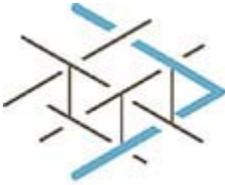


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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REGIONAL COUNCILS

VOL. XIII, No. 30, August 12, 2013

eRegions

EXECUTIVE BRIEF

Colleagues,

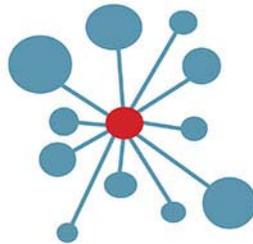
This year's Executive Directors' Training Conference affords CEOs and senior staff an opportunity to engage peers, learn new techniques and share success. Featured sessions include: the 21st Century Workplace: Adapting Your COG and MPO Workforce for a New Physical and Professional Working Environment; and Managing and Engaging Your Board: Tried and True, and New Techniques to Engage Your Board; Create a Favorable CEO and Board Relationship; and Create Consensus on COG/MPO Policy.

The Southern California

[PROGRAM UPDATE](#) [POLICY UPDATE](#)

[MEMBER 360](#)

[GRANT OPPORTUNITIES](#) [UPCOMING EVENTS](#)



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**executive directors' conference
september 30 - october 1, 2013
santa monica, ca**

Agenda, Registration and Hotel Information

Click [HERE](#) to access the conference website.

PROGRAM UPDATE

Oklahoma City Regional Workshop: August 22, 2013: Join NARC and the Association of Central Oklahoma Governments (ACOG) to learn from National and local experts on why solar is viable in the OKC region, innovative financing options, and more! Click [HERE](#) to register.

Upcoming Regional Solar Workshops: NARC is hosting free interactive workshops that provide regions with actionable information

Association of Governments is hosting staff leadership in Santa Monica, CA for this event and we hope you can join us. Registration is open and hotel rooms are going fast - book yours today!

Best,
Fred

NARC LEADERSHIP

President

Hon. Penny Gross

Supervisor,
Fairfax County, VA

Chair Jim Hassinger,

Executive Directors Council
Executive Director,
Southwestern Pennsylvania
Commission

NARC STAFF

Fred Abousleman

Executive Director

Shannon Baxevanis

Deputy Director

Autumn Campbell

Director of Community
Programs

Mia Colson

Program Analyst

Bridget Gribbin

Intern

Lindsey Riley

Deputy of Communications

Anna Rosenbaum

Intern

on creating a local-level solar program. Find out if NARC is coming to a city near you! Click [HERE](#) for more information.

- *Oklahoma City, OK:* August 22, 2013
- *Southern Vermont:* September 6, 2013
- *Minneapolis, MN:* September 10, 2013
- *Boston, MA:* September 26, 2013

Census Bureau Releases Online Language Map: The U.S. Census Bureau has released an interactive, online map that pinpoints the wide array of languages spoken in homes across the nation, along with a detailed report on rates of English proficiency and the growing number of speakers of other languages. The [2011 Language Mapper](#) shows where people speaking specific languages other than English live, using data collected through the American Community Survey from 2007 to 2011. For more information, visit: <http://www.census.gov/mso/www/training/> or follow @uscensusbureau on Twitter, Facebook, Flickr, YouTube and Ustream for the latest Census Bureau news and information.

POLICY UPDATE

Congress is in recess.

NARC Joins Coalition Letter Urging for Rural Development

Support in Farm Bill: Last week, the Coalition for Renewed Rural Development, of which NARC is a member, sent Agriculture Committee Leadership in the House and Senate a letter urging conferees to, at a minimum, include mandatory funding levels outlined in the Senate version's Rural Development title. The letter also encouraged conferees to adopt Senate language simply the process the USDA in administering Rural Development programs and improve accessibility for rural constituents. Senate leaders have named conference representatives, but the House has yet to follow suit, which means reauthorization is unlikely before the current extension expires. The letter is available [HERE](#).

MEMBER360

CMAP Publishes New Report on Local Economic Development

Incentives: A new report by the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP), [Examination of Local Economic Development](#)

To access past issues of *eRegions*, [visit our website](#).

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

[***Incentives in Northeastern Illinois***](#), analyzes how local governments use incentives to attract or retain businesses such as retail stores, auto dealerships, corporate offices, and manufacturing or warehousing industries. Economic development incentives are among the issues CMAP has been studying as [recommended](#) by CMAP's [Regional Tax Policy Task Force](#). For more information, read a [Policy Update](#) on the report.

MORPC Recognized for Exemplary Workplace Practices: The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) was recognized for the 2013 Alfred P. Sloan Award for Excellence in Workplace Effectiveness and Flexibility by the Families and Work Institute (FWI) and the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM). Both organizations recognize employers of all sizes and types in the state of Ohio and across the country select awardees for their use of flexibility and other aspects of workplace effectiveness as a workplace strategy to increase business and employee success. Congratulations to MORPC on this prestigious award!

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

The Plum Creek Foundation

Deadline to Apply: July 31, 2013 – October 31, 2013

The Plum Creek Foundation provides support for community-based nonprofit organizations that work to improve the general welfare and quality of life in the communities that Plum Creek serves in Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Maine, Michigan, Mississippi, Montana, New Hampshire, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Carolina, Texas, Vermont, Washington, West Virginia, and Wisconsin. The Foundation's areas of interest include community services, education, environment, and the arts. Go to the company's website [HERE](#) to review the grant guidelines and download the application form.

Department of Homeland Security – FEMA

Deadline: August 16, 2013

FY 2013 Continuing Training Grants (CTG) funds are available to develop and deliver innovative training programs that are national in scope and meet emerging training needs in our Nation's communities. Where possible, efforts should be made in to develop and deliver training programs to address priorities from the National Preparedness

Report and Capability Estimation Process. More information is available [HERE](#).

The U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration: Funding Cycle 1 of 2014

Deadline to Apply: September 13, 2013

The Economic Development Administration is offering grants for the Funding Cycle 1 of 2014. Grants made under these programs are designed to leverage existing regional assets to support the implementation of economic development strategies that advance new ideas and creative approaches to increase economic prosperity in distressed communities. Eligible: nonprofits, governments, Native American governments, public institutions of higher learning and others. For more information, click [HERE](#).

Choice Neighborhoods Implementation Grant Program

Deadline: September 10, 2013

Funding is available to support the implementation of neighborhood revitalization plans aimed at replacing distressed public and assisted housing with high-quality mixed-income housing; improving educational outcomes and intergenerational mobility for youth with services and supports delivered directly to youth and their families; and encouraging public and private reinvestment in distressed neighborhoods. Communities must develop and implement a comprehensive neighborhood revitalization strategy, or Transformation Plan. More information is available [HERE](#).

EPA Accepting Applications for Clean Air Award Program

Applications Due: September 27, 2013

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is accepting applications for its [Clean Air Excellence Awards](#) through September 27, 2013. This award honors outstanding and innovative efforts to help make progress toward achieving cleaner air. Award-winning entries must directly or indirectly reduce pollutant emissions, demonstrate innovation, offer sustainable outcomes and provide a model for others to follow. [Past winners](#) include the City and County of Greenville, SC; the Maricopa County Air Quality Department; the Metropolitan Transportation Commission; and many others. You can apply [HERE](#).

Office Depot Foundation

Application Deadline: May 1 – October 31, 2013

The Office Depot Foundation is offering grant support to nonprofit

organizations, government agencies, libraries, and schools that bring systemic change to the communities they serve. The Foundation provides grants averaging \$1,000 in three distinct categories. The focus of the “Giving Children Tools for Success” category is on activities that give young people tools to succeed in school and in life through education and inspiration. The “Building Capacity to Serve Communities” category targets programs that help nonprofit organizations to serve the needs of their communities efficiently. The purpose of the “Disaster Preparedness, Relief, Recovery, and Rebuilding” category is to support efforts that help people and communities prepare for disasters and rebuild and recover when disasters occur. Applications will be accepted from May 1 through October 31, 2013. Click [HERE](#) to review the guidelines.

UPCOMINGEVENTS

NARC 101: Webinar for New Executive Directors and Senior Staff

August 21, 2013, 1:00 - 2:00pm ET

Over the last couple of years, NARC has seen a large number of Executive Directors and Senior Staff of its regional council and metropolitan planning organizations retire, leaving vacancies for new Executive Directors to fill these roles. Some of these new Executive Directors are from within the industry, while other Executive Directors come from outside of the regional council world. No matter what your background is, your NARC staff and Executive Directors Council and leadership would like to introduce your Association to you. This webinar is open to NARC members only. Click [HERE](#) to register.

Transportation Planning Information Exchange Webinar

August 22, 2013, 1:00 – 2:30pm ET

The Transportation Planning Excellence Awards (TPEA) Program recognizes outstanding projects from across the country that develop, plan, and implement innovative transportation planning practices. Sponsored by the FHWA Office of Planning and FTA Office of Planning and Environment, this webinar is the second in a series of three webinars, which will focus on 2012 TPEA Program recipients. The three featured recipients are: (1) Fast Forward Transit Plan Mobile Outreach Bus in the Tulsa, Oklahoma region; (2) Georgia Statewide Freight and Logistics Plan; and the (3) Holyoke Multi-modal Transportation Center (HMTTC) Project in Massachusetts. To register, click [HERE](#).

ICMA Webinar: Getting a Grip on GASB and Pension Funding
August 28, 1:00-2:30 p.m. ET

New pension reporting standards from the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) are creating confusion. As local governments struggle to understand and implement changes, some credit reporting agencies have announced that they have yet another way to calculate pension obligations to determine a government's credit worthiness. To guide local and state leaders, ICMA and ten other national organizations representing the nation's governors, state legislatures, state and local officials, and public finance professionals, created the Pension Funding Task Force. The task force's findings are in, and ICMA is conducting a webinar to explain its recommendations. To register, click [HERE](#).

GI 201: Implementing Green Infrastructure at Multiple Scales
September 9-12, 2013, Shepherdstown, WV

This advanced course provides participants with applications and techniques for the implementation of green infrastructure at multiple scales. Building off the GI 101 Course: *Strategic Conservation Planning Using a Green Infrastructure Approach*, this course will explore the next steps for on-the-ground implementation of green infrastructure, focusing on how to obtain a maximum return-on-investment from projects that are streamlined and delivered at least cost, and that retain the viability of the network. *Who should attend:* This advanced course is designed to be a collaborative learning experience for entities involved in the implementation of green infrastructure networks. Professionals should be well versed in the concepts and principles of green infrastructure; this course will be applicable to individuals from a variety of disciplines, sectors, and scales. Completion of TCF's GI 101 Course (Strategic Conservation Planning Using a Green Infrastructure Approach) is recommended, but not required, as a prerequisite to attend the course. Application Deadline: August 9, 2013. Course cost: \$600.

ICMA Webinar: Urban Stormwater and MS4 Compliance
September 10, 1:00 pm ET

Has your community effectively addressed urban stormwater – a major impairment to water quality that continues to hamper efforts to comply with Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permits? ICMA and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency are hosting a 90-minute webinar to explain common problems that inspectors encounter, along

with examples of how operators have overcome them. Click [HERE](#) to register for this webinar.

2013 Ohio Conference on Freight

September 12-13, 2013, Sandusky, OH

Workshops, tour, and presentations will address the use of innovation in changing how we transport goods, design, fund and deliver infrastructure, and make policy. A full conference schedule will earn 10 hours of professional education credits. Credit for economic development professional (CEcD) is being explored. Click [HERE](#) to visit the conference website.

NARC's Executive Directors' Conference

September 29-October 2, 2013, Santa Monica, CA

Join the Southern California Association of Governments and NARC for the 2013 Executive Directors' Conference in Santa Monica, CA. Executive Directors and Senior Staff are invited to meet with experts, network with your colleagues, and share best practices in management, programs, finance, budget, governance and other issues of importance to you. Click [HERE](#) for more information.

ICMA Webinar: Iceberg Dead Ahead: Course Correction Leadership

October 17, 1:00-2:30 p.m. ET

Is your organization drifting off course? Do you even know? According to John Gardner, ailing organizations have developed a "functional blindness" to their own defects. Many jurisdictions have hit "organizational icebergs" – often due to the economic downturn. Others have seized opportunities to change their course for the better. "Iceberg Dead Ahead!" is an introduction to the topic of Course Correction Leadership that was first described in an article published in the October, 2012 issue of *Public Management* titled "Steering Clear of Organizational Icebergs." To register, click [HERE](#).

NARC's 2014 National Conference of Regions

February 16-18, 2014, Washington, DC

The National Conference of Regions is the forum that NARC uses to determine key policy issues and a legislative agenda on topics of relevance and importance to executive directors and local elected officials representing regional organizations and boards. Additional information will be available in late 2013.

NARC's 48th Annual Conference and Exhibition

June 6-11, 2014, Louisville, KY

The Annual Conference and Exhibition is the largest national event focused on promoting effective regional cooperation and solutions through interaction and education. Held annually in June, NARC's Annual Conference is the premier place to learn how to engage in effective regional collaboration. Additional information will be available in early 2014.

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