

# Are We Ready for the Next Crisis?

## Scenario Planning for the Future of the CLT Movement

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# Workshop Goals

- Share and discuss a framework for imagining future scenarios and the openings they could create for radically expanding community owned housing.
- Brainstorm the capacities, resources, plans and other elements that would allow the community stewardship movement to be ready to take advantage of sudden opportunities.

# Agenda for Today

1. Welcome and Overview
2. Framework and Questions
3. Example of a Scenario Analysis
4. Solo Reflection
5. Small Group Discussions
6. Full Group Discussion
7. Close

“As an immersive approach,  
scenario planning  
pushes participants to inhabit futures,  
whether they like the  
facts they find or not — and thus helps  
participants face and grapple  
with conditions beyond their control”

- Social and Economic Justice Leaders Project

Covid....

Eviction bans  
Foreclosure moratorium  
Direct cash assistance

# Crises can create new openings for community owned housing, like:

- **Land & Housing Markets:** Land and buildings become much more affordable or free.
- **Funding & Finance:** Funding suddenly expands or become available from new sources.
- **Norms & Politics:** Housing justice ideas and political support for them become widespread throughout the community and among power holders.
- **Community Needs & Commitments:** Needs in the community suddenly change and become more urgent, and residents' commitments to taking action suddenly expand.
- **Others...**

“The big one”

Earthquake Scenario

# Earthquake Scenario

- **Land & Housing:** many homes are damaged and low wealth owners don't have resources to rebuild. Home prices fall. Wealthy investors attempt to accumulate buy low.
- **Funding & Finance:** Public funds for disaster recovery made available thru CDBG-DR (Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery) and other programs.
- **Norms & Politics:** Withdrawal of homeowners insurance causes a reimagining of insurance and liability. Destruction of utilities and infrastructure causes a heightened commitment to resilient and decentralized infrastructure. Massive need for housing increases political will for publicly financed and publicly developed housing.
- **Community Needs & Commitments:** Massive numbers of people with damaged homes and disrupted lives, needing shelter and basic services. Organic growth of mutual aid activities. Political militancy and urgency widespread.



# Solo Reflection

4 potential scenarios:

- Major earthquake
- Mass closures of retail stores
- Housing recession
- Massive arrival of people displaced by disaster elsewhere

Choose 1 and think about:

- What openings could the crisis create for community owned housing?
- Is there another possible future crisis that you think is important to do scenario planning for?

# Small Groups

Table 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Table 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Table 3: \_\_\_\_\_

Table 4: \_\_\_\_\_

Table 5: \_\_\_\_\_

Table 6: \_\_\_\_\_

Table 7: \_\_\_\_\_

Table 8: \_\_\_\_\_

Table 9: \_\_\_\_\_

Table 10: \_\_\_\_\_

1. **Choose a stack tracker, time keeper, note taker**
2. Read the description of the scenario at your table
3. Discuss:
  - What opportunities for community owned housing could this scenario create?
  - How can the community owned housing movement prepare? For example:
    - Developing capacities, skills, relationships and plans
    - Resources or policies that would be available
    - Experiments or proofs of possibility we could try out **now** so that they show at a small scale what could be adopted at a large scale in the future scenario?
  - What near-term actions can we take to start preparing? What changes might we make to current practices, ways we operate, relate to one another, and plan?



# Full Group Discussion on Near-term Actions & Next Steps

If you're interested in finding out more from