

Thank you to everyone who was able to join us on Friday, January 17th for our First Suburbs Coalition convening! You can learn more about the meeting below.

MARC Staff Update

Anna Van Brunt, Housing Coordinator at MARC, provided a brief staff update. Unfortunately, MARC was not selected for the second round of HUD's Pathways to Removing Obstacles to Housing program. Staff are waiting for more information from HUD and will update the First Suburbs Coalition members as soon as they know more. You can read the full announcement from HUD [here](#).

Incremental Development in First Ring Suburbs Panel

Additionally, we were joined by a panel of incremental developers both locally and outside the Kansas City region to discuss their work in first ring suburbs. The conversation covered the basics of incremental development, how it differs from large-scale development, key benefits for communities prioritizing this type of development, and barriers the panelists have encountered. The panel was moderated by Abby Newsham, an urban planner in the region, and included the following panelists:

- Alli Thurmond Quinlan, Principal at FlintlockLAB in Fayetteville, Arkansas, and Executive Director of the Incremental Development Alliance.
- Monte Anderson, Owner of Options Real Estate and a trailblazer in revitalizing neighborhoods in Dallas, Texas.
- Andrew Ganahl, Principal at AND Real Estate and a champion of urban infill housing development in the Kansas City region.
- Sean Flandermeyer, Co-Owner of Elevate Design Build and a leading homebuilder in the Kansas City region.

You can watch a [recording of the panel conversation here if you missed it](#).

Save the date!

The next First Suburbs Coalition meeting is Friday, April 18th, 2025, in Grandview. We will share information soon about the next meeting, but in the meantime please continue to send ideas for topics you would like to see discussed to Anna Van Brunt at avanbrunt@marc.org.