

Practical Community Learning Project Fellowship
Program in Practical Policy Engagement (P3E)

Title: "Detroit Construction and Demolition"

Partner/client: DETROIT CITY COUNCIL GREEN TASK FORCE CONSTRUCTION & DEMOLITION
SUBCOMMITTEE

Terms: May 23, 2022 - July 5, 2022, 15 hours/week, \$15 per hour

The Ford School's Program in Practical Policy Engagement (P3E) is partnering with the Construction and Demolition Subcommittee of the Detroit Green Task Force to provide a short-term fellowship opportunity for up to four rising seniors or class of 2022 BA graduates from the Ford School.

The Construction and Demolition Subcommittee gather at their monthly meetings on the first Tuesday of every month to learn more about how the Detroit Green Task Force is battling blight. Made up of individuals from environmental advocacy groups, non-profit organizations, environmental businesses, city government, and Detroit residents, the subcommittee provides opportunities to network with professionals in sustainable industries and connect with others in the community.

The Construction and Demolition Subcommittee seeks four Ford School fellows to support the development of local policy for sustainable construction and demolition practices. The subcommittee hopes to approach this issue through interventions that address the supply, distribution, and demand of reused building materials by advancing rates of deconstruction, expanding the salvaged materials distribution infrastructure, and increasing the use of salvaged materials. The primary responsibility of the fellows will be researching the topics of environment, workforce development, and demolition. This research will include:

Localized data for Detroit demolition, including:

- Social costs of blight and demolition
- Economic impacts of demolition vs deconstruction

Comparative research of similar municipalities, including:

- Deconstruction programs across the state of Michigan
- Best practices in deconstruction programs and policies
- Identifying key stakeholders, possible collaborators, and potential funding resources for programming

Fellows will conduct desk research, interviews, and analysis of administrative documents, in addition to meeting with members of the Green Task Force. The final deliverables will be a data toolkit of findings and a brief memo with policy recommendations. The subcommittee may use

this work to present sustainable solutions to Detroit City Council and leaders within city government.

Fellows will work in a hybrid mode throughout the project, with some of the work done in-person and some remote. Fellows must have access to reliable transportation for weekly meetings in Detroit and Ann Arbor. Fellows will participate in weekly in-person skills workshops covering topics such as best practices in research, project management, and community engagement. The weekly workshops will take place weekly on Mondays from 12:00pm - 1:00pm in Weill Hall. The project will also provide students with opportunities for dialog, research, and service through in-person and remote engagement meetings with the community partner, UM departments, and Detroit residents. Engagement meetings with the community will be held weekly on Tuesdays in Detroit from 5p - 6p. Fellows will also conduct independent and group research outside of the formal project meetings.

Participating students will receive \$15 per hour.

This opportunity is limited to 4 current or graduating Ford School BA students. Interested students should submit their current resume and a short cover letter explaining their interest by COB on Friday, May 6 [HERE](#). Students will be notified of their status by Monday May 9.