



# Untokening 2018: Detroit Sponsorship Invitation

For a number of years, a network of racial and social justice-oriented activists has been working in and observing U.S. sustainable transportation advocacy, planning, and policy spaces. We have often encountered a **tokenizing dismissal of our perspectives in these spaces**, which tend to be defined by white, middle-class values. We find an expectation that we will use our diversity to support biking and walking movement visions and strategies **created without us in mind**, rather than contributing as knowledgeable peers. In response, in 2016, we launched **The Untokening**, an organized effort to establish a **multiracial movement for mobility justice**.

Since then our collective has hosted in-person events attended by more than 100 participants in Atlanta and Los Angeles respectively and produced several outputs based on those convenings, including our **Principles of Mobility Justice** – a framework being utilized by advocates nationwide.

**On November 11, the Untokening will host its third convening in Detroit. This one-day gathering will be designed by and for those whose personal experience with marginality and oppression informs their work in transportation and mobility.**

**Why Detroit?** Detroit has the highest rate of pedestrian deaths of any city in the United States and 30% of residents do not have access to a car. Still, public transit systems are unreliable and non-motorized infrastructure is inadequate and inequitable. When bicyclists are engaged in community processes, they are often divided by definitions of what behavior constitutes the authentic identity of a “Detroit cyclist,” leaving out the most vulnerable riders. Combatting the current climate of embattlement for mobility advocates with marginalized identities, Untokening Detroit will allow leaders of color and those from marginalized communities to come together in a space of support, solidarity, and healing to address mobility justice issues.

Photo: Participants at Untokening 2016 in Atlanta

## How We'll Grow the Mobility Justice Movement

We know there is deep knowledge, innovative solutions, and full-fledged leadership within our communities. Rather than continuing to push from the margins for mainstream organizations to prioritize equity within an external framework, it's time to **embrace, cultivate and support our diverse leadership**. Untokening Detroit will bring together advocates whose personal experience with marginality and oppression informs their work and perspectives, and create a justice-centered space to plan future actions. It will gather in one place the geographically distinct but deeply interconnected passions of diverse leaders and **catalyze a new vision that is grounded in the realities of our communities** that we can work toward collectively. sustained and connected effort to advance mobility justice in communities statewide, providing a network and structure to maintain the momentum long after the convening.

## Who We Are:

The core leadership team for the Untokening Convening is comprised of advocates from diverse racial backgrounds who work in professional and personal capacities to advance equity in biking, walking and community development. Each convening is directed by a **local advisory committee** with direct connections to the community. Our project is fiscally sponsored by the Cultural Wellness Center in Minneapolis, MN.

## Your Role in Advancing this Vision

We need your support to underwrite this event and **ensure access for diverse participants** who have often been shut out of high-priced conferences where their voices and perspectives are overshadowed by dominant assumptions and traditional models. Your support will enable an affordable convening that will advance the conversation around mobility equity in a way that **centers the knowledge and leadership of community-based advocates** who are truly embedded in the communities that have been historically disinvested and overlooked. Your sponsorship will catalyze a new cohort of leaders, ready to work together to address the challenges of mobility equity in communities nationwide. **Extending far beyond the convening itself, your organization will be recognized as a trailblazer in launching a new paradigm in mobility advocacy.**

## Sponsorship Levels

### PRESENTING SPONSOR: \$5,000

- » Top recognition in all communications including event website, emails, printed materials, event presentations and follow-up
- » Recognition on social media and exclusive sponsorship of live streaming, reaching far beyond the convening attendees to advocates and practitioners nationwide

### LEADING SPONSOR: \$2,500

- » Leading recognition in all communications including event website, emails, printed materials, event presentations and follow-up
- » Recognition on social media

### SUPPORTING SPONSOR: \$1,000

- » Recognition in communications including event website, emails, and printed materials
- » Recognition on social media

### LOCAL SPONSOR: \$200-\$1,000 (Cash or in-kind)

- » Up to 4 free event registrations
- » Recognition on printed materials
- » Recognition on social media

### LOCAL SUPPORTER: \$200 (Cash or in-kind)

- » 2 free event registrations
- » Recognition on social media

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