

2018 Executive Directors Conference
September 30 - October 2
Cleveland, Ohio

Sunday, September 30

1:00-5:00 pm	Lake Erie Coast Ohio Tour
6:00-7:30pm	Let's Have a Party: Opening Reception

Monday, October 1

8:00 am	Breakfast Opens
8:30 am – 9:00 am	Welcome to the Machine: Introductions & More About the Cleveland Region The Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA) and Grace Gallucci welcome you to the Cleveland region.
9:00 am – 11:30 am	Goodness Gracious: Great Balls of Rapid-Fire Innovations Share (in two or three minutes) a new project, study, revenue enhancement, or other innovation your regional council is pursuing with your colleagues. Handouts and other materials are welcomed but not required.
11:30 am – 11:45 am	Break
11:45 am – 12:15 pm	Let's Stay Together: Meeting the Challenges of Employee Recruitment & Retention Attracting, keeping, and motivating today's workforce is a major challenge for all organizations today. Join Deborah Stoutmire, PhD, director of operations and human resources at the National Association of Counties, for a discussion of today's HR environment.
12:15 pm – 1:45 pm	Hungry Heart: Lunch Washington Update with NARC Staff The midterm elections are almost upon us, which means that Congress is working quickly to finish their high-priority items before the end of the current

	<p>legislative session. They are also beginning to look at what issues will take precedence for each chamber and political party in 2019. Hear the latest on actions in DC impacting regions, as well as what you should be keeping your eye on at the start of the new 116th Congress.</p> <p>Update from Conference Program Committee Get ready for Omaha in 2019! Our conference program committee will give us an update on NARC's 53rd Annual Conference and Exhibition, which is being planned by the Metropolitan Area Planning Agency. Save the date for our next annual conference: June 9-12, 2019 in Omaha, Nebraska.</p> <p>Planning Ahead Many regions are embarking upon rewrites of their regional plans. What new strategies for analysis and engagement are you using? Are there lessons learned and best practices you could share? Engage in this dynamic discussion with us to help your colleagues plan for the future.</p>
1:45 pm – 2:30 pm	<p>Stayin' Alive: A Regional Approach to Healthy Communities Regional councils everywhere are addressing the health of their communities and the people who live there. Explore the role of regional councils in creating healthy communities with regional council directors who are using innovative and creative approaches to improve the overall health of their counties, cities and towns, and residents.</p>
2:30 pm – 3:15 pm	<p>Respecting All Voices: Regional Equity Planning Including differing perspectives from across a region is essential for revitalizing communities, connecting people to resources and opportunities, and improving economic opportunity. One of the roles regional councils can play is to address existing inequity and include underrepresented communities in the planning process. Learn from your fellow executive directors the challenges they face in their regions, and how they are encouraging equity in transportation and beyond.</p>
3:15 pm – 3:30 pm	<p>Break</p>
3:30 pm	<p>Afternoon Tour</p>

Tuesday, October 2

8:00 am	Breakfast Opens
8:30 am – 9:15 am	Bridge Over Troubled Water: Working Across the Urban-Rural Divide Connecting rural and urban communities in a region helps boost economic opportunity and build a strong region. Improving regional food systems can be one way to bridge the divide and promote a more sustainable and healthy community while strengthening the regional economy. Learn more about the work regional councils are doing in the regional food system space, and how those efforts are benefitting both urban and rural areas alike.
9:15 am – 10:15 am	How Sweet It is to be Loved By You: Working with Your Board and Keeping Members Engaged Ensuring that your county and city elected and appointed officials are engaged in the work of your regional council is never easy. Learn how some regions are addressing this problem as they review the “whys and wherefores” of ensuring that county and city elected and appointed officials are fully engaged in the work of their regional councils.
10:15 am – 10:30 am	Break
10:30 am – 11:45 am	Ohio: Regional Planning in the State The Ohio Association of Regional Councils comprises 24 agencies serving more than 1,500 municipalities, villages, townships and counties and representing over 10 million residents of those communities around the state. Ohio's regional councils serve as conveners, consensus builders, facilitators and leaders in order to target limited regional resources to deliver the best return on investment for the region. Hear from their leaders on the value of a state regional council association and all the good things happening in the state.
11:45 am	End of the Line: Conference Adjourns
12:00 pm - 1:30 pm	Executive Directors Council Business Meeting