

# Agenda



**Sunday, February 12**

1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. *Executive Room*

## **D.C.'s UNION STATION MOBILE TOUR**

*Please note that this tour requires separate registration. We will meet at the hotel in the Executive Room.*

Tour D.C.'s historic Union Station. Completed in 1908 and recently renovated, more than 100,000 visitors pass through each day on their way to Amtrak, Maryland Area Regional Commuter rail, Virginia Railway Express, Metro subway trains, buses, taxis, tourist buses, and Capital Bikeshare with numerous opportunities to shop and dine. Today the station, which is larger than the U.S. Capitol, is the number one destination for visitors to the nation's capital. This is a walking tour.

6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. *NARC Headquarters*

## **OPENING RECEPTION**

Mingle with friends old and new at NARC's new headquarters: 660 North Capitol Street N.W.

**SPONSORED BY:**



*February 12-15, 2017*

*Washington Court Hotel  
525 New Jersey Ave N.W.  
Washington, D.C.*

**Monday, February 13**

8:00 a.m. *Ballroom Foyer*

## REGISTRATION & BREAKFAST OPENS

8:30 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. *Grand Ballroom*

## OPENING SESSION

### WELCOME TO WASHINGTON & INTRODUCTION OF NARC BOARD MEMBERS

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

### THE FEDERAL POLICY AGENDA IN A YEAR OF CHANGE, PART 1

With a new president in the White House and the 115th Congress in place, this is a year of significant change in Washington, D.C. It is important to set the stage from a policy perspective and consider some of the broader issues that will set the agenda this year and beyond. This panel of experts will present their perspectives on a range of issues.

**Moderator:** *Ryan Holeywell, Communications Manager, Kinder Institute for Urban Research, Rice University, @RyanHoleywell*

**Speakers:** *Ryan Alexander, President, Taxpayers for Common Sense, @taxpayers*

*Marek Gootman, Fellow & Director of Strategic Partnerships and Global Engagements, Brookings Institution, @MarekGootman*

*Anna Holmquist Davis, Director of Government Relations, National Governors Association, @NatlGovsAssoc*

### THE FEDERAL POLICY AGENDA IN A YEAR OF CHANGE, PART 2

Transportation and infrastructure emerged as important topics during the presidential contest and are issues that generally garner bipartisan support in Congress. What is unclear is what form an infrastructure package might take and whether Congress will be willing to pass a large new spending bill. This panel will share their perspectives and what it could mean for the future.

**Moderator:** *Ryan Holeywell, Communications Manager, Kinder Institute for Urban Research, Rice University, @RyanHoleywell*

**Speakers:** *Pat Jones, Executive Director and CEO, International Bridge, Tunnel and Turnpike Association, @PatJonesDC*

*Robert Puentes, President and CEO, Eno Center for Transportation, @rpuentes*

10:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

## BREAK

10:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

## BREAKOUT SESSIONS

### AN INTERSECTOR PROCESS FOR U.S. INFRASTRUCTURE

*Grand Ballroom*

The U.S. relies on a web of interconnecting infrastructure systems, from roads, railways, ports, and airports to drinking water, waterways, and wastewater. Yet our nation is failing to keep up with a backlog of overdue maintenance and the need for modernization. While it is not unusual for the government, business, and non-profit sectors to work separately on important public policy issues, in the case of infrastructure, a stove-piped approach can hamper innovation, create inefficiencies, and discourage problem solving through cross-sector collaboration. In this session, led by The Intersector Project, leaders from the government, business, and non-profit sectors will explore areas of common ground for collaboration and discuss topics related to funding and financing, procurement and permitting, prioritization of projects, public awareness, and more. The Intersector Project is a nonprofit organization that empowers practitioners in the government, business, and non-profit sectors to collaborate to solve problems that cannot be solved by one sector alone.

**Moderator:** *Neil Britto, Executive Director, The Intersector Project, @theintersector @neilbritto*

**Speakers:** *Dan Carol, Senior Advisor, Georgetown's Beeck Center for Social Impact and Innovation, @DanCarolDC*

*Michael Decker, Managing Director and Co-Head, Municipal Division, Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association, @BondWonk*

*Nicholas Donohue, Deputy Secretary of Transportation, Virginia Department of Transportation, @VaDOT*

*Peter Peyser, Principal, Peyser Associates, @peterpeyser*

## ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Executive Room

This session will discuss alternative fuel vehicle and infrastructure deployment as well as NARC's Fleets for the Future (F4F) project. Through F4F, NARC is working with regional councils and their associated Clean Cities coalitions to launch five regional initiatives and one national initiative for bulk procurement of alternative fuel vehicles and infrastructure.

**Chair:** *The Honorable Blair Milo, Mayor, La Porte, IN, @BlairMiloLP*  
**Speakers:** *Leah Boggs, Senior Environmental Planner, Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, @MWCOG*  
*Barry Carr, Clean Cities Coordinator, Clean Communities of Central New York, @CC\_CNY*  
*Colleen Crowninshield, Clean Cities Manager, Pima Association of Governments, @altfuelgirl*  
*Kelly Gilbert, Director, Clean Cities at Metropolitan Energy Center, @MetroEnergyKC*

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11:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. *Grand Ballroom*

## NETWORKING LUNCH

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1:00 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.

## BREAKOUT SESSIONS

### MUNICIPAL FINANCE

Executive Room

With Congress expected to debate infrastructure investment and tax reform this year, how do local governments play a role in the discussion? Municipal bonds currently finance more than 75% of local government infrastructure investments, yet their tax exempt status continues to be threatened. The promise of public-private partnerships offers a potential answer to fulfilling the investment gap, but how realistic are they for the majority of projects? This session will explore municipal finance opportunities and concerns for the coming year.

**Moderator:** *David Parkhurst, Staff Director & General Counsel, National Governors Association, @NatlGovsAssoc*  
**Speakers:** *Emily Brock, Director, Federal Liaison Center, Government Finance Officers Association, @GFOA*  
*Jennifer Hara, PPP Specialist, Institute for Public-Private Partnerships, @IP3Global*

### A LISTENING SESSION ON AUTONOMOUS & CONNECTED VEHICLES

Grand Ballroom

Autonomous and connected vehicles are one of the hottest topics in popular culture at the moment. They will transform the transportation industry, but the impacts on planning, community development, and policy have received far less attention. This session is an opportunity to discuss these issues with your peers and provide important feedback to NARC staff as we establish a member working group that will meet regularly to discuss related topics.

**Speakers:** *Erich W. Zimmermann, Director of Transportation Programs, NARC, @erichzimm*  
*Sarah Reed, Program Assistant, NARC, @sarahwreed*

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2:15 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

## BREAK

2:30 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.

## BREAKOUT SESSIONS

### TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

*Grand Ballroom*

Hear an update on recent NARC policy and program activities, next steps on the MPO Coordination Final Rule, and the formation of a new working group about autonomous and connected vehicles. NARC staff will also take feedback on what our legislative focus should be for the upcoming year.

**Co-Chairs:** *The Honorable Fred Strong, Councilman, Paso Robles, CA, @PRCity*  
*Lyle Wray, Executive Director, Capitol Region Council of Governments*  
*Michael Parks, Assistant Executive Director, Brazos Valley Council of Governments, @BVCOG*

**Staff:** *Erich W. Zimmermann, Director of Transportation Programs, NARC, @erichzimm*

### PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

*Executive Room*

Thriving communities depend on citizens' trust in their safety. An expert panel will discuss strategies to address public safety in a comprehensive manner.

**Chair:** *The Honorable Byron Ryder, Judge, Leon County, TX*

**Moderator:** *George Rice, Executive Director, Industry Council for Emergency Response Technologies, @iCERT1st*

**Speakers:** *Steve Ambrosini, Executive Director, IJIS Institute, @ijisinstitute*  
*Patrick Halley, Executive Director, NG911 Institute, @NG911Institute*  
*Yucel Ors, Program Director, National League of Cities, @leagueofcities*

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3:50 p.m. – 4:35 p.m. *Grand Ballroom*

### LEGAL CHALLENGES FOR COMMUNITIES 2017 AND BEYOND

The Supreme Court and lower courts, in terms of membership and issues to be decided, will be shaped by the new administration. Hear from the State and Local Legal Center's Executive Director Lisa Soronen as she explores legal issues relevant to local governments that are likely to be resolved in the courts in the near future. Ms. Soronen files amicus curiae briefs to the U.S. Supreme Court on behalf of members of the Big Seven (National Governors Association, National Conference of State Legislatures, Council of State Governments, National League of Cities, U.S. Conference of Mayors, National Association of Counties, and International City/County Management Association) in cases affecting state and local government.

**Moderator:** *John Smaligo, Commissioner, Tulsa County, OK, @JohnSmaligo*

**Speaker:** *Lisa Soronen, Executive Director, State and Local Legal Center, @SLLCSCOTUS*

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4:45 p.m. – 6:15 p.m. *Springwood*

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS COUNCIL MEETING

8:00 a.m. *Ballroom Foyer*

## REGISTRATION & BREAKFAST OPENS

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8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. *Grand Ballroom*

## GENERAL SESSIONS

### KEYNOTE: GEORGE HAWKINS OF D.C. WATER

George Hawkins serves as CEO and General Manager of the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority (D.C. Water). Upon his arrival in 2009, Mr. Hawkins launched an ambitious agenda to transform D.C. Water into a customer-oriented enterprise that is driving innovation and delivering improved value to its ratepayers. The core goal is to improve aging infrastructure while complying with stringent regulatory requirements. D.C. Water is investing in several projects, including the \$2.6 billion Clean Rivers Project to largely eliminate sewage and stormwater overflow into the Anacostia and Potomac Rivers and Rock Creek, and a \$470 million waste-to-energy program to help manage solids being removed from reclaimed water while generating 13 megawatts of green power. D.C. Water is also driving industry-leading efforts in customer engagement, science and engineering research and development, and product development and licensing. Mr. Hawkins has also launched D.C. Water Works! – a program to experiment with cost-efficient techniques to encourage local workforce development and hiring.

**Moderator:** *Chuck Bean, Executive Director, Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, @Chuck4TheRegion*

**Keynote:** *George Hawkins, CEO and General Manager, District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority, @GeorgeHawkinsDC, @dcwater*

### ADDRESSING THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC

The National League of Cities and the National Association of Counties have launched a joint task force to address our nation's opioid and heroin abuse crisis. The National City-County Task Force explores how cities and counties collaborate to address the opioid epidemic and how local leaders can build upon these collaborations and scale them nationally, to improve outcomes in local communities across America that have been impacted by the epidemic.

**Speakers:** *Jim Brooks, City Solutions Director, National League of Cities, @JamesABrooks*  
*The Honorable Gary Moore, Judge Executive, Boone County, KY, @BooneCountyKy*  
*Hadi Sedigh, Associate Legislative Director, National Association of Counties, @NACoTweets*

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10:00 a.m. – 10:10 a.m.

## BREAK

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10:10 a.m. – 11:25 a.m.

## BREAKOUT SESSIONS

### THE DEFENSE DEPARTMENT AND YOUR COMMUNITY

*Grand Ballroom*

Many communities across the country have close ties with defense and military programs. Some communities are home to military bases or installations, while others have private sector manufacturers supplying defense contractors. The U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA) helps towns, cities, and states plan for and implement a future that is both sustainable and successful. Learn more about the OEA and its resources and hear from the Central Texas Council of Governments about their Joint Land Use Study, lessons learned, and best practices.

**Moderator:** *The Honorable Rita Sanders, Mayor, Bellevue, NE, @bellevuemayor*

**Speakers:** *Cyrena Chiles Eitler, Compatible Use Program Director, DoD Office of Economic Adjustment*  
*Jim Reed, Executive Director, Central Texas Council of Governments, @JimReed84*



## CREATING HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

Executive Room

Across the nation, efforts are underway at the city, county, and regional levels to help residents become healthy and stay healthy. All types of initiatives have been undertaken, from addressing food deserts to employing community-wide, health-related competitions. All of this is ultimately tied into the determinants of health: the range of personal, social, economic, and environmental factors that influence health status. Learn from national and local experts how regions like yours are addressing health issues and creating “communities of health.”

**Moderator:** *The Honorable Bryan Caletka, Councilmember, Davie, FL*

**Speakers:** *The Honorable Joy Fuchs, Commissioner, Washington County, TX*

*Megan Lape, Director, National Collaborative for Integration of Health and Human Services, American Public Human Services Association*

*Sullivan Robinson, Executive Director, Leadership Council for Healthy Communities*

## IBTS NATURAL DISASTER EXPERIENCES GAINED

Springwood

The Institute for Building Technology and Safety (IBTS) will share experiences gained through delivery of natural disaster planning, response, and recovery services across the country. Participants will be introduced to IBTSOnHand.org, an online resource of natural disaster-related case studies, tools, and tips being developed to meet the needs of stakeholders at the local level. Priority topics will include U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development CDBG-DR eligibility and compliance, Federal Emergency Management Agency Stafford Act grant and financial management, and volunteer engagement approaches.

**Speaker:** *Christopher Fennell, Senior Advisor, Institute for Building Technology and Safety, @IBTS\_org*

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11:30 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.

## BREAKOUT SESSIONS

### ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: ACCESS TO JOBS

Grand Ballroom

Regional growth depends upon private sector investment, and that investment requires the availability of workers and the necessary transportation infrastructure for them to get to work. Effective planning needs to consider the intersection between jobs and transportation. This is true in inner cities and in more rural areas, where incomes may not guarantee adequate private transportation. Learn from our panel of experts about what can be done and what has been done to address this important problem.

**Chair:** *Betty Voights, Executive Director, Capital Area Council of Governments, @CapcogEconomy*

**Speakers:** *Amy Conrick, Co-Director, National Center for Mobility Management, Community Transportation Association of America, @nc4mm*

*Kermit Kaleba, Federal Policy Director, National Skills Coalition, @SkillsCoalition*

### BUILDING CONNECTED REGIONS: BROADBAND PLANNING & FUNDING

Executive Room

Broadband is revolutionizing the way we live, work, and think. From a regional perspective, broadband supports robust economic clusters, enables efficient transportation corridors, and helps create smarter regions. Join NTIA's BroadbandUSA for an overview of broadband planning and deployment, from developing a needs assessment to engaging stakeholders and identifying funding options. Learn tips from these expert panelists on building your connected region.

**Moderator:** *The Honorable Jim Restucci, Mayor, Sunnyside, WA, @jimrest*

**Speakers:** *Aimee Meacham, Director of Outreach, BroadbandUSA, @NTIAgov*

*Laura Spining, Director, BroadbandUSA, @NTIAgov*

*Scott Woods, Director, BroadbandUSA Technical Assistance, @NTIAgov*

@NARCregions

12:45 p.m. – 1:55 p.m. *Grand Ballroom*

## LUNCH & KEYNOTE PRESENTATION WITH DR. NAT KENDALL-TAYLOR

Join Dr. Nat Kendall-Taylor for an illuminating presentation about how we communicate and why the “frames” we use can be so important to furthering the work we do. Using Strategic Frame Analysis™, Dr. Kendall-Taylor and FrameWorks have developed a communications practice based on the cognitive and social sciences. FrameWorks designs, conducts, and publishes multi-method, multi-disciplinary communications research to empirically identify the most effective ways of reframing social and scientific topics. Dr. Kendall-Taylor is an expert in psychological anthropology and communications science. He is published widely in the popular and professional press and lectures frequently in the U.S. and abroad. Nat joined FrameWorks in 2008; since then, he has led work across the FrameWorks portfolio, with a special focus on issues related to early childhood development, mental health, criminal justice, and aging.

**Moderator:** *The Honorable Bob Dallari, NARC President-elect; Commissioner, Seminole County, FL*

**Speakers:** *Dr. Nat Kendall-Taylor, CEO, FrameWorks Institute, @FrameWorksInst*

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2:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

## BREAKOUT SESSIONS

### TRANSPORTATION ROUNDTABLE

*Grand Ballroom*

Transportation and infrastructure promise to play prominent roles in the policy debate this year. Hear a variety of perspectives regarding what an infrastructure package may look like, the likelihood that Congress passes a bill, and what it may mean for state and local stakeholders.

**Moderator:** *The Honorable Bob Dallari, NARC President-elect; Commissioner, Seminole County, FL*

**Speakers:** *Joung Lee, Policy Director, AASHTO, @mrjoungee*

*Kevin McCarty, Assistant Executive Director, U.S. Conference of Mayors, @usmayors*

*Art Guzzetti, Vice President for Policy, American Public Transportation Association, @APTAtweets*

*James Corless, Executive Director, Transportation for America, @T4America*

### AGING IN AMERICA

*Executive Room*

Learn how regional councils and their Area Agencies on Aging are helping seniors live beyond expectations. They have developed a wide range of services, including employment for older workers, easy access to healthcare, affordable housing, healthy living through physical activity, social interaction, and mobility options so that seniors may live at home and access the services they need.

**Speakers:** *Mary Tonore Blumberg, Program Manager, Strategic Planning and Development, Area Agency on Aging, Atlanta Regional Commission, @AtlantaRegional*

*Brande Mead, Human Services Manager, Maricopa Association of Governments, @MAGregion*

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3:20 p.m. – 3:50 p.m. *Grand Ballroom*

### ADVOCACY TOOLS FOR CAPITOL HILL WITH NARC STAFF

Before you head to the Hill on Wednesday to tell your senators and representatives about the wonderful work you are doing and about regionalism generally, NARC staff will offer tips and perspectives from our time on the Hill. We may even share with you the history of why the Rayburn Building is an unsolvable maze.

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

**Speakers:** *Leslie Wollack, Executive Director, NARC, @lawollack*

*Neil Bomberg, Senior Policy Advisor, NARC*

*Erich W. Zimmermann, Director of Transportation Programs, NARC, @erichzimm*

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4:00 p.m. – 5:15 p.m. *Springwood*

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

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**Wednesday, February 15**

8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. *U.S. Capitol Visitors Center, Room SV 203-02*

### **CONGRESSIONAL BREAKFAST**

Join NARC for breakfast on Capitol Hill and hear from federal lawmakers before you meet with your delegation and agency contacts. You will go through strict security to enter the U.S. Capitol Visitors Center. Be prepared to empty your pockets and expect lines. Liquids, food and beverages, aerosol containers, any pointed objects, guns, knives, mace and pepper spray, razors and box cutters, and bags larger than 18" wide x 14" high and 8.5" deep are not permitted on the premises.

*See you in Monterey for the  
51st Annual Conference & Exhibition,  
June 4-7!*



**NARC**

*Building Regional Communities*

***National Association of Regional Councils***