflections**

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9:15 – 10:30 am  
**Climate Justice Through  
the Public Realm**

*Introduction by*

Secretary Jim Gray  
KENTUCKY TRANSPORTATION CABINET

Kate Orff  
SCAPE

Chante Harris  
CLIMATE TECH OPERATOR & INVESTOR

Ron Harris  
RESILIENT CITIES NETWORK

*Moderated by*

Valerie Friedmann  
LEXINGTON-FAYETTE URBAN COUNTY GOVERNMENT

10:30 – 11:00 am  
**Morning Break**

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11:00 am – Noon  
**City to City Interviews**

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Noon – 12:45 pm  
**Insights to Take Home**

*Moderated by*

Bridget Marquis  
REIMAGINING THE CIVIC COMMONS | U3 ADVISORS

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12:45 – 2:00 pm  
**Lunch & Team Conversations**

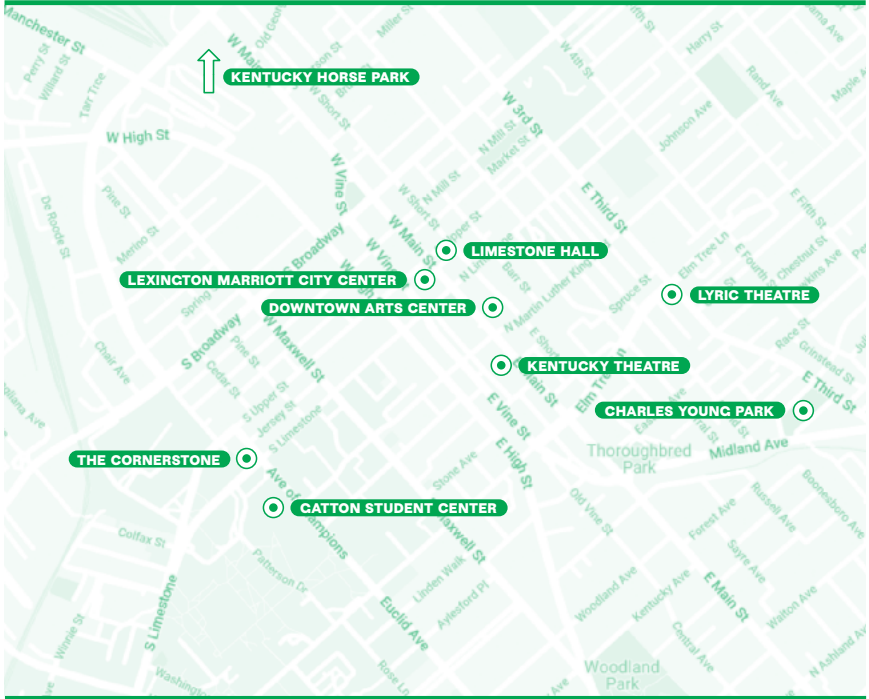




Host Hotel:

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