

COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST PANELISTS



TOM IVACKO

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

CENTER FOR LOCAL, STATE, AND URBAN POLICY

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN'S GERALD R. FORD SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY

Tom Ivacko is the executive director with the Center for Local, State, and Urban Policy (CLOSUP) at the University of Michigan's Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy. He joined CLOSUP at its founding in 2001. Ivacko directs the Center's Michigan Public Policy Survey (MPPS) program, and has been the lead or co-author on more than 90 MPPS publications covering a wide range of state and local government policy topics.

He previously served as study manager, program manager and administrator for 11 years with the American National Election Studies at the University of Michigan's Institute for Social Research.

Outside of work, Ivacko serves as a board member and past president of a nature area nonprofit organization focusing on stewardship and elementary school environmental educational opportunities in Ann Arbor, MI. He has a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science and a Master's Degree in Public Administration, both from the University of Michigan.

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MARIANA C. MARTINEZ
DIRECTOR
CIVIC ENGAGEMENT INITIATIVES
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Mariana C. Martinez joined the Michigan Nonprofit Association (MNA) in November of 2020 as its Director of Civic Engagement Initiatives. She leads statewide initiatives such as the Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission Initiative.

Prior to joining MNA, she served the office of Detroit City Council Member Raquel Castañeda-López for four years as the Chief of Staff. Her role was to advance community advocacy and inclusive policy.

Before joining Detroit's City Council, Martinez worked at The Kresge Foundation and also at Global Ties Detroit as Program Director. She moved to Detroit from Paris, where she co-managed two properties as Deputy Director for a not-for-profit organization.

She currently serves as a board member for the Executive Team at Global Ties Detroit and as Co-Chair of the Alumni Council for Cultural Vistas.

She holds a Master's Degree in Public Administration/non-profit management from Oakland University and a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology from Western Connecticut State University.

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SUSAN SMITH
VICE PRESIDENT – ADVOCACY
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS FOR MICHIGAN

Susan Smith is Vice President - Advocacy for the League of Women Voters of Michigan. She is a past President of the state League and has been working for redistricting reform in Michigan since 2011 when the current maps were adopted.

Sue is retired from Central Michigan University where she was a business professor and administrator for 20 years.

While living in Mt. Pleasant, she was a member of the Board of Education and the Mt. Pleasant City Commission. She also served as Mayor of Mt. Pleasant.

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MATT GROSSMANN, Ph.D.

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A nationally known political scientist, Dr. Matt Grossmann is an expert on American politics and government whose research spans national and state policymaking, election campaigns, interest groups, and political parties. Dr. Grossmann has authored numerous journal articles on policy change, political party networks, the legislative process and public opinion. His latest book, *Red State Blues* was recently made available through Cambridge University Press. He is also editor of the volume *New Directions in Interest Group Politics* from Routledge.

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