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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REGIONAL COUNCILS

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eRegions

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Webster County,

Kentucky

Chair Charles 'Chick'

Krautler,

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EXECUTIVE BRIEF

Colleagues,

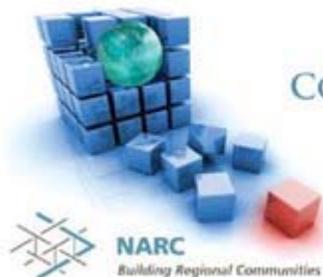
I hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable Thanksgiving.

This week, both Erika Young and I will be traveling to the National League of Cities' 2010 Congress of Cities and Exposition, where we will be presenting and

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2011 NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF REGIONS

FEBRUARY 13-15, 2011

THE RITZ-CARLTON HOTEL
WASHINGTON, DC

[REGISTER TODAY!](#)

Draft agenda updated November 23, 2010! You're invited to join local elected officials, Councils of Government and Metropolitan Planning Organizations from around the country at the 2011 National Conference of Regions - *Renewing the Regional Commitment*. Click [HERE](#) to access the current draft agenda; click [HERE](#) to register or contact Lindsey Riley at lindsey@narc.org or 202.986.1032 x220 for more information.

supporting our local governments and regions. We will be conducting and participating in training and policy sessions.

Last week I was in California visiting the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG). Many thanks to the SCAG Executive Director Hasan Ikhata and staff for hosting me. I also visited with the Executive Director of the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG), Gary Gallegos; we continued the process of building out the 2011 Annual Conference, co-hosted by SCAG and SANDAG in June.

We're gearing up for our National Conference of Regions - and in doing so have released an updated agenda, confirming several speakers, including the Honorable Debbie Hersman, Chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board, as a keynote speaker. If you haven't already done so, register today and join us in February.

DIRECTORY of REGIONS

The **National Directory of Regions** survey was sent out via email to all Executive Directors. If your organization has not received this survey, click [HERE](#) for access. If you have any questions, please contact Sylvia Bryant at sylvia@narc.org or 202.986.1032.

NARC PROGRAM

Upcoming NARC Webinar: *Geospatial Viewers Overview*: Tuesday, December 7, 2010, 2pm ET: This webinar, hosted by Sam Wear from Westchester County, NY GIS, will provide a demo on how to get started with a variety of easy-to-use geospatial viewers (ArcGIS Explorer, Google Earth, NASA World Wind, GAIA 3, etc.) that offer cost effective options in delivering, sharing, and viewing geospatial data and services. Click [HERE](#) to register.

HUD Launches Website for Economic & Housing Data: The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) unveiled a new website that consolidates a wide variety of economic and housing market data at the regional, state, metropolitan area and county levels. Using data from the Census Bureau, Labor Department, State and Local governments, housing industry sources, as well as HUD's own field economists, the new website employs interactive maps that allow visitors to access a variety of reports – from a region-wide look at employment and housing activity to individual county-level figures on population trends, rental activity and vacancy rates. HUD's new website displays an interactive map of the U.S. allowing visitors an intuitive way to seek data in a number of areas of geography – from an entire region down to a particular county. The reports can be viewed by region, state, metropolitan area or county. Click [HERE](#) to access the portal.

EPA to Host Webcast on Climate Change Adaptation Tools for Addressing Water Issues: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Watershed Academy is holding a free webcast on climate change adaptation and water issues on Tuesday, December 2 from 1:00 – 3:00 pm EST. Webcast participants are eligible to receive a certificate for their attendance. Click [HERE](#) to register. Click [HERE](#) for more information on the webcast. Participants are encouraged to download presentations prior to the webcast at [Watershed Academy Webcast Seminars](#).

Best,
Fred

NARCSTAFF

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NARCPOLICY

The House and Senate are in Lame Duck session.

President to Host White House Meeting: Tomorrow, November 30, President Obama will host the bipartisan Congressional leadership at the White House. This meeting was originally scheduled Nov. 18th but was postponed at the request of the GOP leadership.

Fiscal Reform Commission to Hold Meeting: Tomorrow, on November 30 at 9:30am ET, the President's **National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform** will conduct its first public meeting since the release of the draft proposal. During tomorrow's meeting, the Commission is set to deliver its final report. This meeting will continue through Wednesday, December 1. A live web cast will be available at **<http://www.whitehouse.gov/live>**. Click **HERE** to access NARC's summary of the draft recommendations.

Continuing Resolution Work to Rank as Priority: This week, Congress will work to extend the current Continuing Resolution (CR) to keep the government funded, and provide an opportunity to work on other issues, including a possible omnibus bill (that would include all of the FY11 appropriations bills). The current CR (PL 111-242) expires at midnight Friday, December 3.

Support Livable Communities: Both the House (**HR 4690**) and Senate (**S1619**) have legislation supporting the regional role in building livable communities with their local governments. The legislation seeks to reinvigorate regional comprehensive planning and implementation for regions of all sizes and make ups. We urge all regional planning organizations and their boards of local elected officials to send letters of support to your Congressional delegation urging their endorsement by showcasing the on-the-ground benefits of this legislation for your region. Click **HERE** to access a letter for your region to personalize. For more information or assistance with an endorsement, please contact Shannon Baxevanis at **Shannon@NARC.org** or 202.986.1032 x217.

Support RIIZs: Regional Infrastructure Improvement Zones (RIIZs) are an important tool for infrastructure financing. NARC continues to work on RIIZs in both chambers of Congress, as well as with members and association

partners to raise awareness and support of this innovative public-private partnership concept. Click [HERE](#) for a RIIZ FAQ. If you are interested in sending a support letter to your Members of Congress, please click [HERE](#) for a draft letter. A draft support resolution is also available by clicking [HERE](#). For more information, please contact Shannon Baxevanis at Shannon@NARC.org or 202.986.1032 x217.

PARTNERUPDATES

ICMA Knowledge Network: Join the Conversation! It's Free! The International City/County Management Association (ICMA) is committed to fostering excellence and innovation in local government. The ICMA Knowledge Network is an online community built on the following ideals:

- Rich Content - Breadth and depth of content in all facets of local government operations and management.
- Social Networking and Knowledge Exchange - Within an open environment, ability to network and exchange ideas with a worldwide community of experts in local government and topics related to local government.
- Partnering - A partnership of the ICMA, the Alliance for Innovation and the School of Public Affairs at Arizona State University, the Knowledge Network is designed as a shared resource. Via open architecture, local governments, groups, organizations and affiliated associations will be provided seamless access, interaction and knowledge exchange. The Knowledge Network actively seeks new partners providing pathways to fresh, engaging content and new user audiences.
- Global Scope - The free flowing exchange of concepts, ideas and best practices will occur without boundary. City leaders in developing nations will be able access the functionality of the Knowledge Network to seek answers to their unique challenges and spur resource sharing and knowledge exchange throughout their countries.

Register at [the Knowledge Network page](#). It only takes a moment; it costs you nothing; it opens up a communications channel to like-minded people in local government around the world.

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

National Spatial Data Infrastructure Cooperative Agreement Program (NSDI CAP) Grants - *Deadline: January 7, 2011*

The Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) has announced the release of the 2010 NSDI CAP grant applications. This grant opportunity supports organizations across the country develop and implement projects to support several phases of the NSDI. Categories for projects include: Metadata Trainer and Outreach Assistance, FGDC-endorsed Standards Implementation Training and Outreach, Fifty States Initiative-Strategic and Business Plan Development, Fifty States Initiative-Business Plan Development and Implementation, Return on Investment Methodology and Business Case Development for Multi-agency NSDI Projects and FGDC Standards Development Assistance. More information on the program is available [HERE](#) and additional information on the grant application process is available at www.grants.gov.

U.S. EPA Accepting Applications for Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training – *Deadline: January 14, 2011*

The U.S. EPA is accepting funding proposals to deliver environmental workforce development and job training programs focused on hazardous and solid waste management, assessment, and cleanup associated activities. These grants are to recruit, train, and place, unemployed and under-employed, predominantly low-income and minority, residents affected by hazardous and solid waste sites and facilities with the skills needed to secure full-time, sustainable employment in the environmental field and in the assessment and cleanup work. EPA has available \$4 million to award approximately 13 cooperative agreements. Eligible entities: local governments, government entity created through state legislature, Regional Council or group of local governments, redevelopment agency, Indian tribe, land clearance authority, and non-profit organizations. Click [HERE](#) for the application guidelines. Click [HERE](#) for more information on brownfields funding opportunities.

UPCOMING EVENTS

U.S. Clean Technology Trade & Investment Mission Conference
November 29-December 4, Lyon, France and Brussels, Belgium: ITA and EDA are will host a “U.S. Clean Technology Trade & Investment Mission.” Please visit the official mission webpage, by clicking [HERE](#), for the mission

statement, application and application instructions.

Geospatial Viewers Overview Webinar

Tuesday, December 7, 2010, 2pm ET: This webinar, hosted by Sam Wear from Westchester County, NY GIS, will provide a demo on how to get started with a variety of easy-to-use geospatial viewers (ArcGIS Explorer, Google Earth, NASA World Wind, GAIA 3, etc.) that offer cost effective options in delivering, sharing, and viewing geospatial data and services. These viewers can be used to easily to consume and combine (a.k.a. “mash-up”) Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC) compliant map services with local datasets and other digital products. Steps on how to access and use map services (WMS, ArcIMS, KML/KMZ, others) and local shapefiles, and other application highlights will be discussed. Click [HERE](#) to register.

2011 National Conference of Regions

February 13-15, 2011, Washington, DC: NARC will host its 2011 National Conference of Regions, which will focus on Obama Administration's priorities, Congressional activities, and critical policy issues and pending federal legislation that will impact regions. Click [HERE](#) to register for the conference.

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