



BERKELEY PROGRAM ON HOUSING AND URBAN POLICY

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John M. Quigley  
I. Donald Turner Distinguished Professor

March 11, 2005

Dear Colleague:

Welcome to "Housing and Cities: Mastering New Challenges," our Sixth Annual Berkeley Conference on Housing and Urban Policy. This annual conference honors the memory of Don Turner, who was a leader in promoting housing opportunities for all citizens, especially those most in need.

Today's conference examines the role of cities in housing policy. What, if anything, can local governments do? Mayor Gavin Newsom of San Francisco, our keynote speaker, will describe current challenges facing his city, from chronic homelessness to the affordability problems of working families. After Mayor Newsom presents his multifaceted approach toward overcoming these challenges, our panel of experts and leaders in the field places the Mayor's remarks into a broader perspective, from the vantage points of regional development, state planning and politics, and federal housing programs.

Later panels address two important and timely features of current housing policy. Major reforms to the Section 8 voucher program are under consideration in Washington: can we distill lessons from the welfare-reform experience to guide us? After lunch, we will consider issues of fairness in housing markets and in mortgage lending. We are delighted to have the new dean of Berkeley's Boalt Hall School of Law, Christopher Edley, Jr., on hand to moderate this discussion. As always, we encourage you to interact with the moderators and panelists to make the conference an enlightening and valuable experience.

The Berkeley Program on Housing and Urban Policy was established in 1999 to promote academic excellence and national leadership in housing studies and the application of knowledge to urban policy. We involve academic and professional leaders on campus and around the world to further our research and educational objectives. The Program supports economic research and teaching throughout the campus on urban development and policy.

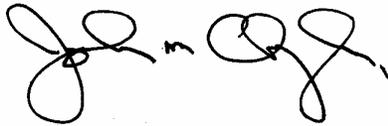
Our website, <http://urbanpolicy.berkeley.edu>, provides an overview of what we do. It's a clearinghouse for Berkeley students looking for courses on urban issues, taught by various departments. It lists some eighty working papers and publications on topics such as housing affordability, immigration and rents, tax policies, and the mortgage market for low income households. We hope you'll take a look.

Please take a moment at the end of the conference to complete the survey provided in your conference materials. We want to make future events as useful as we can to professionals involved in the design of housing policy, the delivery of housing services, and the local and national governance of urban areas.

Please use our email address ([housing@haas.berkeley.edu](mailto:housing@haas.berkeley.edu)) to communicate with us directly about your conference experience, topics and speakers we might include in the future, and any other matter you wish to bring to our attention.

Again, welcome to the conference.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John M. Quigley'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'J' and 'Q'.

John M. Quigley  
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