

# IMAGINEAUSTON

2024 and Beyond



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# Overview/History

- The Imagine Austin Speaker Series is,
  - *an opportunity to promote and implement the Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan through shared dialogue and mutual learning. We invite targeted thought leaders from around the nation to give talks on various subjects to promote and implement the vision and policies set forth in Imagine Austin.*
- 48 speaking events since 2012!
- Nearly 6,000 people in attendance between in person and virtual events
- Archive of past speakers:  
<https://www.austintexas.gov/department/imagine-austin-speaker-series>



Planning Officer Erica Leak with Speaker Karen Chapple at IASS#32

# Where We're Heading

- *Update will have the lens of Equity, Resiliency, and Sustainability; want future speakers to tie into this work.*
- *Current events and topics on which Council/the City are focused over the next ~year*
- *Concurrence with other events in town where speakers may already be presenting.*



Former COA Demographer, Ryan Robinson, presents at IASS #37.

Potential Speakers	Topics/Themes
<a href="#">Sara Bronin</a> - Architect, attorney, professor, and policymaker currently on leave from her position as a Professor at Cornell University College of Architecture, Art, and Planning to serve as the 12th Chair of the federal Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.	<p>Her interdisciplinary work focuses on how law and policy can foster more equitable, sustainable, well-designed, and connected places.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Land Use Policy/Equity/Historic Preservation</li> </ul>
<a href="#">K Baja</a> - The Director of Direct Support & Innovation for the Urban Sustainability Directors Network (USDN). Responsible for identifying, leading, and supporting innovative projects and trainings that actively transform local government processes and lead to proactive respect-based change.	<p>Background in Climate and Resiliency Planning for the City of Baltimore and USDN. Provides direct support to local governments and community-based organizations interested in developing Resilience Hubs in their communities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Resilience/Equity</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Julian Agyeman Ph.D. FRSA FRGS</a> is a Professor of Urban and Environmental Policy and Planning, and is the Fletcher Professor of Rhetoric and Debate, an endowed chair at Tufts University.	<p>Originator of the concept of '<i>just sustainabilities</i>,' which explores the intersecting goals of social justice and environmental sustainability, defined as '<i>the need to ensure a better quality of life for all, now and into the future, in a just and equitable manner, whilst living within the limits of supporting ecosystems.</i>'</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sustainability/Equity</li> </ul>
<a href="#">Veronica O. Davis</a> – Director of Transportation & Drainage Operations for the City of Houston. Co-founded Nspiregreen LLC, an environmental and urban planning consulting company. Recently appointed to the federal Advisory Committee on Transportation Equity (ACTE).	<p>Ms. Davis shines a light on the inequitable and often destructive practice of transportation planning and engineering and calls for new thinking and more diverse leadership to create transportation networks that connect people to jobs, education, opportunities, and to each other.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sustainability/Equity</li> </ul>
Panel of Comprehensive Planners from Denver, Raleigh, and Washington DC	<p>Understanding the approaches to Comprehensive Planning in 'peer' cities. Digging into Growth Concept Maps and Future Land/Future Places Use Maps.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sustainability/Equity</li> </ul>
City of Austin Staff from Watershed Protection and Parks and Recreation	<p>Onion Creek Metropolitan Park outing around flood buyouts &amp; waterway conservation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Resiliency</li> </ul>

# Thank You

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## References

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- <https://www.usdn.org/usdn-staff.html>
- <https://julianagyeman.com/>