Before taking action it is important to situate yourself in context. This process of situating should happen repeatedly throughout the interventions you make; after all, both your position and your context will inevitably change over time. Situating is both a question of justice and a question of strategy. It is a question of justice because procedural justice requires that our processes and interventions center those at the margins. It is a question of strategy because effective interventions bring together organizations with different and complementary resources.

SITUATING YOURSELF  
Check all that apply

Toolkit User
- Policymaker
- Regulator, public agency employee
- Planner, project manager
- Non-profit
- Community organizer
- Community development, philanthropy
- Community resident, local leader

Expertise and Resources:
- Proximity to political power
- Technical expertise
- Institutional knowledge
- Non-financial material resources
- Coalition-building and facilitation
- Financial resources
- Local knowledge, community leadership

UNDERSTAND YOUR STRENGTHS
What capacity, knowledge, and expertise do you have to offer? What are you good at?

UNDERSTAND YOUR LIMITATIONS
What resources, connections, or coalition-building do you need to be successful? Who else is well-positioned to address these needs?
UNDERSTANDING YOUR CONTEXT

Check all that apply

Scale of issue or intervention:
- [ ] Small-scale, project-based
- [ ] Regional, project-based
- [ ] Neighborhood development plan
- [ ] Comprehensive development plan

Jurisdiction over issue:
- [ ] Public, city
- [ ] Public, county or regional sub-state
- [ ] Public, state
- [ ] Private

GROUND YOURSELF IN THE PRESENT

What interventions do you have the capacity to make right now? Who holds power in the present?

ENVISION THE FUTURE

What conditions do you need to change to make other interventions possible? Who do you need to build power with to get there?

Interventions in the Urban Planning Context

- **Request for proposals**: Who is structuring proposal criteria, evaluating submissions and selecting design firms? What are the mechanisms for transparency and accountability in this process to center community agency from the very beginning?
- **Impact assessments**: What would happen if these assessments constituted the baseline of development processes rather than a regulatory checkbox to go through at the end? What if they include measures of displacement and environmental justice?
- **Brownfield mitigation**: How can there be incentives for clean up before a development is proposed?
- **Research and project evaluation**: What public data repositories can be established? How can we cultivate vehicles and respect for community-led research?
- **Sale of public land**: Who is first approached about land purchases? What opportunities exist for communities to buy land collectively?
- **Accountability**: What institutions and entities have the capacity to hold developers and cities accountable to development standards? How can this capacity be sustained and grown?