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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REGIONAL COUNCILS

VOL. XIII, No. 1, January 7, 2013

eRegions

EXECUTIVE BRIEF

Happy New Year!

NARC welcomes the 113th Congress; our leadership and staff are looking forward to working with each member. Please click [HERE](#) to read NARC President Shafer's welcome message.

We have also updated our sequestration website, available [HERE](#), with information based on the passage of the American Taxpayer Relief Act. With the passing of this legislation and the new Congress, we urge you to join us in February for NARC's National Conference of Regions. This will be your first opportunity to meet your

[PROGRAM UPDATE](#) [POLICY UPDATE](#)
[REGIONS 360](#) [PARTNER UPDATE](#)
[GRANT OPPORTUNITIES](#) [UPCOMING EVENTS](#)



2013 NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF REGIONS

FEBRUARY 10-12, 2013

THE RITZ-CARLTON HOTEL
WASHINGTON, DC

REGISTER TODAY!

Message from Chair Sean Dey, Executive Directors Council:

I encourage all my colleagues from around the country to attend the National Conference of Regions (NCR) to be held in February, 2013 in Washington D.C. In addition to participating in NARC's standing committees and having input into our national association's policy making process, the agenda provides an opportunity to get updates on legislative issues important to regional councils. In addition, we have planned a session to present the NARC White Paper titled "*A Vision for the Future of Regions*", which continues the dialogue we began at the Executive Directors Conference (EDC) in Boise, Idaho. Other informative and educational sessions are also planned. Further, the conference offers us an opportunity to network and have a dialogue with our colleagues and friends. Hope to see you in Washington at the NCR, Sean

new Congressional delegation, discuss the federal budget and hear implications for what the budget and sequestration mean for your regional programs. This may be the most important National Conference of Regions held – focusing very specifically on sequestration and the federal budget. Register today – don't miss this opportunity!

Additionally, we have also released the agendas for our upcoming MAP-21 meetings. Click [HERE](#) to access the agendas and registration information.

We look forward to seeing you soon.

Best,
Fred

NARCLEADERSHIP

President

Hon. David F. Shafer,
Clerk/Treasurer,
Town of Munster, IN

Chair Sean Dey,
Executive Directors
Council

Executive Director, West
Michigan Shoreline
Regional Development
Commission

PROGRAMUPDATE

AGENDAS RELEASED for NARC's MAP-21 Implementation

Meetings: NARC is hosting regional roundtables to examine and discuss the implementation of the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21) from the perspective of metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) and regional councils of government (COGs). Click [HERE](#) to register for one of the following roundtables or [HERE](#) for additional information and to access the agendas for each meeting.

- **Orlando, FL** - January 25, 2013
- **Sacramento, CA** - January 28, 2013
- **Phoenix, AZ** - January 31, 2013
- **Indianapolis, IN** - February 27-28, 2013
- **Tulsa, OK** - March 4-5, 2013
- **Worcester, MA** - March 8, 2013
- **Washington, DC** - March 14, 2013

POLICYUPDATE

Senate Democrats Approve Committee Membership: Last week the Democratic Steering Committee approved committee assignments and designated leadership for the 113th Congress. The committee membership list, available [HERE](#) will be up for full Senate approval in January. The Senate Republican Conference has not yet released its committee membership list for the next Congress.

Senate Agriculture Committee Chair to Champion Farm Bill

Reauthorization in February: The Senate Agriculture Committee would again take up Farm Bill reauthorization discussions as soon as February. Reauthorization of the 2008 Farm Bill is currently operating under a nine-month extension included in last-week's fiscal cliff deal. The current extension curbs mandatory funding guidelines for rural development, renewable energy and farming incentive programs supported by the Campaign for Renewed Rural Development as well as continues direct payments to producers that the Senate-backed measure eliminated. The full interview with Senator Stabenow on the Farm Bill is [HERE](#).

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House and Senate in Recess; Leaders Identify Priorities Upon

Returning: The U.S. House of Representatives is in recess until Monday, January 14 and the U.S. Senate will not resume legislative business until Tuesday, January 22. Leaders in both Chambers have identified Sandy recovery funding as a top priority upon returning, with the House expected to consider an additional \$50 billion in disaster relief aid on January 15. Upon returning, lawmakers will have approximately five weeks to make a deal to avoid automatic sequester slated for March 1 and will also take up negotiations around raising the country's debt limit.

REGIONS360

MWCOG's Website with Fiscal Cliff Information: The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (MWCOG) has launched a new web site for sharing information and analysis on the fiscal cliff and federal budget, so that its state and local government members, partners, and area residents understand the regional impacts as well as actions they can take in the coming days, weeks, and months. The web site, www.mwco.org/fiscalcliff, will be regularly updated with region-specific information, analysis, news and videos.

Pikes Peak Area COG Awarded Roadmaps to Health Community

Grant: Eighteen state and local coalitions, including the Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments (COG), across the U.S. will receive a total of \$3.6 million in new funding from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to advance policy and systems changes relating to education, employment, and other social and economic factors that influence people's health.

PARNTERUPDATE

IJIS Information Sharing LinkedIN Group: Please join the IJIS Institute's new LinkedIN Group, [Justice & Public Safety Information Sharing](#). The Group is a technology forum for practitioners and industry from the state, local, and tribal justice and public safety communities. The forum encourages organizations and individuals to share information about cross-agency, cross-jurisdictional, and cross-sector information sharing. Participants will discuss and share information on technology and standards to facilitate and assist one another to achieve information sharing. Over 1,100 of your colleagues from across the country have already joined the information sharing discussion.

IJIS New Associate program: To further the IJIS Institute's goal of uniting the public and private sector, we launched the Associate program in November for individuals employed by government, non-profit or academic organizations. If you plan on attending the IJIS Institute Industry Briefing on January 23-25, 2013, in Arlington VA, consider joining as an Associate so that you can take advantage of the discounted Associate registration fee. To learn more about the program please click [HERE](#). This new program is available at no cost through June 30, 2013.

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

The Coastal Resilience Networks Program

Applications by January 11, 2013.

The U.S. Department of Commerce is offering grants through The Coastal Resilience Networks program that provides support for activities that enhance the resilience of coastal communities to natural hazard and climate risks through a regional or national network. Support is provided in the following three U.S. regions: the U.S. Flag Pacific Islands (Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands), the Gulf of Mexico Coast (the State of Alabama, Gulf Coast areas of Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas), and the West Coast (California, Oregon and Washington). Click [HERE](#) to learn more about this opportunity.

NEA Our Town Grant

Application Due: January 14, 2013

The National Endowment for the Art's (NEA) Our Town grant will provide a limited number of grants, ranging from \$25,000 to \$200,000, for creative placemaking projects that contribute toward the livability of communities and help transform them into lively, beautiful and sustainable places with the arts at their core. Our Town will invest in creative and innovative projects in which communities, together with their arts and design organizations and artists, seek to: Improve their quality of life; encourage greater creative activity; foster stronger community identity and a sense of place; and revitalize economic development. Complete application guidelines are available [HERE](#).

The Gannett Foundation's Community Action Grants

Application Deadline: February 16, 2013.

The Foundation's Community Action Grants support nonprofit organizations with funding priority given to programs that focus on

education and neighborhood improvement, economic development, youth development, community problem-solving, assistance to disadvantaged people, environmental conservation and cultural enrichment. For more information on these grants, click [HERE](#).

The Surdna Foundation

Application Deadline: Letters of Inquiry accepted year around.

The Surdna Foundation offers funding to nonprofit organizations that seek to help communities build wealth in a sustainable manner. The Surdna Foundation's Strong Local Economies program aims to help create communities of opportunity that offer good jobs within reach for low- and moderate-income residents, and provide sustainable development solutions that enable people to easily travel between their homes and jobs, schools, and day-to-day services. For more information on the application process, click [HERE](#).

UPCOMINGEVENTS

Realizing Cost and Energy-Saving Opportunities in County Facilities Webinar

January 10, 2:00-3:15 PM ET

The National Association of Counties (NACo) explains why many counties have not taken advantage of easy cost savings from energy efficiency initiatives. To learn more, click [HERE](#).

Developing Photovoltaic Projects with RFPs and PPA Webinar

January 15, 1:00-2:15 PM ET

Learn from the cities of Tucson, AZ, and Minneapolis, MN, about the pros and cons of using request for proposals (RFPs) and power purchase agreements (PPAs) to develop solar photovoltaic projects. More information about the webinar can be found [HERE](#).

Community Choice Aggregation: A Tool for Municipalities Webinar

January 17, 2013, 2:00-3:00 PM ET

Join the SunShot Solar Outreach Partnership to learn how municipalities are using Community Choice Aggregation to negotiate bulk electricity purchasing arrangements to achieve significantly lower electricity rates. For more information, click [HERE](#).

IJIS Workshop on Information Sharing and Safeguarding Standards

January 23, 2013, Arlington, VA

The IJIS Institute and the Standards Coordinating Council (SCC), Sub-Committee of the Information Sharing and Access Interagency Policy Committee (ISA IPC), will conduct a *Workshop on Information Sharing and Safeguarding Standards (WIS3)*. This interactive workshop is intended to bring together government and industry leaders to chart the future for architecture and standards frameworks for the national information sharing environment. WIS3 will be held from 8:30 AM – 3:45 PM on Wednesday, January 23, 2013 at the Crystal Gateway Marriott in Arlington, VA as a pre-Industry Briefing event. Separate registration is required and can be made [HERE](#).

Community Shared Solar Project Development Tool Webinar
January 23, 1:00-2:00 PM ET

Learn why community-shared solar energy holds great potential for increasing investment in solar power. For more information, click [HERE](#).

IJIS Institute Industry Briefing
January 23-25, 2013, Arlington, VA

Join your government and industry colleagues in Washington D.C. for the [IJIS Institute Winter 2012 Industry Briefing](#) on January 23-25, 2013. The Briefing is focused solely on justice, public safety and homeland security information sharing, and national standards. Learn more about the state of information sharing, the challenges others have faced, and the solutions they have implemented. This year's roster of speakers includes industry technology experts and government executives from Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Homeland Security, Program-Manager for the Information Sharing Environment, and many others. View the updated Agenda and reserve your seat before the Early Bird Discount expires on Dec. 19, by visiting the [IJIS Institute website](#). *IJIS Institute Committee meetings will be held on January 23, 2013.

IJIS Institute Badge & Tech Benefit Dinner
January 24, 2013

This year, in partnership with the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) Foundation, the proceeds from the [3rd Annual Badge & Tech Benefit Dinner](#) will benefit law enforcement officers and their families who were hardest hit by Super Storm Sandy. Colonel Rick Fuentes, Superintendent of the New Jersey State Police, will be our guest speaker. If you are not able to join us, please help support our law enforcement officers in their time of need by contributing to this worthy cause [HERE](#).

Trade Workshop to Feature Major Players in the Supply Chain
January 24-25, 2013, Tampa, FL

The 2013 *Shifting International Trade Routes* workshop will examine the effect of the world economic outlook on investment decisions, cargo movements and international trade in general. The program is cosponsored by the American Association of Port Authorities and the U.S. Maritime Administration and hosted by the Tampa Port Authority. Registration and hotel information are available [HERE](#).

NARC's MAP-21 Implementation Roundtable
January 25, 2013, Orlando, FL

NARC is hosting regional roundtables to examine and discuss the implementation of MAP-21 from the perspective of metropolitan planning organizations and regional councils of government. Click [HERE](#) to register for one of the following roundtables or [HERE](#) for additional information.

NARC's MAP-21 Implementation Roundtable
January 28, 2013, Sacramento, CA

Click [HERE](#) to register for one of the following roundtables or [HERE](#) for additional information.

NARC's MAP-21 Implementation Roundtable
January 31, 2013, Phoenix, AZ

Click [HERE](#) to register for one of the following roundtables or [HERE](#) for additional information.

2013 National Conference of Regions
February 10-12, 2013, Washington, DC

Register today for this premier event, focused on all that is happening in Washington, DC. Local elected officials, executive directors and staff of regional and metropolitan planning organizations need to be here! Click [HERE](#) for registration and hotel reservation information.

NARC's MAP-21 Implementation Roundtable
February 27-28, 2013, Indianapolis, IN

Click [HERE](#) to register for one of the following roundtables or [HERE](#) for additional information.

NARC's MAP-21 Implementation Roundtable
March 4-5, 2013, Tulsa, OK

Click [HERE](#) to register for one of the following roundtables or [HERE](#) for additional information.

NIEM Technical Training

March 5-7, 2013

The IJIS Institute is hosting a three day, grant funded (for state and local government), Western Region NIEM technical training course on March 5-7, in Phoenix AZ at the NLETS Training Facility. This three day technical course is intended for information exchange developers and implementers and is designed to guide students through the National Information Exchange Model (NIEM) in a structured process. The NIEM Technical Training curriculum is designed for developers and practitioners in the field to provide the information needed to enable them to build applications using NIEM and use it effectively. Please visit [the IJIS Institute website](#) to register or to find out more about the course.

NARC's MAP-21 Implementation Roundtable

March 8, 2013, Worcester, MA

Click [HERE](#) to register for one of the following roundtables or [HERE](#) for additional information.

NARC's MAP-21 Implementation Roundtable

March 14, 2013, Washington, DC

Click [HERE](#) to register for one of the following roundtables or [HERE](#) for additional information.

Brownfields Renewal: Bringing Stakeholders Together

May 15-17, 2012, Atlanta, GA

The National Brownfields Conference is the largest event in the nation that focuses on environmental revitalization and economic redevelopment. Click [HERE](#) for additional information.

NARC's 47th Annual Conference and Exhibition

June 20-23, 2013, Philadelphia, PA

Save the Date for NARC's annual conference will focus on best practice and programming for regional and metropolitan planning organizations nationwide. Executive Directors and Staff of regional organizations should plan on attending!

Regional Councils. Please forward as appropriate.

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