Committee on Equity, Inclusion & Social Justice

The City of Donaldsonville Committee on Equity, Inclusion, and Social Justice is aimed at creating an equitable, inclusive, and just environment that welcomes and empowers all members of our community. The Committee on Equity, Inclusion & Social Justice will play a key role in helping us carry out future planning for the City of Donaldsonville.

The Committee on Equity, Inclusion, and Social Justice (EISJ) desired to promote equity, inclusion, and social justice within every aspect of the City's municipal administration, ordinances, residential, and business environments. To advance these efforts, the committee will work to identify proactive, sustainable strategies to generate and institutionalize attention to equity and inclusion in relation to race, ethnicity, gender, gender identity and expression, political affiliations, class, age, color, size, sexual orientation, ability, immigrant status, and national origin.

The committee, using innovative best practices, will create the infrastructure to address inequalities arising from any differential distribution of power, resources, and privilege in the City, and to support initiatives that enable citizens to be more educated on the City's historical footprint as well as engage social change leading to a more just and inclusive society.

The committee, led by a group of community volunteers, will identify possible changes to address equity and inclusion concerns and to forward broader community-wide policy and practices to be submitted to the Donaldsonville council and leadership for consideration.

The committee is composed of volunteers appointed by the Mayor. Committee membership will include a representative reflection of the demographics of the City of Donaldsonville but will emphasize a younger audience to drive the future vision for the City of Donaldsonville. The committee includes representation from a broad and diverse committee with additional steering committees under each area identified by the broad committee.

The Committee will meet as frequently as needed and additional committee members will meet with the steering committee group as often as necessary to examine issues, create change strategy, and work with the administration to implement change as necessary. At-large volunteers will be solicited as needed. Leadership and terms of the committee including but not limited to a charter instrument, strategic plan, mission and vision, will be set by the committee at large.

Efforts will be made to ensure the committee reflects the broad range of diverse experience and backgrounds represented in the community. The committee with select a chair/facilitator or co-chairs/facilitators and a record keeper to ensure the committee meets regularly and provides updated information on its work as well as an annual plan and report to the administration. Additionally, the committee may request ad-hoc members to join subcommittees for periods of time to work on special projects.

Committee membership is now open and volunteers are being solicited. To get more information or to become a part of the committee, please email <u>lee@visitdonaldsonville.org</u> or call 225.445.1383.