

DAYTON BRANCH NAACP OFFICIAL PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE February 19, 2025 **CONTACT:** Dr. Derrick L. Foward (937) 222-2172

Dayon Branch NAACP Town Hall "The Challenging Quest for Environmental Progress and Justice!"

DAYTON, OHIO - FEBRUARY 19, 2025 - The Dayton Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) will host a town hall titled, "The Challenging Quest for Environmental Progress and Justice." The event will take place on Monday, February 24, 2025 at 6:30 pm at Grace United Methodist Church located at 1001 Harvard Blvd. The distinguished guests will be Lamees Mubaslat, AIA, LEED AP BD+C Dayton Regional Green Director in the Office of Strategic Initiatives, Montgomery County, B.S. in Architecture from the University of Jordan; Meg Maloney, City of Dayton Manager of Office of Sustainability, M.S. in Biological Science at the University of Dayton (2021), B.S. in Environmental Biology (2018); Sustainability Fellow at the University of New Hampshire; Rap Hankins, Drive Electric Dayton, President; Former 18-year Trotwood City Council Member; Chair, Racial Equity Initiative of the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission; Fabrice Juin, Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission, Equity Initiative Program Manager, Institute for Livable & Equitable Communities; University of Dayton Faculty Member (Health Policy and Epidemiology (MPH and CPH) and Native of Haiti; and Gavle Covington Fowler, President, National Environmental Justice Alumni Association; Chief Engagement Officer, Just a Minute to Care (Fostering advocacy through the collaborative process for families and communities). The moderator will be Gary J. Leppla, Esq., Chair of the Dayton Branch NAACP Environmental and Climate Justice Committee.

"This program is designed to inform as well as to ACTIVATE. Local government cannot do it all, grassroots activism cannot do it all. It will take mass involvement and action from an informed electorate moving forward. Combatting environmental racism and systemic environmental failures will be a heavy lift in the face of cancelled funding, preempted long-established programs and other unprecedented challenges both nationally and in the State of Ohio. And this all occurs against the backdrop of an unprecedented attack upon the Rule of Law," said Gary J. Leppla, Esq.



Founded in 1915, the Dayton Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) is the city's oldest and largest nonpartisan civil rights organization. Its members throughout the Dayton Region and Montgomery County are the premier advocates for civil rights in their communities. Their core goals are to *Inform*, *Educate and Empower* the Citizenry as they pursue justice and equality for all Americans.

For more information on the Dayton Unit NAACP, please call (937) 222-2172 or visit www.naacpdayton.org.