Land Bank Authority: A guide for the Creation and Operation of Local Land Banks—Land Banks are public authorities created to efficiently acquire, hold, manage, and develop tax-foreclosed property. In this guidebook, Emory University Law Professor Frank Alexander explores the development of land banks in St. Louis, Cleveland, Louisville, Atlanta, and Genesee County, Mich., addressing the conditions, history, and legal structures of each. In comparing and contrasting the legal approaches and policies of these five examples, it offers public officials and community leaders important findings derived from the work and experiences of the nation's first land banks. This guide can serve as a roadmap for cities and counties across America that are attempting to rediscover the value of urban land.  
http://www.lisc.org/content/publications/detail/793/  


HousingPolicy.org—HousingPolicy.org is an online guide to state and local housing policy developed and maintained by the Center for Housing Policy, the research affiliate of the National Housing Conference. The purpose of HousingPolicy.org is to collect and provide examples of proven solutions for expanding the availability of homes for working families and others in your community. The site includes easily accessible information on a broad range of state and local policy tools, as well as guidance on how to put them together to form a comprehensive and effective housing strategy. While geared to state and local decision-makers, HousingPolicy.org is written and designed for use by visitors of all backgrounds and experience levels - from those completely new to housing policy to veteran practitioners.  
http://www.housingpolicy.org/  

National Housing Conference—NHC convenes its members, stakeholders and others to improve coordination of diverse agendas and build consensus on key housing issues. NHC Advocates for policies and legislation focused on meeting the full range of housing concerns including:  
• Preventing foreclosures and stabilizing impacted neighborhoods;  
• Helping working families meet their housing challenges;  
• Strengthening the nation's housing finance system;  
• Improving the coordination of housing, transportation and energy policy; and  
• Supporting and strengthening federal low-income housing programs.  
• NHC Broadens the constituency base of those actively involved in the fight for affordable housing.  
• NHC Elevates national awareness concerning the importance of and need for affordable housing.  
http://www.nhc.org/  

Public Health Law Research—Public Health Law Research, a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation® program at Temple University, is a national initiative to promote effective regulatory, legal and policy solutions to improve public health. Laws have improved the public's health by affecting behaviors (such as promoting seatbelt use and immunizations) and environments (such as regulating exposure to lead and protecting communities from the spread of infectious diseases). Laws can enable the public to make healthy choices, and they give public health agencies the authority to respond to community needs in times of crisis. Laws and law enforcement practices can also have unintended negative effects on health.
The Public Health Law Research program is dedicated to building the evidence base for laws that improve public health. We work by funding research, improving research methods, and making evidence more accessible to policy-makers, the media, and the public.
http://www.publichealthlawresearch.org/

The Herndon Alliance—The Herndon Alliance is a nationwide non-partisan coalition of more than 200 minority, faith, labor, advocacy, business, and healthcare provider organizations. For too long others have divided Americans through fear, instead of uniting them through hope and the unmistakable fact that Americans, when called upon, can do whatever it takes to get the job done. The Herndon Alliance is expanding the base of people supporting affordable healthcare for all, and increasing the breadth and depth of voices working and speaking out for the provisions of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010.
http://herndonalliance.org/

The Vanishing Middle Class—And the Lasting Remedies, Commentary by Reuven Brenner—The present middle-class doom is understandable: Salaries have been stagnating for a decade, while unemployment and poverty rates have been on the rise. Wages for high school graduates remain stuck at $32,500, college graduate earnings at $53,000, while unemployment and the rate of poverty have climbed into the double-digits.

Will the Public's Health Fall Victim to the Home Foreclosure Epidemic? Gary Bennett, Melissa Scharoun-Lee, Reginald Tucker-Seely—While policy makers worldwide have scrambled to counter its economic effects, the potential health implications of home foreclosure have received little empirical attention. Home foreclosure can be viewed as a stressful life event of prolonged duration, with multiple phases of variable intensity. Although no studies to date have reported the specific health effects of home foreclosure, we posit that foreclosure may be associated with a range of psychological and health behavior outcomes that, in turn, might increase chronic disease risk. Susceptibility to home foreclosure might involve both compositional and contextual dimensions. Delinquency management policies designed to prevent foreclosures from occurring are arguably best suited to protect the health of those at greatest risk.
http://www.plosmedicine.org/article/fetchObjectAttachment.action;jsessionid=13D02D6A3848B2D80CCAA50ABE4C3BF.ambra02?uri=info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pmed.1000087&representation=PDF

Good Jobs: The Only Cure for Poverty, Madeline Janis—We didn't need the Census poverty data released today to tell us what we already know: families are facing the highest rates of economic hardship in a generation. However, maybe such stark numbers can help increase the urgency around one of the most important issues of this moment and move us beyond the naysayers who attack every anti-poverty strategy, yet have nothing new to offer. While the crisis of poverty in our communities is not new, the recent spike is clearly the result of our current recession.
http://www.huffingtonpost.com/madeline-janis/good-jobs-the-only-cure-f_b_719412.html

Income Inequality: Too Big to Ignore, Robert H. Frank—People often remember the past with exaggerated fondness. Sometimes, however, important aspects of life really were better in the old days. During the three decades after World War II, for example, incomes in the United States rose rapidly and at about the same rate — almost 3 percent a year — for people at all income levels.
America had an economically vibrant middle class. Roads and bridges were well maintained, and impressive new infrastructure was being built. People were optimistic.


**A lost decade: Poverty and income trends paint a bleak picture for working families, Elise Gould, Heidi Shierholz**—The Economic Policy Institute, a nonprofit Washington D.C. think tank, was created in 1986 to broaden the discussion about economic policy to include the interests of low- and middle-income workers. Today, with global competition expanding, wage inequality rising, and the methods and nature of work changing in fundamental ways, it is as crucial as ever that people who work for a living have a voice in the economic discourse.

http://www.epi.org/publications/entry/a_lost_decade_poverty_and_income_trends

**The Black-White Jobless Gap; Margaret Simms, Marla McDaniel**—In this Philadelphia Inquirer commentary, two researchers from the Urban Institute's Low-Income Working Families project explain the black-white employment divide after high school and what's needed to close the gap.

http://www.urban.org/publications/901378.html

**The long road to recovery from the recession of 2007 (Dec. 2009 update)**—Powerpoint presentation from Ned Hill, Dean of the Levin College of Urban Affairs at Cleveland State University.

http://urban.csuohio.edu/publications/hill/road_to_recovery_11_09.pdf

**King County ESJ Documents**

**ESJ Ordinance:**

**Equity Impact Review Tool:**
http://www.kingcounty.gov/exec/~/media/exec/equity/documents/KingCountyEIRTool2010.ashx

**ESJ Legislative Staff Report:**

**2009 ESJ Commitments:**

**King County Strategic Plan:**
http://www.kingcounty.gov/exec/strategy/StrategicPlan/CountyStratPlan.aspx

**Board of Health Planning for Healthy Communities:**
http://www.kingcounty.gov/healthservices/health/BOH/~/media/health/publichealth/documents/boh/res1008.ashx