Discussion Questions for *Redlining: Mapping Inequality in Dayton & Springfield*
Developed by the Fitz Center for Leadership in Community
2023 Cohort of Dayton Civic Scholars

Before Watching:
- What do you know about your family's journey to the place that they live now and any challenges that they encountered?
- Does your family own or rent their home?
- Did your family face challenges in buying or renting their home?
- Do you feel that where your family lives has affected your identity?

Section 1: The Maps Tell the Story (0:00-12:30)

The American Dream and Redlining
- How do the effects of redlining persist today, almost 50 years after redlining was made illegal?
- How do you think a denial of housing loans can affect a person or family, aside from not getting the home they want?

The Great Migration
- What challenges/oppressive conditions did Black Americans face when they first arrived in Ohio and what new challenges did they face in the following years?
- How was the treatment for Black Americans who migrated to Ohio during the Great Migration better for them than life in the South? How was the treatment worse?

Fully Planned, Fully Restricted
- Do you think suburbs are still meant to be a haven for White Americans, even after redlining has ended?
▪ How are Black Americans still relegated to certain neighborhoods even without the use of racially restrictive deeds?
▪ What features made a suburb desirable during redlining? Has that changed at all since redlining was made illegal?
▪ How did racially restrictive deeds prevent Black Americans from gaining intergenerational wealth? What currently prevents the transmission of intergenerational wealth through homeownership?

Section 2: “...And That was 1985” (12:30-32:30)

Needing a Champion
▪ Why couldn’t the goals of the Fair Housing Act ever be fully realized?
▪ What is meant by the statement, “Black real estate professionals were often more than just realtors”?
▪ What strategies did Black Americans use to resist housing oppression? Were these effective?
▪ What changes to the Fair Housing Act would you propose? Why do you think these are valuable?
▪ What can you do to promote equity in residential areas? How could you be part of the process to implement these?

Section 3: Lost Wealth (32:30-end credits)

Men in Suits
▪ Why are Black Americans still being denied loans in 2021? Should these methods of loan denial be made illegal? What strategies can be utilized today to make race-based loan denial illegal?
▪ How has the rent-to-own system perpetuated financial inequity?

Abandonment
▪ How has redlining contributed to such high numbers of vacant lots?
▪ How can vacant houses be a nuisance to a neighborhood?

Past is Present
▪ Where do you see the effects of redlining and segregation today? Are there other personal or communal impacts that have arisen from redlining besides financial inequities?
▪ In what ways have all communities (including majority white) been negatively affected by redlining?
▪ Besides housing, on what other aspects of the community has redlining had an impact?
▪ Think about your neighborhood and hometown. In your experience has redlining shaped your neighborhood physically and socially? Describe these ways.