



Gentrification and Affordable Housing Subsidizing Development in New York City

Community Development Studio, Spring 2007

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We will be working with the Waterfront Preservation Alliance of Greenpoint and Williamsburg (<http://waterfrontalliance.org/>), an advocacy organization in Brooklyn. WPA's goal is to preserve the historic character of Williamsburg and Greenpoint. WPA asked for our assistance to develop a report about development subsidies, affordable housing, and displacement in New York City. WPA is concerned that development subsidies are being used to subsidize market rate and luxury housing facilitating gentrification and reducing the subsidies available for affordable housing.

We will 1) examine housing development subsidy programs 2) explore how much select developments receive in subsidies and how much affordable housing is produced and for what income groups 3) compare the affordable housing developed with the average income of the community in which it is built 4) examine the extent to which local residents are displaced from these neighborhoods. We will examine city policies and explore development in four case study neighborhoods: Williamsburg, Downtown Brooklyn (Atlantic Yards), Central Harlem, and the Lower East Side.

This studio ought to appeal to students interested in:

Community development, gentrification, affordable housing, urban change, economic development, community organizing, and urban revitalization