



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
Department of Administration

Roy Cooper, Governor

Machelle Sanders, Secretary

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**Andrea Harris Task Force Invites Public Comment on Initial Proposals to Improve Disparities in Communities of Color Disproportionately Impacted by COVID-19**

**RALEIGH, N.C.** – The Andrea Harris Social, Economic, Environmental, and Health Equity Task Force and Chair, NC Department of Administration Secretary Machelle Sanders, convened on September 2, 2020 to discuss potential recommendations to address and improve the social, environmental, economic, and health disparities in communities of color disproportionately impacted by COVID-19.

An overview of the initial proposals from subcommittees is available on the Department of Administration's Task Force [webpage](#).

**HOW YOU CAN COMMENT ON PROPOSED SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Task Force's next action will be to hear comments from the public to inform the next steps in the recommendation development process. The listening sessions will be held September 15, 22 and 29. The full schedule can be viewed [here](#).

- Members of the public can sign up for [a two-minute time slot](#) to offer input on recommendations related to the [five focus areas](#).
- Once individuals sign up, they will receive a link to log on to and participate in the session.
- The public comments session can also be streamed live on the NC Department of Administration's [YouTube channel](#).

Additional public comment sessions will be announced in the future and North Carolinians can also make their voices heard by submitting written comments via this [form](#).

Established under Governor Roy Cooper's [Executive Order No. 143](#), the Task Force is comprised of five subcommittees targeting core areas including Access to Healthcare, Economic Opportunities and Business Development, Educational Opportunity, Environmental Justice and Inclusion, and Patient Engagement.

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**About the NC Department of Administration**

Established in 1957, the Department of Administration acts as the business manager for North Carolina state government. Under the leadership of Secretary Machel Sanders since appointed by Governor Roy Cooper in 2017, the department oversees Government Operations and advocacy programs. The department's advocacy programs provide advocacy, assistance, and services to diverse segments of the state's population that have been traditionally underserved.

**About the Andrea Harris Social, Economic, Environmental, and Health Equity Task Force**

Established under Executive Order No. 143, the Andrea Harris Social, Economic, Environmental, and Health Equity Task Force addresses the social, environmental, economic, and health disparities in communities of color disproportionately impacted by COVID-19. The Task Force is named in honor of the late civil rights activist, Andrea Harris, who dedicated her life to eliminating disparities in North Carolina, co-founding the non-profit Institute of Minority Economic Development in Durham and serving on the state's Advisory Council for Historically Underutilized Businesses.

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