“California’s Housing Crisis: Policies for a More Affordable, Equitable, and Sustainable Housing Future”

Wednesday, November 9th
12:00 - 1:00pm

California faces a housing crisis of extraordinary scale and complexity. High rents and home prices—coupled with the lingering impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic—are contributing to housing insecurity, high rates of homelessness, and deepening racial inequality. The politics of housing in the state can also feel intractable: cities continue to rely on exclusionary zoning tactics to thwart new supply, while developers, labor unions, NIMBYs, YIMBYs, environmentalists, and tenant advocates all stake out conflicting positions of what is needed to increase affordability and sustainability. This presentation will review the origins of California’s housing crisis, its implications, and lift up the policies that will be needed to chart a course to improved affordability, greater household stability, increased racial equity, and reduced homelessness across the state.

Dr. Carolina K. Reid is the I. Donald Terner Distinguished Professor in Affordable Housing and Urban Policy in the Department of City and Regional Planning at the University of California at Berkeley. Professor Reid specializes in housing and community development, with a specific focus on access to credit, housing and mortgage markets, urban poverty, and racial inequality. Dr. Reid’s work seeks to inform state and federal policy, and she has consulted on projects for state and federal agencies. Professor Reid’s scholarship has been covered in national and international media, including The New York Times, the Wall Street Journal, and National Public Radio. Before joining the faculty at UC Berkeley, Dr. Reid worked at the Center for Responsible Lending, and as a Research Manager for the Community Development Department at the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco for six years, where, Professor Reid published numerous journal and policy articles on topics related to housing and community development.