



Summit on Housing and Conservation

February 1, 2023 9:00am - 3:30pm

The Lyceum - 227 Lawrence Street, Hartford, CT 06106

8:45: Registration Opens

- Coffee, tea, and light refreshments available

9:10 - 9:30: Opening Remarks

- Aaron Lefland, Deputy Director, Connecticut Land Conservation Council
- Jen Plowden, New England Program Manager, Land Trust Alliance
- Forrest Cortes, Director of Community Conservation, Land Trust Alliance

9:30 - 10:30: Keynote

With the participation of five affordable housing nonprofits and five land conservation organizations, **Steve Rosenberg** and **Rebecca Crimmins** are leading a collaboration-based regional strategy in the Hudson Valley. Together, the ten groups aim to build trust, identify their shared values, map areas with the greatest opportunity for collaboration, and develop policy recommendations. This project has the potential to become a launching pad for cross-sector collaboration, de-siloed policies and funding, and more mutual support.

10:30 - 10:45: Break

10:45 - 11:45: Policy Panel

Hear from advocates and policy leaders in both the conservation and housing sectors about current agendas and future policy goals. The panel will also explore opportunities to develop policies that promote both interests and include a shared vision of land use in Connecticut.

- *Facilitator:* Maryam Elahi, President & CEO, Community Foundation for Eastern CT
- Sean Ghio, Senior Policy Advisor, Partnership for Strong Communities
Partnership for Strong Communities promotes equitable change in Connecticut housing policy by coordinating advocacy, advancing research, and uniting diverse partners.
- Pete Harrison, Director, Desegregate CT
Desegregate CT is a Pro-Homes coalition of neighbors and nonprofits advocating for better local and state land use policies to make every community in CT more prosperous, equitable, and sustainable.
- Amy Paterson, Executive Director, CT Land Conservation Council
Connecticut Land Conservation Council elevates and strengthens land conservation in Connecticut.
- Denise Savageau, President, Connecticut Association of Conservation Districts
Connecticut's Conservation Districts are local non-profit organizations that serve municipalities and residents by providing technical services and education.

11:45 - 12:30: Primer on Affordable Housing Projects

How are affordable housing projects selected? How are they funded? What nonprofits are working on affordable housing issues in your community? Who should a land trust contact if they are interested in collaboration? Learn about the nuts and bolts of affordable housing projects and the nonprofits and community groups that are working in this arena.

- Presented by Jim Horan, Connecticut Office Director, Local Initiatives Support Corporation
Local Support Initiatives Corporation works with residents and partners to forge resilient and inclusive communities of opportunity across America.

12:30 - 1:15: Lunch

1:15 - 2:00: Overview of Conservation/Housing Collaborations

With the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, **David Hindin** and **Katie Michels** have been investigating collaborative ventures between conservation and housing organizations from across the nation. What are different examples of collaboration, why did they originate, and what lessons can they offer for future collaborative efforts? Their presentation will illustrate the different ways these partnerships form, the varying ways collaboration can be manifested, and ideas for sustaining future collaborative efforts grounded in principles of intentional relationship building, justice, and climate resilience.

2:00 - 2:10: Break

2:10 - 3:00: Panel Discussion about Conservation/Housing Collaborations in CT

Learn about existing and emerging conservation/housing collaborations in CT, and explore ideas that land trusts can bring home.

- *Facilitator:* Judy Anderson, Community Consultants
- Jocelyn Ayer, Director, Litchfield County Center for Housing Opportunity, The Housing Collective
Litchfield County Center for Housing Opportunity facilitates a coordinated, regional response to address housing affordability in Litchfield County, aligning and delivering critical resources, data, and technical assistance to municipalities and non-profit housing organizations.
- David Bingham, President, Salem Land Trust
Salem Land Trust is dedicated to conserving for future generations the area's beauty, rural character and natural diversity.
- Joanne Sheehan, President, Southeastern CT Community Land Trust
Southeastern Connecticut Community Land Trust holds land for the development and stewardship of permanently affordable housing for low-income individuals and families, land for community gardens, green space, and facilities for community organizations.

3:00 - 3:25: Insights, Questions, and Next Steps

Following the panel discussion, Judy Anderson will lead small group discussions and facilitate questions/answers with our panelists. Attendees will have the opportunity to reflect on the day, share what they learned, and consider the road ahead.

3:25 - 3:30: Closing Remarks