



2012 NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF REGIONS

FEBRUARY 12-14, 2012

THE RITZ-CARLTON HOTEL
WASHINGTON, DC

Addressing the Nation's Challenges with Local and Regional Solutions

Sunday, February 12, 2012

2:00 pm – 4:00 pm Salon Foyer	Registration Opens
4:00 pm – 6:00 pm Salon I	Welcome to Washington Reception Please join your colleagues in a reception to kick off the National Association of Regional Councils' 2012 National Conference of Regions.

Monday, February 13, 2012

8:00 am – 3:45 pm Salon Foyer	Registration Open
8:00 am – 8:30 am Salon Foyer	Keynote Address: The Honorable MaryAnn Tierney, Regional Administrator, U.S. Department of Homeland Security Federal Emergency Management Agency Region III (CONFIRMED) Regional Administrator Tierney will provide an outlook on national emergency preparedness, response and recovery policies and programs. Before becoming FEMA Regional Administrator, Tierney served as Deputy Managing Director for Philadelphia's Office of Emergency Management, and spent more than seven years as the Assistant Commissioner for Planning and Preparedness with the New York City Office of Emergency Management. In her tenure, she has managed more than 60 Emergency Operations Center activations in New York and Philadelphia and has coordinated on-scene response activities for large-scale emergencies.
8:30 am – 9:00 am Salon I & II	Keynote Address: Government Spotlight Come learn from a leading government affairs and business development expert the pertinent issues dominating DC, how to best position your discussions with Congressional members, Administration representatives and Hill staff, and ways to find, build and refine program funding and support. <i>The Honorable Gary LaPaille, President, mCapitol Management (CONFIRMED)</i>
9:00 am – 10:00 am Salon I & II	Plenary: NARC 2012 Policy Discussion Each year your national Association refines policies, activities and outreach to best fit the needs of regional planning organizations as it pertains to critical or future legislative or regulatory topics. Discuss NARC's 2012 policy priorities with leadership and staff, and lend your recommendations for how to improve NARC's success with Congress, the Administration and partners. <i>Led by Fred Abousleman, Executive Director & Shannon Baxevanis, Deputy Director, NARC</i>

<p>10:00 am – 10:15 am Salon Foyer</p>	<p>Morning Break</p>	
<p>10:15 am – 12:15 pm</p>	<p>Environment Committee Open Meeting Salon IIIA</p> <p>EPA Discussion: Integrated Planning for Water Quality The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is developing an integrated planning approach framework to help the Agency work with state and local governments and to identify: (1) The essential components of an integrated plan; (2) Steps for identifying municipalities that might best make use of such an approach; and, (3) How best to implement the plans with your state. Come learn about EPA's effort and how your organization can be engaged in the process.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kevin Weiss, Water Permits Division, Office of Water, EPA (CONFIRMED) <p>Local Government Partner Update The National Association of Counties (NACo) and the National League of Cities (NLC) will provide updates on their environmental policy priorities for 2012.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Julie Ufner, Associate Legislative Director Environment, Energy and Land Use, NACo (CONFIRMED) • Carolyn Berndt, Principal Associate, Infrastructure & Sustainability, Federal Relations, NLC (CONFIRMED) <p>Open Discussion – Environmental Activities, Challenges and Opportunities Attendees of the meeting will use this open forum to dialogue about environmental activities, challenges and opportunities within specific regions and localities around the country. Topics of interest include watershed management and planning, air quality, greenhouse gas reduction, livable/sustainable communities efforts, energy planning and implementation, etc.</p> <p>NARC Staff Update NARC staff will provide a policy and program update and allow time for general participant discussion. Topics will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of 2012 Environmental Policies • Livable Communities Act and the Sustainable Communities Partnership • Grant Update • Other Important Program and Policy Activities 	<p>Economic and Community Development Committee Open Meeting Salon IIIB</p> <p>Local Government Partner Update – Upcoming Legislation Speakers from NARC's key partners, the National Association of Counties and the National League of Cities, will provide an update and take questions regarding their 2012 legislative priorities and upcoming activities related to the Farm Bill, Rural Development, Community Development Block Grants and much more.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mike Wallace, Community & Economic Development Program Director, Federal Relations, National League of Cities (CONFIRMED) • Daria Daniel, Associate Legislative Director, National Association of Counties (CONFIRMED) <p>Regional Opportunity: Local Farms, Food and Jobs Act An update on the Local Farms, Food and Jobs Act introduced in Fall 2012, highlighting opportunities for regional planning organizations to support economic development through this proposed legislation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kristin Vennekotter, Legislative Aide, Office of Senator Sherrod Brown (D-OH) (CONFIRMED) <p>Open Discussion: How Does Federal Policy Impact Economic Development in Your Region? Members will continue the conversation from previous committee meetings by sharing experiences on their economic and community development efforts in response to the economic recession, with a focus on opportunities and areas for increased federal support. A special focus will be given to connecting regional workforce development with education and economic development initiatives. Two committee members will provide short presentations to kick-off the discussion.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hon. Steve Cassano, State Senator, CT, moderator (CONFIRMED) • Hon. Harold Tomlinson, Carroll County, KY Judge (CONFIRMED) • Virginia Belew, Director of Workforce Development, Permian Basin Regional Planning Commission (CONFIRMED)

		<p>NARC Staff Update and General Committee Discussion NARC staff will provide a policy and program update and allow time for general participant discussion. Topics will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Livable Communities Act and the • Sustainable Communities Partnership • Economic Development Administration • Farm Bill • Workforce Investment Act • Federal Budget • Other Important Program and Policy • Activities
<p>12:30 pm – 1:00 pm Salon I & II</p>	<p>Lunch and Keynote Address: The Honorable Gerry Connolly (D-VA, 11th) (CONFIRMED)</p> <p>Congressman Connolly will detail his perspective and outlook on policies that will impact local governments and regions, particularly as it relates to economic viability and opportunity.</p> <p>Congressman Connolly is serving his second term in Congress representing the 11th Congressional District of Virginia, which encompasses Fairfax County, Prince William County, and the City of Fairfax in Northern Virginia. The Congressman sits on the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee and the House Committee on Foreign Affairs. He is an expert on local and state government matters and previously served as a local elected official as Chairman of the Board of Supervisors in Fairfax County, Virginia.</p>	
<p>1:00 pm – 1:30 pm Salon I & II</p>	<p>Lunch and White House Keynote Address: David Agnew, Deputy Director, Office of Intergovernmental Affairs (CONFIRMED)</p> <p>White House Intergovernmental Affairs Deputy Director Agnew will provide information on the President’s domestic urban and rural priorities and initiatives relevant to local governments and regions</p> <p>Mr. Agnew began his post on January 28, 2009 to build partnerships with elected officials from cities, towns and counties. Prior to joining the White House, Mr. Agnew was a businessman and community leader in Charleston, SC; served as top deputy to Charleston Mayor Joseph P. Riley Jr.; and was a Special Assistant in the Office of U.S. Secretary of Labor Robert Reich. Throughout his career, he has been active in urban policy and city issues.</p>	
<p>1:45 pm – 3:45 pm</p>	<p>Transportation Committee Open Meeting Salon I & II</p> <p>Welcome and Introductions Co-Chairs Wray and Parks</p> <p>NARC Staff Update NARC staff will provide a policy and program update and allow time for general participant discussion. Topics will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of 2012 Transportation Policies • New Activities • Other Important Program and Policy • Activities <p>Federal Partner Update The U.S. Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) will provide updates on their transportation policy priorities for 2012.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Charlie Goodman</i>, Office of Planning and 	<p>Homeland Security Open Committee Meeting Salon IIIA</p> <p>Welcome and Introductions Co-Chair Robertson</p> <p>Developing a “Plan B” Strategy With current and expected reductions in federal funding for homeland security and public safety activities, it is necessary to examine your organization’s “Plan B” strategy to determine what activities, services and offerings regional planning organizations and local governments will offer in his realm. Come discuss your organization’s prioritization process and related undertakings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Marlene Nagel</i>, Director of Community Development, Mid-America Regional Council (CONFIRMED)

	<p>Environment, FTA (CONFIRMED)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ken Petty</i>, Office of Planning, FHWA (CONFIRMED) <p>Roundtable: Local Government Surface Transportation Priorities NARC and its partnering organizations will discuss the federal surface transportation authorization.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Leslie Wollack</i>, Program Director, Infrastructure and Sustainability, Federal Relations, NLC (CONFIRMED) • <i>Bob Fogel</i>, Senior Legislative Representative, NACo (CONFIRMED) • <i>Kevin McCarty</i>, U.S. Conference of Mayors (invited) • <i>Jim Fahey</i>, Director of Government and Public Affairs, American Public Works Association (CONFIRMED) • <i>Sheryl Gross-Glaser</i>, Director, Partnership for Mobility Management, Community Transportation Association of America (CONFIRMED) <p>Roundtable: Congressional Surface Transportation Priorities Several congressional committees are writing their pieces of the next federal surface transportation authorization. Hear from committee staff about the priorities, direction and timeline of the next transportation authorization.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Jim Kolb</i>, Staff Director, Subcommittee on Highways and Transit, U.S. House of Representatives Transportation and Infrastructure Committee (CONFIRMED) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Jim Reed</i>, Executive Director, Central Texas Council of Governments (CONFIRMED) <p>DHS Update The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) will provide an update on federal homeland security activities and collaborating with locals and regions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Chris Essid</i>, Director, Office of Emergency Communications, DHS (CONFIRMED) <p>Local Government Partner Update The National Association of Counties (NACo) and the National League of Cities (NLC) will provide updates on their homeland security and public safety policy priorities for 2012.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Dalen Harris</i>, Associate Legislative Director, NACo (CONFIRMED) • <i>Mitchel Herckis</i>, Principal Associate, Human Development & Public Safety, Federal Relations, NLC (CONFIRMED) <p>NARC Staff Update and Open Discussion NARC staff will provide a policy and program update. Topics will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of 2012 Homeland Security Policies • Other Important Program and Policy Activities <p>Attendees of the meeting will use this open forum to dialogue about homeland security activities, challenges and opportunities within specific regions and localities around the country.</p>
<p>4:30 pm – 6:00 pm Plaza Ballroom</p>	<p>Executive Directors Council Meeting</p>	
<p>7:00 pm – 9:00 pm Dino's</p>	<p>Board of Directors Dinner</p>	

Tuesday, February 14, 2012

<p>8:00 am – 2:15 pm Salon Foyer</p>	<p>Registration Open</p>
<p>8:00 am – 8:30 am Salon Foyer</p>	<p>Continental Breakfast</p>
<p>8:30am – 9:00am Salon I & II</p>	<p>Keynote Address: The Honorable Shaun Donovan, Secretary, U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (CONFIRMED)</p> <p>Secretary Donovan will provide an outlook on national housing policies and programs.</p> <p>Secretary Donovan is the 15th U.S. Secretary for Housing and Urban Development (HUD). He has devoted his career to ensuring access to safe, decent, and affordable housing, and believes that America's homes are the foundation for family, safe neighborhoods, good schools, and solid businesses. He has a strong commitment to make quality housing possible for every American. He previously served as Commissioner of the New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD), was a consultant to the Millennial Housing Commission, served as acting Federal Housing Administration Commissioner during the Clinton/Bush presidential transition, and worked at the Community Preservation Corporation (CPC).</p>
<p>9:00 am – 10:00 am Salon I & II</p>	<p>Plenary: The National Debt and Its Impact on Local Governments</p> <p>The growing national debt, which stands at nearly \$15 trillion, continues to be an important topic for lawmakers, government, businesses and citizens alike. Many efforts in Congress and the Administration are underway to tackle this issue and ensure that the nation's financial obligations are manageable and appropriate. Hear from our local government partners on how the national debt is impacting local governments, how their organizations are positioned for this discussion, and where regions can assist in advocating federal policies.</p> <p>Moderator: <i>Jim Hassinger</i>, President & CEO, Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission (CONFIRMED) <i>Larry Naake</i>, Executive Director, NACo (CONFIRMED) <i>Carolyn Coleman</i>, Director of Federal Relations, NLC (CONFIRMED)</p>
<p>10:00 am – 10:15 am Salon Foyer</p>	<p>Morning Break</p>
<p>10:15 am-11:45 am Salon IIIB</p>	<p>Breakout: Onward to Implementation: Livability Beyond Planning (Erika)</p> <p>Many regions nationwide are planning for livable communities as a way to create vibrant, economically competitive regions. In 2009, the federal Interagency Partnership for Sustainable Communities established six Livability Principles. Working collaboratively with NLC, NACo, NARC, the APWA and the International City/County Management Association are examining how to create locally implementable solutions. This workshop will explore how COGs and MPOs are implementing their livable communities plans as well as the progress of NARC's.</p> <p>Creating Livability in Broward County, FL <i>Greg Stuart</i>, Executive Director, Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization (CONFIRMED)</p> <p>Implementing Livability in the Twin Cities <i>Mark Vander Schaaf</i>, Director, Planning and Growth Management, The Metropolitan Council of the Twin Cities (CONFIRMED)</p>

<p>10:45 am – 11:45 am Salon IIIA</p>	<p>Policy Trends in Workforce Development</p> <p>Workforce policies are critical to local and regional economic development. Legislative vehicles like the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) have not been reauthorized in years and require strong support to urge Congressional activity. Hear from the CEO of the National Workforce Association on current workforce legislative activities, and how a sustainable workforce development system for America can be designed and funded.</p> <p><i>David Bradley, CEO, National Workforce Association (CONFIRMED)</i></p>
<p>12:00 pm – 1:00 pm Salon I & II</p>	<p>Keynote Address and Lunch: The Honorable Ray LaHood, Secretary, U.S. Department of Transportation (CONFIRMED)</p> <p>Secretary LaHood will provide an outlook on national transportation policies and programs.</p> <p>Before becoming Secretary of Transportation, LaHood served for 14 years in the U.S. House of Representatives from the 18th District of Illinois (1995-2009). Prior to his election to the U.S. House, he served as Chief of Staff to U.S. Congressman Robert Michel and as District Administrative Assistant to Congressman Thomas Railsback. He also served in the Illinois State Legislature.</p>
<p>1:00 pm – 1:30pm Salon I & II</p>	<p>Keynote Address: The Honorable John Mica (R-FL, 7), Chairman, U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure (CONFIRMED)</p> <p>Chairman Mica will detail his priorities for the Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure, including creating jobs, improving our nation's infrastructure and economy, and enacting a federal surface transportation reauthorization.</p> <p>Chairman Mica has served in Congress since 1992, and represents the 7th Congressional District of Florida, which stretches across six counties from the suburban areas north of Orlando to the Jacksonville city limits. The Chairman also sits on the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee. He previously served in the Florida House of Representatives.</p>
<p>1:30 pm – 2:00 pm</p>	<p>Afternoon Break</p>
<p>2:00 pm – 2:30 pm Salon I & II</p>	<p>Keynote Address: The Honorable Bob Perciascepe, Deputy Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (CONFIRMED)</p> <p>Deputy Administrator Perciascepe will detail his outlook on national environmental policies and programs.</p> <p>EPA Deputy Administrator Bob Perciascepe was confirmed in the number two post at U.S. EPA on December 24, 2009 and has served at all levels of government, including as the former EPA Assistant Administrator for Water as well as Assistant Administrator for Air and Radiation in the Clinton Administration, Secretary of Environment for the State of Maryland, and Baltimore's Assistant Director of Planning. He also served at the COO of the National Audubon Society.</p>
<p>2:30 pm – 4:30 pm</p>	<p>Adjourn to Hill Meetings</p>
<p>3:30 pm – 5:30 pm Plaza Ballroom</p>	<p>Board of Directors Meeting</p>