



2010 NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF REGIONS

FEBRUARY 21-23, 2010

THE RITZ-CARLTON HOTEL
WASHINGTON, DC

Draft Agenda:

Times and speakers may change as presenters are confirmed.

Energizing Regional Leadership and Shaping Administration and Congressional Priorities

Sunday, February 21, 2010

2:00 pm – 4:00 pm	Registration	Exhibitor Set-Up
6:00 pm – 9:00 pm	Welcome to Washington Reception	

Monday, February 22, 2010

8:00 am – 9:00 am	Registration (all day) / Continental Breakfast	
8:30 am – 9:00am	Keynote Speaker <i>Hon. Tom Vilsack</i> , Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture	
9:00 am – 9:30 am	Keynote Speaker <i>Hon. Shelley Poticha</i> , Senior Advisor for Sustainable Housing and Communities, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development	
9:30 am – 10:00 am	Exhibitors and Morning Break	
10:00 am – 12:00 pm	Environment Session and Discussion <i>sponsored by the NARC Environment Committee</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Leadership in Energy Planning and Programs New Ground-Level Ozone Air Quality Standards Committee and Member Discussion on 2010 Environment Policy: Water Infrastructure, Climate Change, Green Infrastructure, Sustainable Communities <i>Hon. Janet McCabe</i> , Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Air and Radiation, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency <i>Clarie Broido Johnson</i> , Acting Program Manager, Office of Weatherization and Intergovernmental Programs, U.S. Department of Energy <i>David Warm</i> , Executive Director, Mid-	Homeland Security Session and Discussion <i>sponsored by the NARC Homeland Security Committee</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> UASI and the Role of Regions The Importance of Next-Generation 9-1-1 Legislative Proposals Impacting Committee and Member Discussion on 2010 Homeland Security Policy <i>Yucel Ors</i> , Legislative Director, Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials – International <i>Dalen Harris</i> , Associate Legislative Director, National Association of Counties <i>Mitchel Herckis</i> , Principal Associate, Human Development & Public Safety, Federal Relations, National League of Cities

	America Regional Council Peter Bella , Natural Resources Director, Alamo Area Council of Governments	
12:15 pm – 1:00 pm	Membership Meeting	
1:00 pm – 1:30 pm	Lunch Hon. Jim Oberstar , Chairman, U.S. House of Representatives, Transportation and Infrastructure Committee	
1:45 pm – 3:45 pm	Transportation Session and Discussion <i>sponsored by the NARC Transportation Committee</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transportation Authorization Dialogue and Roundtable with Key Senate and Hill staff • High-Speed Rail Discussion for Urban and Rural Communities - implementing high speed rail programs and funding opportunities • Committee and Member Discussion on 2010 Transportation Policy: Transportation Authorization, Sustainable Communities <p>Susan Binder, Senior Policy Advisor, Committee on Environment and Public Works, United States Senate</p> <p>Jim Kolb, Staff Director, Subcommittee on Highways and Transit, United States House of Representatives</p> <p>Polly Trottenberg, Assistant Secretary for Transportation Policy, United States Department of Transportation</p> <p>Paul Nissenbaum, Director of the Office of Passenger and Freight Programs at the Federal Railroad Administration</p>	Economic and Community Development Session and Discussion <i>sponsored by the NARC Economic and Community Development Committee</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reauthorization of the Economic Development Administration (EDA) • Weathering the Economic Storm and the Role of Regional Councils • Committee and Member Discussion on 2010 Economic and Community Development Policy: EDA Reauthorization, Jobs Bill, Sustainable Communities, Broadband <p>Angie Giancarlo, Professional Staff Member, Committee on Environment and Public Works, United States Senate</p> <p>Angela Ewell-Madison, Director of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs, U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration</p> <p>Kathy Dedrick, Senior Policy Director, Committee on Environment and Public Works, U.S. Senate</p> <p>Kevin Thompson, Program Analyst, Office of Workforce Investment, Employment and Training Administration, U.S. Department of Labor</p>
4:00 pm – 6:00 pm	Executive Directors Council Meeting	

Tuesday, February 23, 2010

8:00 am – 9:00 am	Registration / Continental Breakfast
8:00 am – 8:30 am	Keynote Speaker Hon. Victor Vasquez , Deputy Under Secretary for Rural Development, U.S. Department of Agriculture
8:30am – 9:00am	Keynote Speaker Adolfo Carrion , Director, Office of Urban Affairs, White House
9:00 am – 10:00 am	Plenary Livability and What it Means to Cities and Counties Building and promoting “livable communities” has become a widespread interest within numerous agencies and key players within the federal government. The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) have an interagency partnership focused on “Sustainable Communities” and the interlinking of their agency activities. Meanwhile, in Congress, Senator Christopher Dodd (D-CT) is leading the charge with S. 1619, the Livable Communities Act, that would call for comprehensive regional planning and implementation.

	<p>What does this mean for cities and counties? Speakers will detail their respective organization's efforts to address livability and how their members see this federal policy shift impacting local governments.</p> <p>Don Borut, Executive Director, National League of Cities Larry Naake, Executive Director, National Association of Counties</p>	
10:00 am – 10:15 am	Exhibitors and Morning Break	
10:15 am – 11:00 am	<p>Plenary Jobs Creation and Stimulating Economic Development: ARRA Successes and New Federal Policy Initiatives</p> <p>Enacted February 2009, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) was an effort to stimulate a struggling economy through targeted investment and jobs creation. While funding is still being distributed, the Obama Administration and Congress are closely tracking ARRA projects and accomplishments that bolstered job opportunities and, at the same time, examining new federal policy objectives that would promote long-term economic growth, new job markets and regional business incubators. Learn what some of these new avenues are and how they might benefit your region, and share what your region's ARRA activities.</p> <p>Keynote: Hon. Brian McGowan, Deputy Assistant Secretary, U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration Ron Painter, Chief Executive Officer, National Association of Workforce Boards</p>	
11:00 am – 11:45 am	<p>Plenary Climate Change: Impacts on Local Governments and Regions</p> <p>Climate change is a growing priority for the Obama Administration and Democratic leaders in Congress. In June 2009, the U.S. House of Representatives passed a comprehensive nationwide cap-and-trade bill that stands to have dramatic impacts on local governments and regions. The Senate has made limited progress on their companion bill, but they continue to pursue a variety of requirements on local governments and regional planning organizations. Come learn how legislative and Administrative efforts will impact your communities, responsibilities and organizations. Topics to be explored include transportation planning, adaptation, Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block grants and more.</p> <p>Paul Schmid, Legislative Assistant, Office of U.S. Senator Thomas Carper Josh Foster, Manager, Climate Adaptation, Center for Clean Air Policy</p>	
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm	<p>Lunch – Interactive Discussion: S. 1619, The Livable Communities Act Mitch Warren, Professional Staff Member, Senate Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Committee Beth Cooper, Professional Staff Member, Senate Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Committee</p>	
1:15 pm – 2:15 pm	<p>Plenary Exploring the DOT-HUD-EPA Sustainable Communities Partnership</p> <p>In March 2009, HUD and DOT announced a new partnership to help American families gain better access to affordable housing, more transportation options, and lower transportation costs by focusing their efforts on creating affordable, sustainable communities. EPA later joined this partnership to bring environmental protection concerns as they relate to infrastructure in communities nationwide. Come explore what this partnership means for regions and local governments, and share your on-the-ground perspective to help guide and improve the partnership's efforts.</p> <p>Beth Osborne, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy, U.S. Department of Transportation Tim Torma, Development, Community and Environment Division, The Smart Growth Program, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Stephen Cerny, Attorney-Advisor, Office of the General Counsel, Detailee to Office of Sustainable Housing and Communities, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development</p>	
2:30 pm – 4:30 pm	Adjourn to Hill Meetings	Exhibitor Break Down
4:30 pm – 6:30 pm	Board of Directors Meeting	