

Southeastern Pennsylvania First Suburbs Project

www.sepafsp.org

For the past two years, clergy, municipal and elected officials, and other community leaders have been working to improve policies and practices that will lead to the revitalization of older, developed communities – or “first suburbs” – in Bucks, Chester, Delaware, and Montgomery Counties. The Southeastern Pennsylvania First Suburbs Project works specifically to combat some of the region’s most pressing issues – aging infrastructure, unfair housing policies, and inequitable education finance policies – all issues that hinder our communities’ ability to compete and to prosper.

As the First Suburbs Project continues to make important gains on these issue areas by organizing community leaders and building relationships with elected officials, there is a national spotlight being cast on the impact of the very same issues we experience in our region.

A new, two-part documentary, called ***The New Metropolis***, is highlighting the fact that these issues do not just occur here in our region, but also in older suburbs throughout the United States. Filmmaker Andrea Torrice’s account of the rise and fall of the nation’s older, developed first suburbs is composed of two episodes: *A Crack in the Pavement: Rebuilding America’s First Suburbs*; and *The New Neighbors: How One Town Created a Vibrant, Integrated Suburb*. The complete series will be aired on public broadcasting station WHYI beginning in September.

You are invited to join us and other community leaders and stakeholders for a special advance viewing of excerpts from both episodes of ***The New Metropolis***. The viewing will be followed by a strategy discussion of how, given what we know of our work in the first suburbs and what we learned from the documentary, we can work together to build power and influence policies that will restore equity and prosperity to our communities.

When: Sunday, July 12, 7:00 pm

Where: 20th Century Club, 84 South Lansdowne Avenue, Lansdowne, PA 19050

Register now by emailing FirstSuburbsProject@gmail.com. Seating is limited. There is a \$15 suggested donation, payable at the door.

We hope you’ll join us on Sunday, July 12, for the sneak preview of this powerful film and for the discussion that will follow.

Mayor Jayne Young
Borough of Lansdowne

Jacquelyn Puriefoy-Brinkley
Yeadon Borough Council

Rev. David Eckert
Drexel Hill United Methodist Church

The Southeastern Pennsylvania First Suburbs Project is a regional coalition of community leaders from developed suburbs that have joined together to harness their communities' power by directly engaging citizens to affect policies and practices that will lead to the stabilization and revitalization of their communities.