

Margaretta Wan-Ling Lin

510 - 409- 8653

margarettalin@berkeley.edu

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Education

JD, Berkeley Law
MA in Asian Studies (1991)
University of California,
Berkeley

*(California Law Review,
Associate Editor;
Women of Color Caucus, Co-Founder;
Coalition for a
Diversified Faculty, Steering
Committee; Studies in
International Human Rights Law,
Co-Founder; Asian Studies
Graduation Student
Keynote Speaker)*

B.A. in Asian Studies
B.A. in Religious Studies
(1986)
University of Virginia

*(Asian American Student
Association, Co-Founder)*

Summary of Experience

Racial healing, justice, and inclusion leader in government, planning, public policy, movement lawyering, applied research, social enterprise, and human development.

Public Policy, Planning, and Community Inclusion

Utilizing a transformative model, co-led the design and creation of the following racial justice plans, policies, community institutions, and centers.

- Public policy solution to housing discrimination and homelessness pipeline for people with criminal records co-led by formerly incarcerated residents—the **Cities of Berkeley and Oakland Ronald V. Dellums and Simbarashe Sherry Fair Chance Housing policies.**
- Resource solution to COVID release of prisoners and homelessness pipeline co-led by formerly incarcerated residents and re-entry groups—**City of Oakland Rapid Housing Re-entry Fund.**
- Public policy solution to COVID impacts of unhoused residents co-led by unhoused leaders and organizations—the **City of Oakland adoption of CDC COVID and homelessness policy.**
- Community building solution on the **Oscar Grant justice movement**—facilitated working partnerships between the City of Oakland administration and OPD and protest leaders towards advancing peaceful protests, community policing, and addressing realities of outside agitators.
- Development of coalition for **violence prevention and community policing** ballot measure campaign with youth violence prevention organizations, faith leaders, political leaders, the police union, and labor leaders, resulting in \$20 million/year.
- City and community planning and common ground priorities for community policing grants, resulting in over \$35 million—**City of Oakland Community Policing grants.**
- Employment, housing, and climate justice solutions during the Great Recession through expeditious and comprehensive planning and communications with City political leaders, federal/state/county agencies, all City departments, mainstream and ethnic chambers of commerce, labor unions, community and faith organizations, philanthropy, resulting in over \$300 million and over 14,000 green jobs including for low-income youth and re-entry people —**City of Oakland and multi-agency ARRA plans.**

- Planning and resource solutions for neighborhoods heavily impacted by redlining, crime and violence, public/private disinvestment to center community priorities for affordable housing, transit justice, cultural inclusion, and economic development with East Oakland residents, City departments, and 40 public, private, community institutions, resulting in \$850 million in collective commitments--the **Oakland Sustainable Neighborhoods Initiative** plan.
- Planning solution to displacement impacts from transportation improvements co-led by multiracial East Oakland residents—**Anti-displacement Plan for the City of Oakland’s Department of Transportation’s East Oakland Mobility Action Plan**.
- Planning analysis of restorative justice history to current displacement conditions of 17 Los Angeles neighborhoods informed by grassroots community leaders and organizations—**Restorative Justice Analysis for the City of Los Angeles’ Department of Transportation’s Vision Zero**.
- Public policy and resource solutions to displacement of low-income tenants and homeowners co-designed and led by Berkeley, Oakland, Hayward community, and faith leaders and residents—**Anti-displacement funds for Alameda County, Cities of Berkeley and Oakland** (Alameda County and Oakland Housing Secure programs).
- Public policy and resource solution to racial wealth and equity stripping of low-income homeowners of color in redlined communities—the **Alameda County \$45 Million Homeownership Preservation Fund**.
- Multiracial youth leadership development, racial reconciliation curriculum, racial justice movement organization—**Youth Together at Berkeley, Castlemont, Fremont, Richmond, and Skyline** High School communities.
- Inclusive spaces for youth healing, racial reconciliation, empowerment, co-designed by youth— **Youth Uprising, Skyline High School One Land, One People Center**.
- Centers for inclusion, access to resources for community survival, and empowerment—**City of Oakland Housing Resource Center; East Oakland Black Cultural Zone Hub** plan; **West Oakland Train Station** community redevelopment plan.
- Movement lawyering and innovative racial justice strategies in land use, planning, and redevelopment laws—**East Bay Community Law Center’s Community Economic Justice Clinic**.
- Restorative justice plans and planning with unhoused residents—**Housing Oakland’s Unhoused** plan for utilizing identified public land for immediate, low-cost, dignified housing solutions.
- Comprehensive anti-displacement, new affordable housing, and healthy housing strategies with tenant rights, City departments, landlord, and private developer groups, adopted by Oakland City Council—the **Oakland Housing Equity Roadmap**.
- National model **foreclosure prevention and mitigation policy** developed with grassroots organizing and big banks, resulting in foreclosure prevention policy changes for banks and 50% blight reduction.
- Innovative racial justice legal theories-- **CEQA law** for human and racial displacement analysis **California redevelopment law** for community benefits, **federal fair housing law** for racialized tenant evictions.
- Movement lawyering and litigation with impacted people—**Oakland bilingual education; California racist IQ testing** and special education tracking of Black students, **Oakland Chinatown Pacific Renaissance** tenant, and housing rights.
- Transformed government operations with City department staff, labor unions, political leaders, tenant rights, public health, landlords—City of Oakland **Code Enforcement** to advance public health.

Employment

Founding Director / Just Cities

2018- CURRENT | OAKLAND, CA

Founded & direct racial and social justice public policy and planning firm.

Founding Director / Dellums Institute for Social Justice

2016- 2018 | OAKLAND, CA

Co-founded with former Congressman Ron Dellums and friends & directed racial and social justice public policy and planning firm (transitioned after the passing of Ron Dellums).

Founding Director of Strategic Initiatives / City of Oakland's Departments of Housing, Community Development, Planning & Building

2012- 2015 | OAKLAND, CA

Created new inter-departmental division and led initiatives on housing and community development, transportation justice, foreclosure and blight prevention, economic development, and climate resilience.

Special Projects Director to City Administrator / City of Oakland

2012 | OAKLAND, CA

Special assignment to transform the Code Enforcement Division.

Deputy City Administrator to City Administrators Dan Lindheim, Lamont Ewell, Deanna Santana / City of Oakland

2010- 2012 | OAKLAND, CA

Oversaw federal stimulus, Parks & Rec, Community Police Review Board, ADA, Contract Administration, Equal Access. Oversaw departments, divisions, and initiatives with budgets of \$103 million and staff of 250.

Senior Advisor to Mayor Ron Dellums / City of Oakland

2009 | OAKLAND, CA

Led public/private initiatives. Served as Mayor's advisor and liaison to federal agencies on high impact justice, i.e. federal stimulus, Oscar Grant, Port trucking.

Founding Director of Community Economic Justice Practice / East Bay Community Law Center

2003-2009 | BERKELEY, CA

Founded clinic to teach movement lawyering, principled leadership, and legal and policy innovations for economic and racial justice.

Founding Director / Youth Together

1996-2002 | OAKLAND, CA

Founded innovative multiracial youth violence prevention and community change organization in Berkeley, Richmond, and Oakland high schools.

Education Equity Specialist, Research Associate / ARC Associates

1995-1997 | OAKLAND, CA

Provided technical assistance and research on educational equity issues, hate crimes prevention, and school desegregation.

Staff Attorney / Public Advocates Inc.

1992-1995 | SAN FRANCISCO, CA

Managed high impact educational equity cases, including litigation, negotiations, community education, legislative, policy, and media advocacy.

Law Clerk / U.S. Court of Appeals, First Circuit

1991-1992 | CONCORD, NH

Legal research, analysis, writing of judicial opinions, including dissent on federal sentencing guidelines and crack cocaine later relied upon by the 9th Circuit majority.

Summer Legal Associate / Morrison & Foerster

SUMMERS 1988- 1990 | SAN FRANCISCO, CA & WASHINGTON D.C.

Summer Legal Associate / Swidler & Berlin

SUMMERS 1988- 1990 | WASHINGTON D.C.

Provided legal research, analysis, and writing on corporate and litigation cases.

Teaching Experience

UC Berkeley Goldman School of Public Policy, Critical Race Theory & Practice

FALL 2021

Redesign/teaching the anatomies of oppression and liberation with a focus on critical race scholarship and practice and the exploration of transformative community partnerships, love-based justice, and mindfulness practices.

UC Berkeley City & Regional Planning, Transformative Studio on Race, Place & Storytelling

SPRING 2021

Co-designed/taught with Professor Charisma Acey's new course on teaching future planning leaders how to plan with people impacted by racial injustice with a focus on intersections between State-sanctioned violence and housing injustice.

UC Berkeley Urban Studies, Restorative Justice in Planning & Policy Seminar SPRING 2020

Co-designed/taught with Professor Dan Lindheim a new course on racial justice in planning and policy; provided mentored government internships.

UC Berkeley City Planning, Professor Karen Frick's Transportation Studio FALL 2019

Taught MCP student team a restorative justice in planning framework in analyzing impacts of the Oakland BRT project.

City of Oakland Practicum with UC Berkeley Goldman School of Public Policy SPRING 2015

Designed and taught practicum for MPP students on advancing racial and social justice policies in local government.

UC Berkeley School of Law, Community Economic Justice, and Law FALL 2006 & SPRING 2007

Co-designed/taught with Professor Angela Harris a new course on economic justice theory and global racial and social justice movements.

UC Berkeley School of Law and East Bay Community Law Center's Community Economic Justice Clinic

2003-2009

Designed and taught a new clinical program on community economic justice law, planning, public policy, and law and movement organizing.

Applied Research

Lin, M; Terriquez, V; Haworth, V (current) Cities of Oakland & Berkeley Fair Chance Housing audit and participatory impact evaluation study, California Endowment, Chan Zuckerberg Initiative, Alameda County Probation Dept (pending).

Lin, M; Jones III, J; Illgen, R; Werth, A (2019) A Case for Fair Chance Housing Policy Brief, resulted in the passage of the nation's most progressive fair chance housing policy in the cities of Berkeley and Oakland

Lin, M & Tsai, T (2019) Budget Policy for Preventing Homelessness: Analysis of Atlanta & Houston Success, resulted in Oakland City Council's adopted budget policy for homeless prevention services.

Lin, M & cheema, b (2019) How HUD's Definition of Homelessness is a Barrier to Solving Today's Homelessness, policy analysis brief for Alameda County Supervisor Keith Carson & Congresswoman Barbara Lee.

Lin, M & Tsai T (2019) Analysis of the City of Oakland's Proposed 5-Year Action Plan to End Homelessness for Councilmember Nikki Fortunato Bas resulted in improvements to the City of Oakland's ending homelessness policy plan.

Lin, M; Chung, B; Fernandez, D; Heitz, K (2018) Housing Oakland's Unhoused: Community-Based Solutions to House All of Oakland's Unhoused NOW, resulted in the City of Oakland's budget policy for a sanctioned homeless encampment and California Senator Nancy Skinner's statewide homeless prevention legislation.

Lin, M (2017) Advancing Beloved Community: Immediate Anti-Displacement Strategies, Policy Briefing Memo for Alameda County Board of Supervisors, Oakland City Council, City of Berkeley Mayor Jesse Arreguin, resulted in budget policies for anti-displacement safety net services.

Lin, M; Calpin, M; Roller, Z (2016) Saving Homes Today: Immediate Anti-Displacement Solutions for the Alameda County Housing Bond, Report for the Alameda County Board of Supervisors, resulted in \$45 million homeownership preservation fund.

Lin, M & Rose, K (2015) A Roadmap Toward Equity: Housing Solutions for Oakland, California, PolicyLink, Oakland, CA adopted by the Oakland City Council as the City's comprehensive anti-displacement, affordable housing, and healthy housing policy framework.

Lin, M; Ruiz, M; Geiger, B; Shah, P (2003) CEQA Community Comment Letters on Wood Street Project, resulted in City of Oakland negotiations for affordable housing, historic Train Station preservation.

Lin, M (1993) California's Continued Use of Racist IQ Testing in Special Education Tracking of African American Students, policy briefing to US Dept of Justice's Civil Rights Division.

Lin, M (1993) Unfinished Business: Persistent Civil Rights Violations of Oakland's Bilingual Students, policy briefing to US Dept of Education's Civil Rights Division resulting in federal enforcement action.

Selected Racial and Social Justice Leadership Recognition

- United Against Hate Video, Featured Interviewee
- Homeless in Berkeley Documentary Film, Featured Interviewee
- Place Matters Leader Award, Alameda County Public Health Department
- Housing Policy Working Group Chair, Assemblymember Rob Bonta
- Community Justice Award, Oakland Alliance for Californians for Community Empowerment
- Social Justice Award, John George Democratic Club
- Community Lawyering Award, East Bay Community Law Center
- Model ARRA Planning, President Obama's White House (for City of Oakland)
- Promising Practice for Racial Reconciliation, President Clinton's One America Initiative (for Youth Together)
- Congresswoman Barbara Lee's Congressional Record Commendation (for Youth Together)
- Yuri Kochiyama Passion for Justice Award (for Youth Together)
- Alameda County Working Group on Older Adults & Housing, Catalyst & Member
- City of Berkeley Mayor's Affordable Housing Working Group, Member
- Alameda County Public Health 10 Year Chronic Disease Prevention Plan, Steering Committee
- Oakland Emerald Cities Collaborative, Advisory Board
- The 16th & Wood Train Station Partnership, Board of Directors
- Coalition for Clean & Safe Ports, Oakland Campaign Steering Committee
- Oakland People's Housing Coalition, Founding Member and Steering Committee
- K-12 Promotion, Retention and Graduation Task Force, Oakland Unified School District
- 9th Grade Multicultural Studies Advisory Group, Oakland Unified School District
- Working Group on National Afterschool Promising Practices, sponsored by the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation and U.S. Department of Education
- Working Group to Develop National Race Relations Funding Priorities, Leadership Conference Education Fund and the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, Washington, D.C.
- Working Group on Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Special Education, CA Dept of Education Kids First! Coalition (Oakland Fund for Children & Youth), Steering Committee
- Walking the Walk National Network, sponsored by California Tomorrow (national diversity and race relations promising practices network)
- East Bay Community Law Center, Board Member
- National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum, Founding Sister
- Asian Pacific Islanders for Reproductive Health, California Organizing Committee

Selected Publications

Lin, M, An Angry Asian Woman: A Memoir on Racial Healing & Justice (forthcoming).

Lin, M (2021) Love Letter to Yie-Chen, Backbone: The Uncelebrated Voices of Asian American Mothers & Daughters, California Humanities Project.

Lin, M, Lindheim D (2021) Be Bold, Have Integrity, and Lead: The Public Policy Legacy of Ronald V. Dellums, Journal of the Center for Policy Analysis and Research: Africa-America 2021 Re-Envisioning Liberation for the Global Black Diaspora.

Agrawal, N; Colini, L; Kerrigan, D; Lin, M; Trujillo, L (2019) With an Eye on Global Finance: Organizing Against Housing Speculation through Community-led Tactics, Methodologies for Housing Justice Resource Guide, Institute on Inequality & Democracy.

Lin, M, Lindheim, D, Smith M.E. (2018) Housing is Essential: A Commonsense Paradigm Shift to Solve the Urban Displacement Crisis, Berkeley Planning Journal, Spring 2018 Edition.

Lin, M (2015) Oakland's International Boulevard—Igniting Government+ Community Change for Development Without Displacement, National Housing Conference Blog.

Lin, M (2008) Mindful Lawyering, Buddhist Contribution to Social Justice, United Nations Convention on Engaged Buddhism, Hanoi, Vietnam.

Harris, A; Lin, M; Selbin, J (2007) From the Art of War to Being Peace: Mindfulness and Community Lawyering in a Neoliberal Age, California Law Review, Vol. 95, 2073.

Lin, M (2006) Preserving Affordable Housing, Protecting Community in Everyday Heroes: 35 Years of the California Environmental Quality Act, Planning & Conservation League, Sacramento, CA.

Lin, M (1994) A Legacy of Community Empowerment: The Struggle for Bilingual Education in Oakland, Lawyering for Change, Alliance for Justice, Washington D.C.

Tan, C.I. & Lin, M (1994) Holding Up More Than Half the Heavens: Domestic Violence in Our Communities, The State of Asian American, Activism and Resistance in the 1990s, South End Press. Featured in Women: Images & Realities, A Multicultural Anthology, McGraw-Hill.

Roht-Arriaza, N; Busby, S; Lin, M; Derwinski, J (1991) Model Statute and Commentary to the United Nations Convention Against Torture, Working Group Report, Berkeley Studies in International Law & Organization.

Lin, M (1991) The Great Mahele, Poetry for the People Chat Book, UC Berkeley Poetry for the People.

Lin, M (1991) heritage II, Tea Leaves, UC Berkeley ASUC Productions.

Selected Presentations

Structural Public Policy Roots of Racial Discrimination in Residential Tenant Evictions, Testimony to the New York Advisory Committee to the US Commission for Civil Rights (2021).

Berkeley Solidarity for Asian Americans, City of Berkeley (2021).

Advancing Asian/American and Black/African American Solidarity, Hip Hop 4 Change (2021).

City of Oakland COVID Budget Impacts & Racial Justice Budgeting Strategies, webinars for City of Oakland Councilmembers, Department staff, community leaders, Oakland Youth Commission (2020).

Designing for Housing Justice, Faith in Action members retreat (2020).

Restorative Justice in Planning & Policy, Masters in City Planning History of Planning Class, UC Berkeley (2019).

Immediate Solutions to Innovative & Dignified Housing for Oakland's Unhoused, Briefing for Federal, State, County, City Officials, and Media (2018).

Public Land as a Public Good, Oakland Post Salon (2018).

Housing Justice Strategies, Congresswoman Barbara Lee's Townhall (2018).

Building the Beloved Community: Anti-Displacement NOW, Briefings for TechEquity Collaborative, East Bay for Everyone, Wellstone Democratic Club, Black Women Organized for Political Action, East Bay Young Dems, Sierra Club, Block by Block Organizing Network (2017-2018).

Towards Housing Solutions for Low-Income Elderly Homeowners, HOPE Now Special Convening, Washington DC (2017).

Comprehensive Statewide Displacement & Homeless Prevention Policy Solutions, Housing California Conference, Sacramento CA (2016)

Housing Policy Solutions to Address Structural Roots of Inequality, Briefings for Assemblymembers Rob Bonta & Tony Thurmond (2016).

Model Local Anti-Displacement Strategies, SF Federal Reserve Anti-Displacement Panel (2016).

Addressing Historic Injustices Through Government & Community Alliances, US Sustainability Directors Network, St. Louis, Missouri (2015)

Oakland Housing Equity Strategies, HOPE Now Alliance, Housing Roundtable, Oakland, CA (2015)

Oakland Housing Justice, Haas Institute for Fair & Inclusive Society's Richmond Housing Forum (2015)

Local Racial Equity Innovations, National Housing Conference Housing Solutions, Oakland, CA (2014)

Turning it Around: Investing in Racial Equity to Ensure Neighborhood Stabilization, National Fair Housing Alliance Convening, Baltimore, MD (2014)

Community Revitalization Without Displacement: Building a Housing & Health Equity Agenda Kresge Foundation's Advancing Safe & Healthy Homes Alliance Webinar (2014)

Developing Partnerships Toward Equity & Housing Stabilization, SF Federal Reserve Housing Stabilization Roundtable, San Francisco, CA (2014 & 2013)

Strategies for Neighborhood Stabilization: A Prevention & Equity Approach, HOPE NOW Alliance, Quarterly Forum for Members, Washington, DC (2013)

Advancing the Healthy Housing Movement, Kresge Foundation's Advancing Safe & Healthy Homes Alliance Annual Retreat, Marin, CA (2013)

Oakland California's Foreclosure Prevention & Justice Strategies, Harvard Legal Aid Society Annual Foreclosure Prevention Convening, Cambridge, Mass (2014, 2013, 2012)

Mindfulness and Social Change Work; United Nations Conference on Engaged Buddhism in the 21st Century, Social Justice Panel, Hanoi, Vietnam (2008)

Community Lawyering for Change, Symposium: Race, Economic Justice, and Community Lawyering in the New Century, UC Berkeley School of Law (2008)

Community Development and Anti-Gentrification Strategies; California Coalition for Asian Pacific American Community Development Conference, San Francisco, CA (2007)

Model Youth Development and School Change Strategies and Practice; Bay Area Adolescent Health Conference, Asilomar, CA (2002)

Fostering Race Relations and Equity in Schools, National Asian Pacific American Educators Conference, San Francisco, CA (1996), California Department of Education, Ethnic and Gender Equity and Achievement for the New Student Majority, San Francisco, CA (1996).