

Agenda



Sunday, February 7

1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TOUR OF UNION MARKET

Please note that this tour requires separate registration. We will meet on the lobby level of the hotel inside the Ballroom Entrance at 12:45 pm for a shuttle, which will leave promptly at 1:00 pm. Bring good walking shoes.

Tour DC's historic Union Market and discuss the city's robust economic re-development plan; learn how the Market has benefited the community, including permanent new jobs and revitalized neighborhood development; and enjoy free time to shop and taste in this new urban village.

5:00 - 6:30 p.m. *Salon III*

OPENING RECEPTION

Enjoy listening to live jazz as you mingle with friends old and new.

SPONSORED BY:



February 7-9, 2016

Ritz-Carlton Hotel
1150 22nd Street NW
Washington, D.C.

Monday, February 8

8:00 a.m. *Salon Foyer*

BREAKFAST

8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. *Salon I & II*

OPENING GENERAL SESSION

WELCOME TO WASHINGTON & INTRODUCTION OF NARC BOARD MEMBERS

Moderator: *The Honorable Byron Ryder, President, NARC; Judge, Leon County, TX*

Speaker: *Dr. Valarie J. McCall, President, American Public Transportation Association; Board Member, Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency*

9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. *Salon I & II*

KEYNOTE & PLENARY SESSIONS

FEMA INSURANCE AND MITIGATION

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) works with governments, citizens, and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards. Regions play a large part in preparedness, mitigation, and recovery. Hear FEMA's perspective on how the agency collaborates with regions to help make them safer.

Moderator: *The Honorable Byron Ryder, President, NARC; Judge, Leon County, TX*

Keynote: *Roy Wright, Deputy Associate Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency*

TRANSPORTATION AUTHORIZATION WRAP-UP & PANEL: WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

The recently enacted *Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act*, the five-year reauthorization of the nation's highway and transit programs, has important implications for metropolitan planning organizations and regional councils. Hear an update on the new law, then stay tuned for a panel discussion featuring some of the nation's foremost transportation policy experts. These experts will discuss the FAST Act from their unique and various perspectives and consider what the future holds for the federal surface transportation program.

Moderator: *Andrew Gruber, Executive Director, Wasatch Front Regional Council*

Speakers: *Erich Zimmermann, Director of Transportation Programs, NARC*

Michael P. Melaniphy, President & CEO, American Public Transportation Association

Pete Ruane, President & CEO, American Road and Transportation Builders Association

Bud Wright, Executive Director, American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials

15 MINUTE BREAK (*Salon Foyer*)

EVOLVING ECONOMIES: RETHINKING GROWTH STRATEGIES

Regions are moving beyond the traditional economic development activities largely focused on industrial recruitment and job growth and gravitating to supplementary approaches like greater involvement of anchor institutions, greater community engagement, partnerships, and more support for innovation and entrepreneurship. Hear from a panel of experts on how to leverage new trends in economic development for increased economic rewards in your region.

Moderator: *Lyle Wray, Executive Director, Capitol Region Council of Governments*

Speakers: *Tom Guevara, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Regional Affairs, U.S. Economic Development Administration*

Dan Neff, Local Development District Program Director, Appalachian Regional Commission

Darin Chidsey, Director of Strategy, Policy and Public Affairs, Southern California Association of Governments

12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. *Buffet served in Salon Foyer. Presentations in Salon I & II*

LUNCH & KEYNOTE PRESENTATIONS

U.S. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF COMMERCE JAY WILLIAMS

As the only federal government agency focused exclusively on economic development, the U.S. Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration (EDA) plays a critical role in fostering regional economic development efforts in communities across the nation. Through strategic investments that foster job creation and attract private investment, EDA supports development in economically distressed areas of the U.S. Jay Williams was appointed by President Obama to serve as the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development.

Moderator: *The Honorable Byron Ryder, President, NARC; Judge, Leon County, TX*

Keynote: *The Honorable Jay Williams, U.S. Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development*

APA PRESIDENT CAROL RHEA

Carol Rhea is President of the American Planning Association (APA), an organization with close to 40,000 members that provides leadership in the development of vital and prosperous communities. Carol Rhea is a founding partner of the Orion Planning Group and previously created and staffed Rhea Consulting. She has also worked as a city, county, regional, and state planner.

Moderator: *The Honorable Byron Ryder, President, NARC; Judge, Leon County, TX*

Keynote: *Carol Rhea, President, American Planning Association*

1:35 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

THE FAST ACT'S IMPACT ON METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

Salon IIIa

The *Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act* – the recently enacted surface transportation authorization bill – adds 'travel and tourism and resiliency and reliability' to the list of issues that MPOs must consider as part of the planning process. This session is an opportunity to learn more about these issues and how they may be applied in the planning context.

Moderator:

- *The Honorable Bob Dallari, Sr. Vice President, NARC; Commissioner, Seminole County, FL*

Speakers:

- *Rebecca Lupes, Environmental Protection Specialist, Federal Highway Administration*
- *Benjamin Rosenbaum, Senior Legislative Assistant, Office of U.S. Representative Dina Titus*

ENDING HOMELESSNESS IN AMERICA

Salon IIIb

In 2015, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development reported over 500,000 Americans are homeless. Although this number has decreased from previous years, homelessness continues to be an epidemic, especially among veterans. This session will explore the underlying causes of homelessness and discuss policies and initiatives aimed at ending the homelessness crisis.

Moderator:

- *Marlene Nagel, Director of Community Development, Mid-America Regional Council*

Speakers:

- *Gene Lowe, Assistant Executive Director, U.S. Conference of Mayors*
- *Elisha Harig-Blaine, Principal Housing Associate, National League of Cities*

2:50 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

BROADBAND AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Salon IIIa

Technology helps strengthen regions' capacity to protect public safety, promote local economies, and support government functions. However, it also can be challenging to stay ahead of the latest information and threats. This session will help demystify the benefits and challenges of technology and ways to harness it for the benefit of your region, including broadband, cybersecurity, and innovative uses of state data.

Moderator:

- **The Honorable Bob Dallari**, Sr. Vice President, NARC; Commissioner, Seminole County, FL

Speakers:

- **Yejin Jang Cooke**, Director of Government Affairs, National Association of State Chief Information Officers
- **Jean Rice**, Senior Communications Program Specialist, National Telecommunications & Information Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce

REENERGIZING ENERGY POLICY: WHAT TO KNOW TO GET INVOLVED

Salon IIIb

As the energy landscape continues to change, more opportunities are available to regional councils to get involved and shape energy policy. This session will discuss the nation's top energy issues and highlight opportunities for regional councils to engage their local governments in energy efficiency and renewable energy policy and initiatives. Specifically, this session will highlight the upcoming 2018 International Energy Codes Council vote to increase energy efficiency in buildings and the U.S. Department of Energy's new Solar Powering America by Recognizing Communities (SPARC) program.

Moderator:

- **The Honorable Penelope A. Gross**, Past President, NARC; Supervisor, Mason District, VA

Speakers:

- **Ellen Vaughan**, Policy Director for Sustainable Buildings, Environmental and Energy Study Institute
- **Bill Fay**, Executive Director, Energy Efficient Codes Coalition
- **Philip Haddix**, Program Director, The Solar Foundation

4:00 p.m. – 4:10 p.m. *Salon Foyer*

BREAK

4:10 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE SESSION

Salon I & II

Agenda

- **FAST Act:** A discussion of the bill's details and what it means for transportation planning
- **MAP-21:** An update on the implementation of the previous authorization bill
- **Scenario Planning:** An overview of NARC's scenario planning project
- **2016 and Beyond:** A discussion of transportation-related legislation and where NARC should focus its efforts

Co-Chairs:

- **The Honorable Fred Strong**, Board Member, NARC; Councilmember, City of Paso Robles, CA
- **Lyle Wray**, Executive Director, Capitol Region Council of Governments
- **Michael Parks**, Assistant Executive Director, Brazos Valley Council of Governments

Staff Contact:

- **Erich W. Zimmerman**, Director of Transportation Programs, NARC

PURSUING CANOEING: PADDLING TOWARDS ENVIRONMENTAL LITERACY

Salon IIIb

Join us for a presentation on Wilderness Inquiry's Canoemobile program, a youth engagement initiative focused on environmental education and stewardship of urban environmental resources. The program is introducing thousands of underserved urban youth to high quality, place-based environmental education through direct connections to natural areas in their communities. Canoemobile manifests behavioral change by introducing youth to the importance of their urban watersheds, exposing youth to providers and opportunities within their local communities, and establishing a positive connection with urban waterways and natural resources.

Moderator:

- **The Honorable Geof Benson**, Board Member, NARC; Commissioner, Town of Beverly Shores, IN

Speakers:

- **Greg Lais**, Founder & Executive Director, Wilderness Inquiry
- **Paul Labovitz**, Superintendent of Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore / Acting Superintendent of Pullman National Monument, National Park Service
- **Bob Ratcliffe**, Program Chief, Conservation & Outdoor Recreation, National Park Service
- **Roy Simon**, Staff to the Urban Waters Federal Partnership & Special Assistant to the Director, Office of Ground and Drinking Water, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- **Alice Ewen**, National Program Manager, Urban & Community Forestry, U.S. Forest Service

4:45 p.m. – 6:15 p.m. Plaza Ballroom

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, February 9

8:00 a.m. *Salon Foyer*

BREAKFAST

8:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. *Salon I & II*

GENERAL SESSIONS

HARRIET TREGONING, PRINCIPAL DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR HUD'S OFFICE OF COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Community Planning and Development is at the core of the work done by regional organizations. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) leads the federal effort to help regions, cities, counties, and towns across the country build a strong foundation for a diverse and prosperous economy based on enhancing community quality of place, economic opportunity, fiscal stability, transportation choice, and affordability. Ms. Tregoning will highlight the work of HUD's partnership with communities to promote strong regions.

Moderator: *The Honorable Byron Ryder, President, NARC; Judge, Leon County, TX*

Keynote: *Harriet Tregoning, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of Community Planning and Development, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development*

BUILDING YOUR LOCAL WORKFORCE: WIOA AND YOU

With the passage of the *Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)*, much has changed in the world of workforce training and job placement. The changes -- which are designed to transform the nation's workforce development system into one that is more modern and more responsive to the needs of workers and employers alike -- include greater program flexibility, a greater role for both elected officials and the private sector, and a greater emphasis on meeting the workforce needs of the hardest to serve. These changes may offer regional councils significant opportunities to become involved with their local workforce investment boards and workforce development programs. This general session will focus on the new opportunities that are arising in the world of workforce development and how regional councils can take advantage of these new opportunities.

Moderator: *Neil E. Bomberg, Government Affairs Director, American Public Human Services Association*

Speakers: *Daria Daniel, Associate Legislative Director, National Association of Counties*
Marc Katz, Government Affairs Director, National Association of State Workforce Associations
Bridget Brown, Executive Director, National Association of Workforce Development Professionals
Kerry Desjardins, Policy Associate, American Public Human Services Association

ISSUES FACING THE OLDER AMERICANS ACT IN 2016

Reauthorization of the *Older Americans Act* is an important issue for many NARC members, especially those that house Area Agencies on Aging. The Senate last year passed its version of the *Older Americans Act (OAA)*. The House has roughly 70 legislative days in 2016 to complete its version of the OAA reauthorization and to conference with the Senate. Our speakers will address the prospects for this to happen.

Moderator: *The Honorable Ron Shaffer, President Elect, NARC; Commissioner, Johnson County, KS*

Keynote: *K.J. Hertz, Senior Legislative Representative, American Association of Retired Persons*

DIALOGUE WITH EPA ON WATER PROGRAMS AND INTEGRATED PLANNING

Moderator: *The Honorable Ron Shaffer, President Elect, NARC; Commissioner, Johnson County, KS*

Speakers: *Deborah Nagle, Water Permits Division Director, Office of Water, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency*
Mark Pollins, Water Enforcement Division Director, Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

10:50 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

<p>FOOD SYSTEMS POLICY <i>Salon IIIa</i></p> <p>Food policy is a growing area of interest for planning councils. Issues of food and agriculture are appearing in long range plans and sustainability plans and are being undertaken as special projects by planning councils. Learn why there is growing interest in this topic and how the food system intersects with land use, transportation, and environmental planning and economic development. Then explore how regional planning councils can play a role in food policy.</p> <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• William Murdock, <i>Second Vice Chair, NARC; Executive Director, Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission</i> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Anne Palmer, <i>Program Director, Food Communities and Public Health, Johns Hopkins Center for a Livable Future</i>• Karen Banks, <i>Senior Program Officer, Food Communities and Public Health, Johns Hopkins Center for a Livable Future</i>	<p>REGIONAL PLANNING WITH CENSUS DATA: USING THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY AND CENSUS BUSINESS BUILDER <i>Salon IIIb</i></p> <p>The Census Bureau provides a wealth of demographic and economic data that can be useful to regional planners to better understand the people and businesses in your region. This includes the American Community Survey (ACS), which provides detailed social, economic, and housing statistics for every community in the U.S. every year. In this workshop, you will learn about basics of the yearly estimates and datasets produced from the ACS, and how to access these data in American FactFinder. The workshop will also feature the newly-released data tool, Census Business Builder: Regional Analyst Edition, that provides easy access to these data from the ACS, as well as information from three Census Economic Programs, and a third party source.</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tyson Weister, <i>Survey Statistician, American Community Survey Office, U.S. Census Bureau</i>• Andrew W. Hait, <i>Survey Statistician, Economy-Wide Statistics Division, U.S. Census Bureau</i>	<p>REGIONAL RESILIENCE BUILDS UNSTOPPABLE COMMUNITIES <i>Plaza Ballroom</i></p> <p>Resiliency addresses the social, economic, and governance concerns of every community. During this workshop, attendees will participate in a mini-resilience assessment to gauge how resiliency measures can ensure your community's wellbeing. Knowing your region's strengths and weaknesses will help you prioritize efforts to increase your overall resiliency.</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• John Cybulski, <i>Manager, Quality Programs, Institute for Building Technology and Safety</i>• Dana Johnston, <i>Marketing Manager, Local Government Solutions, Institute for Building Technology and Safety</i>
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12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. *Buffet served in Salon Foyer. Presentation in Salon I & II*

LUNCH & PRESENTATION

ARTS IN YOUR COMMUNITY

Hear how regions can help shape your arts community! Arts and culture are linked to both an individual's quality of life as well as a region's economy. The National Endowment for the Arts will provide an overview of how your region can get involved in the arts arena, while the Atlanta Regional Commission will give specific examples of what they are doing to grow the region's reputation as a flourishing center for the arts.

Moderator: *The Honorable Bob Cannon, Board of Directors, NARC; Supervisor, Clinton Township, MI*
Speakers: *Michael Killoren, Director for Local Arts Agencies and Challenge America, National Endowment for the Arts*
Doug Hooker, Executive Director, Atlanta Regional Commission
Gregory Burbidge, Senior Program Specialist, Atlanta Regional Commission

1:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. *Salon I & II*

REPRESENTATIVE DAVIS RECEIVES CONGRESSIONAL AWARD

NARC is proud to award Congressman Rodney Davis, a second-term Republican from Illinois' 13th Congressional District, the *Legislator of the Year for Advancing Regionalism in America* award. During the process of finalizing the first long-term reauthorization of the nation's Surface Transportation Program in a decade, Congressman Davis fought tenaciously to increase local control over transportation funding for regions and communities of all sizes. As a member of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, Congressman Davis was instrumental in organizing bi-partisan support for increased local control over Surface Transportation Program funding and communicating the importance of this issue to leadership.

Moderator: *The Honorable Byron Ryder, President, NARC; Judge, Leon County, TX*

Keynote: *The Honorable Rodney Davis, U.S. House of Representatives, 13th District of Illinois*

2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. *Salon I & II*

DEPUTY SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION VICTOR MENDEZ

As Deputy Secretary, Mendez is the U.S. Department of Transportation's (USDOT) chief operating officer, responsible for day-to-day operations of the ten modal administrations and the work of more than 55,000 USDOT employees nationwide and overseas. Mendez is focused on ensuring the safety and efficiency of America's transportation system, which plays a key role in economic development. Before becoming Deputy Secretary, Mendez was the Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration and Director of the Arizona Department of Transportation.

Moderator: *The Honorable Byron Ryder, President, NARC; Judge, Leon County, TX*

Keynote: *The Honorable Victor Mendez, Deputy Secretary of Transportation, U.S. Department of Transportation*

4:00 p.m. – 5:15 p.m. *Plaza Ballroom*

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Wednesday, February 10

7:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. *777 N. Capitol Street NE, Suite 305, Washington, D.C.*

OPEN HOUSE

Join NARC staff at our Headquarters to discuss your Hill meetings, get some coffee, and rest while waiting between meetings. We're just a few walking minutes away! If you need somewhere to leave your bags during your meetings, we are happy to house them at our offices. Check in at kiosks in the lobby. You will need picture ID.

*See you in Salt Lake City for the
50th Annual Conference & Exhibition, June 26-29!*



NARC

Building Regional Communities

National Association of Regional Councils