



**Maurice Cox, Planning and Development
Director for the City of Detroit**

Maurice Cox is a nationally acclaimed community designer and leader of the public interest design movement. He is widely respected for his ability to incorporate active citizen participation into the urban design and planning process. Maurice has a reputation for developing bold–yet achievable–plans that become tools for civic discourse and empowerment, embraced by diverse sectors of the community.

Currently the Planning and Development Director for the City of Detroit, Maurice is in charge of the long-term vision for a redeveloped Detroit—improving Detroit’s neighborhoods, developing strategies to boost stable areas of the city with new business and residential development, and devising uses for the vast tracts of vacant lots and other city owned properties.

Previously, Maurice served as associate dean for community engagement at Tulane University’s School of Architecture and director of the Tulane City Center, a university-affiliated practice operating at the intersection of design, urban research and civic engagement throughout New Orleans. He also served as design director of the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) from 2007-2010, where he led the NEA’s Your Town Rural Institute, the Governors’ Institute on Community Design, the Mayors’ Institute on City Design, and oversaw grants to the design community across the United States.