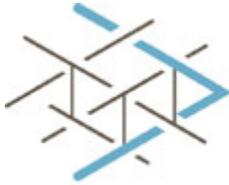


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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REGIONAL COUNCILS

VOL. XIII, No. 5, February 4, 2013

eRegions

EXECUTIVE BRIEF

Colleagues,

On Wednesday, NARC will join the National League of Cities and the Bi-Partisan Policy Center for a [webinar](#) on Sequestration. While the debate seems endless, it is the most misunderstood and possibly the most historic budget action we have undertaken as a nation. If allowed to take effect it will be the largest austerity measure in recent history. Read [this](#) on the sequester from *Slate.com*.

The webinar leads into the National Conference of Regions, where NARC prepares you as regional leaders with policy and

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



2013 NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF REGIONS

FEBRUARY 10-12, 2013

THE RITZ-CARLTON HOTEL
WASHINGTON, DC

REGISTER TODAY!

PROGRAM UPDATE

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.

- **Indianapolis, IN** - February 27-28, 2013
- **Tulsa, OK** - March 4-5, 2013
- **Worcester, MA** - March 8, 2013
- **Washington, DC** - March 14, 2013

NARC February Committee Webinar: The next transportation

information on the upcoming year and asks for action on issues affecting regions and local government.

We concluded three **MAP-21 Implementation Roundtables** (Orlando, Sacramento, and Phoenix) and are pleased with the attendance and discussion. Thank you for your participation!

See you soon! Safe travels,

Fred

Management Tip of the Week: **Why Success is Never an Accident**

Tech Tip of the Week: **A Guide to Small Business Technology**

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NARCSTAFF

Fred Abousleman

committee webinar will be held on Tuesday, February 19, 2013, from 12:00-2:00 pm and will offer NARC members the opportunity to communicate directly with the U.S. Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA's) Office of Planning on their 2013 priorities. As the U.S. Department of Transportation proceeds with implementation of the recently enacted federal surface transportation law, don't miss this opportunity to hear about FHWA's planning activities, as well as communicate your regions needs in order to better implement the new law and associated regulations. Click **HERE** to register.

NARC Needs Your Livability Case Studies: NARC continues to solicit best practice examples of regional and local livability practice from a variety of perspectives. Feel free to submit your case study **HERE** and share this opportunity with your cities, counties, public works departments and city and county managers.

New Solar Podcast: Matt Krusemark, Information Services Manager at the Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG) joined NARC to discuss DRCOG's solar map project. Click **HERE** to listen to the podcast.

NLC Applauds EPA Memo Assessing Government Financial Capability: The National League of Cities (NLC) responded to a recently released memo from the EPA, which clarified how the financial capability of a community will be considered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) when developing schedules for municipal projects necessary to meet Clean Water Act obligations. Click **HERE** to read their response.

POLICYUPDATE

All Signs Point Toward Sequestration: There has been little progress by House and Senate leaders on any plan to avoid automatic spending cuts slated for March 1. However, lawmakers indicated they may move a compromise in an overall spending package to fund the government through the rest of the fiscal year. Timing is the complicating factor as crafting the spending package is difficult without a resolution on overall budget authority, which will change if sequestration is triggered. Additionally, substantive 2014 budget negotiations have been delayed by the sequester stalemate leaving unanswered questions about agency funding levels and priorities for the next year. For additional information about sequestration, click **HERE**.

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Make NARC your homepage — [click here to learn how](#).

Manufacturing Act Introduced in Senate and House: Last week lawmakers introduced in both Chambers, the Make It In America Manufacturing Act of 2013. Building upon a proposal introduced in the 112th Congress, Rep. David Cicilline and Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand advanced a measure to create a competitive incentive grant program to implement innovative local Manufacturing Enhancement Strategies. Under the proposal, regions and other stakeholders would qualify for funding to enhance local manufacturing sectors. Full bill information is available [HERE](#) and a summary is available [HERE](#).

Senate Energy Ranking Member Releases Energy Plan: Senate Energy and Natural Resources Ranking Member, Lisa Murkowski, today released a 115-page proposal that she calls a blueprint for a national energy future. According to Murkowski, the proposal, titled Energy 20/20: A Vision for America's Energy Future, provides an outline for the direction that the discussion over energy and resource policy should take over the next few years. A summary of the report is [HERE](#) and the full plan is available [HERE](#).

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

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](#).

HHS New Access Point Grants Grant

Application Deadline: February 27, 2013

The Health Resources Services Administration supports funding for the Health Center Program's New Access Point Grants. These awards will provide operational support for Health Centers nationally that provide primary health care services to under-served and vulnerable populations. For more information on these grants click, [HERE](#).

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Smart Growth Implementation Assistance (SGIA) program

Application Deadline: March 1, 2013

SGIA provides technical assistance to help communities find innovative solutions to development challenges on issues such as stormwater management, code revision, transit-oriented development, affordable housing, infill development, corridor planning, green building, and climate change. For more information, please see [HERE](#).

UPCOMINGEVENTS

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.

Market Outlooks and Innovations in Wind and Solar Power Webinar

February 12, 1:00-2:00 PM ET

Hosted by US Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Green Power Partnership, this webinar will survey the state of the renewable energy industry as a whole, with a focus on wind and solar power, including the structure, benefits, and real-world examples of today's renewable energy purchases. For more information, click [HERE](#).

Climate Change and the Water Sector Webinar

February 13, 1:00-2:00 PM ET

Hosted by EPA's Climate Ready Water Utilities (CRWU) Initiative, this webcast will provide an overview of how climate change will impact drinking water and wastewater utilities and how utilities can prepare for these impacts. For more information, click [HERE](#).

ENERGY STAR and Green Building Rating Systems Webinar

February 14, 2:00-3:15 PM ET

Attendees will learn how to use EPA tools and resources to help meet requirements for green building rating systems such as the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED), the Green Globes system, and others. For more information, click [HERE](#).

Exploring How Municipal Utilities Fund Solar Energy Projects

February 19, 1:00-2:15 PM ET

Sponsored by US Department of Energy's (DOE) Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, this webinar will provide information on Concord Light, the municipal electric utility serving Concord, Massachusetts, and its solar photovoltaic rebate program. For more information, click [HERE](#).

ICMA Webinar: Fire and EMS: Innovations in Service Delivery
February 20, 1:0-2:30 p.m. ET

Does having more paramedics always produce better outcomes? What is the real story behind compressed air foam? Can emergency medical dispatch create efficiencies in fire and EMS service delivery? Explore the answers to these questions and more with ICMA's Leonard Matarese and Joseph Pozzo, in a frank, engaging web conference that will discuss advances in technology as well as the latest research in the field. To register, click [HERE](#).

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.

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!

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