Module 1: Introduction and Background on the EDDE and Why It Matters

Origins of the EDDE

- The **Equitable Development Data Explorer (EDDE)** and the **Displacement Risk Index and Map (DRI/DRM)** are a result of the passage of **Local Law 78** in 2021.
- The push for the law began when low-income communities of color were repeatedly pushed to accept land use changes that didn't match their community needs, following decades of disinvestment by the City.
- In the 2000s residents started to get pushed out through rezonings and other city policies that didn't serve the most vulnerable NYC communities.
- A group of communities that had experienced rezonings, advocacy groups, and planning groups all came together to form the **Racial Impact Study Coalition (RISC)** (of which ANHD is a member) to fight new policies that would uplift and empower the voices of marginalized communities rather than silence them.

Core Challenges Facing Communities

- Neighborhood-level data was inaccessible and hard to understand.
- Land use process didn't require disclosure of any information related to racial demographics and disparities – community concerns around this were ignored based on a lack of study.
- Community advocates had to spend a lot of time gathering information to prove the mismatch between what was being proposed and what communities needed.
- Community voices were not taken seriously and the evidence they provided was considered anecdotal.
- Information and disclosures about potential neighborhood changes and displacement came very late in the land use process.
- Communities' only path towards having their needs met has been through tradeoffs of density in a rezoning.
- Fair housing law required the City to "affirmatively further fair housing" but race and fair housing were not being addressed.

What Does Local Law 78 Do?

- **The law required the creation of 3 components:**
  - **Equitable Development Data Explorer (EDDE)**
    - This new tool analyzes the demographic, social, economic, and housing conditions of every community in NYC.
    - It is free, online, regularly updated and situates varied types of data in one place, where previously one would have to search through many data sources to find the information, improving access for community members

and groups.
- ■ The information is mapped by Community District to allow people to easily pull information relevant to their area.
- ■ Includes maps of key data.
- ○ **Displacement Risk Map (DRM) also seen as the Displacement Risk Index (DRI)**
  - ■ The DRM is a more visually-oriented map and data tool. You can see differences between communities at a glance.
  - ■ It is color coded where darker pink indicates a higher risk of displacement.
  - ■ Displacement risk is based on factors related to race, income, current housing conditions, and how the housing market has changed in the neighborhood over time; these factors are combined to produce an overall score that is based on relative risk throughout the city.
  - ■ The index gives more weight to race and demographic indicators than built environment and market pressure. This was decided in collaboration with the Racial Impact Study Coalition (RISC) and advocates like ANHD.
- ○ **Racial Equity Reports (RER)**
  - ■ The Racial Equity Reports were the core of RISC's demands. The coalition initially asked land use projects to be required to submit documents listing the projected rents of apartments and who would be able to access them based on demographic data. The data tools and RER go much further than that initial demand to produce much more information to support communities.
  - ■ These reports summarize the projected future impacts of proposed land use actions including:
    - ● A summary of key data from the community profile,
    - ● A narrative statement about how the project relates to the City's fair housing goals, and
    - ● Information about anticipated rents for the housing that the project will create and data on the jobs that will be created.
  - ■ These reports are the only part directly tied to land use applications. The other data tools are available at all times.

How are the EDDE and DRM Different from Existing Tools?

- ● Much of the information in the EDDE is available in other locations, but having it all in one place in a more digestible format increases accessibility.
- ● The EDDE is also unique because of how information is shown in relation to other information. It shows:
  - ○ Change over time,
  - ○ The ability to compare a neighborhood to the borough and City levels,

- ○ Data categories broken down by race, and
- ○ A large group of indicators to create a more complete neighborhood portrait.
- The Displacement Risk Index and Map (DRI/DRM):
  - ○ Shows which neighborhoods are at higher and lower risk of displacement broken down by:
    - ■ Demographics (Race, income, English language proficiency, rent burden)
    - ■ Market Pressure (Rent change compared to the City, price appreciation, change in educational attainment, pressure from adjacent neighborhoods)
    - ■ Housing Conditions (Income restricted housing, units with maintenance deficiencies, renter occupied units)
    - ■ **The DRM is also an official acknowledgement by the city that:**
      - There are factors that make people more likely to be displaced,
      - Displacement is not an unavoidable natural process, and
      - Race is a significant factor in what puts people at risk of displacement.

How Do These Tools Address the Issues?

- The information in the data tools is available all the time to everyone – and updated annually.
- The data tools offer an opportunity to address community needs outside of the land use framework which can empower communities to make demands based on their needs, rather than responding to land use actions.
- The RERs provide better and more information for the land use process, and provide it much sooner than previous disclosures.
- The democratization of data creates a greater possibility to shift conversations around equity and land use decision making in a way that specifically centers and addresses race and makes it impossible to avoid.
- **Using these tools can help communities:**
  - ○ Understand the existing needs of our neighborhoods and see how that compares to other parts of the city. – Are our neighborhoods being served as well as other neighborhoods? Are we lacking resources we need?
  - ○ To advocate for our needs. Once we have identified them we can push our elected officials to advance equity by improving our communities outside of land use changes.
  - ○ Respond to land use proposals or envision what types of development we want to see in our communities to meet our needs.